

**Title:** It's a Team Game  
**Speaker:** Phillip Boshoff  
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### **Joel 2:1-11**

<sup>1</sup>Sound the alarm in Jerusalem! Raise the battle cry on my holy mountain! Let everyone tremble in fear because the day of the Lord is upon us. <sup>2</sup>It is a day of darkness and gloom, a day of thick clouds and deep blackness. Suddenly, like dawn spreading across the mountains a great and mighty army appears. Nothing like it has been seen before or will ever be seen again. <sup>3</sup>Fire burns in front of them, and flames follow after them. Ahead of them the land lies as beautiful as the Garden of Eden. Behind them is nothing but desolation; not one thing escapes. <sup>4</sup>They look like horses; they charge forward like warhorses. <sup>5</sup>Look at them as they leap along the mountaintops. Listen to the noise they make—like the rumbling of chariots, like the roar of fire sweeping across a field of stubble, or like a mighty army moving into battle. <sup>6</sup>Fear grips all the people; every face grows pale with terror. <sup>7</sup>The attackers march like warriors and scale city walls like soldiers. Straight forward they march, never breaking rank. <sup>8</sup>They never jostle each other; each moves in exactly the right position. They break through defenses without missing a step. <sup>9</sup>They swarm over the city and run along its walls. They enter all the houses, climbing like thieves through the windows. <sup>10</sup>The earth quakes as they advance, and the heavens tremble. The sun and moon grow dark, and the stars no longer shine. <sup>11</sup>The Lord is at the head of the column. He leads them with a shout. This is his mighty army, and they follow his orders. The day of the Lord is an awesome, terrible thing. Who can possibly survive?

## **Living stones**

### **1 Peter 2:4-5**

<sup>4</sup>Coming to Him as to a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God and precious, <sup>5</sup>you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

### **Ephesians 2:19-22**

<sup>19</sup>Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, <sup>20</sup>having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, <sup>21</sup>in whom the whole building, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, <sup>22</sup>in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

### **Ephesians 2:19-22 (message)**

<sup>19</sup>That's plain enough, isn't it? You're no longer wandering exiles. This kingdom of faith is now your home country. You're no longer strangers or outsiders. You belong here, with as much right to the name Christian as anyone. God is building a home. He's using us all—irrespective of how we got here—in what he is building. <sup>20</sup>He used the apostles and prophets for the foundation. Now he's using you, fitting you in brick by brick, stone by stone, with Christ Jesus as the cornerstone <sup>21</sup>that holds all the parts together. We see it taking shape day after day—a holy temple built by God, <sup>22</sup>all of us built into it, a temple in which God is quite at home.

## **1: His glory**

### **Ephesians 3:20-21**

<sup>20</sup>Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, <sup>21</sup>to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

## **2: His purpose**

### **1 Timothy 2:3-4**

<sup>3</sup>For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, <sup>4</sup>who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

### **Acts 5:14**

<sup>14</sup>And believers were increasingly added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women...

### **Acts 11:24**

<sup>24</sup>For he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a great many people were added to the Lord.

### **Acts 2:46-47**

<sup>46</sup>So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, <sup>47</sup>praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.

### **3: Our joy**

#### **Psalm 122:1**

<sup>1</sup>I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go into the house of the LORD."

#### **Psalm 84:1-4,10-11**

<sup>1</sup>How lovely is Your tabernacle, O LORD of hosts! <sup>2</sup>My soul longs, yes, even faints For the courts of the LORD; My heart and my flesh cry out for the living God. <sup>3</sup>Even the sparrow has found a home, And the swallow a nest for herself, Where she may lay her young— Even Your altars, O LORD of hosts, My King and my God. <sup>4</sup>Blessed are those who dwell in Your house; They will still be praising You. Selah.

<sup>10</sup>For a day in Your courts is better than a thousand. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God Than dwell in the tents of wickedness. <sup>11</sup>For the LORD God is a sun and shield; The LORD will give grace and glory; No good thing will He withhold from those who walk uprightly.

### **More blessed**

#### **Acts 10:35**

<sup>35</sup>I have shown you in every way, by laboring like this, that you must support the weak. And remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'

### **Our not-so-hidden agenda**

#### **Acts 5:28**

<sup>28</sup>...saying, "Did we not strictly command you not to teach in this name? And look, you have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine, and intend to bring this Man's blood on us!"