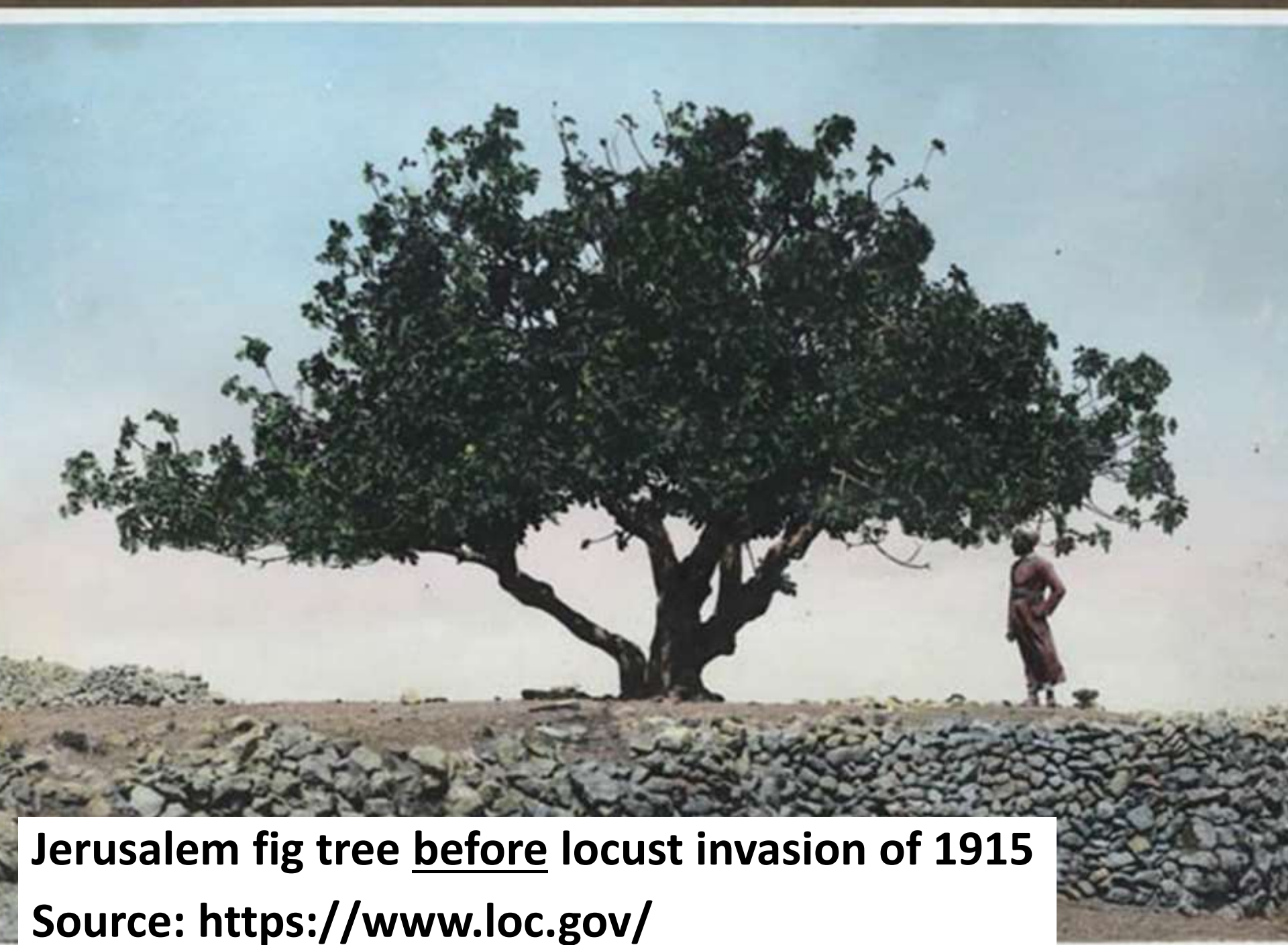




**Locust Swarm, Madagascar May 2014 (source: Wikipedia)**

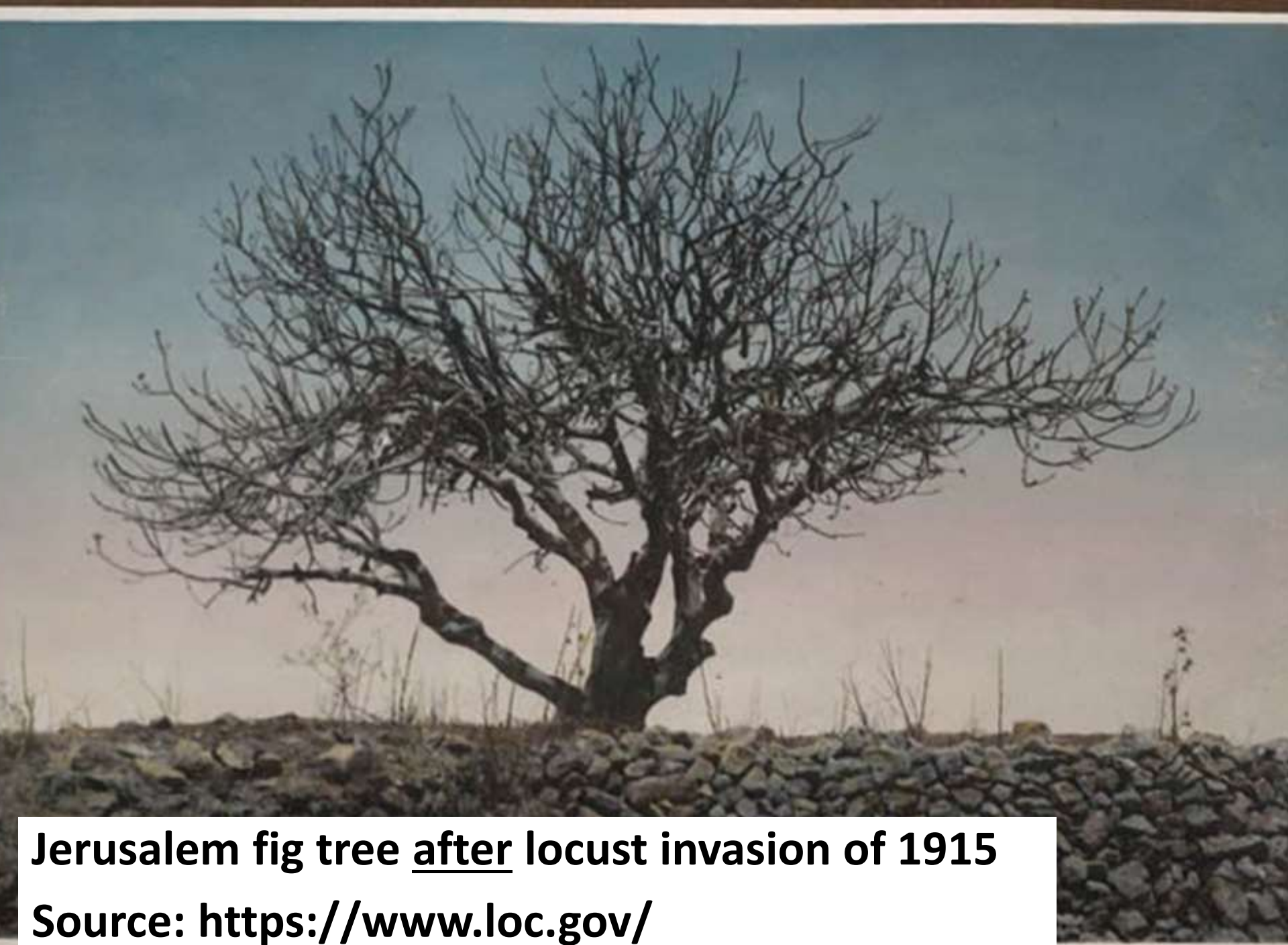




**Jerusalem fig tree before locust invasion of 1915**

**Source: <https://www.loc.gov/>**





**Jerusalem fig tree after locust invasion of 1915**

**Source: <https://www.loc.gov/>**



A thick black L-shaped frame is positioned on the left and right sides of the slide. The left part of the frame starts at the top left and goes down, while the right part starts at the top right and goes down, meeting the left part at the bottom.

# **The Message of JOEL**

**“The Day of the LORD is Coming!”**



# Joel Profile

- Audience—Judah, southern kingdom
- Name—“Yahweh is God”
- Date—around 800 BC?
- Message—“the day of the LORD is near!”



# Joel Main Points

- A Natural Disaster Has Struck (**1:1-20**)
- A Greater Tragedy Coming (**2:1-11**)
- Return to God and He Will Be Gracious (**2:12-17**)
- A Day of Salvation Will Come (**2:18-32**)
- A Day of Judgment for All Nations is Coming (**3:1-21**)



# How Do We Interpret Disasters?

## ■ Differences Between Us & Joel

- No prophets to reveal God's plans
- No national covenant promises

## ■ God Can Still Use Tragedies to Turn Us

- “the day” is a shadow of The Day  
(Matt. 24:36, 1 Thess. 5:2, 2 Pet. 3:10)
- When do we pay most attention to God?
- Needs personal application

## ■ The Day of Judgment is Coming!



