

**Joel 2:16-24, 27**

This section starts with a call for repentance, appropriate to the Torah reading in **Numbers 11**, in which Israel is complaining and murmuring.

**Joel 2:17** - "Let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep between the porch and the altar, and let them say, Spare thy people, O LORD..."

This context, however, is in relation to God's chastisement through foreign enemies.

**Joel 2:19** - "Yea, the LORD will answer and say unto his people, Behold, I will send you corn, and wine, and oil, and ye shall be satisfied therewith: and I will no more make you a reproach among the heathen:"

The promise of satisfaction and sustenance from God brings to mind the complaints in the wilderness of Israel's wanting meat to eat.

The true spiritual sustenance - in fact, the living Manna that Jesus identified as Himself - is described: The former and latter rain of the Holy Spirit which will bring forth a rich harvest.

**Joel 2:26-27** - "And ye shall eat in plenty, and be satisfied, and praise the name of the LORD your God, that hath dealt wondrously with you: and my people shall never be ashamed. And ye shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I am the LORD your God, and none else: and my people shall never be ashamed."

The next verse, though not part of the reading, identifies how this will be accomplished, and also links with the Numbers 11 section about the spirit of prophesy in the camp.

**Joel 2:28-29** - "And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions: And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit."