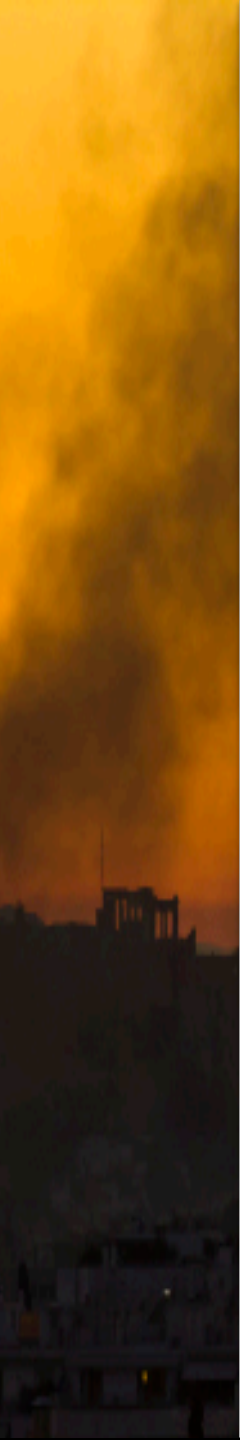




The LAMENTATIONS of JEREMIAH



The Overview

THE INTRODUCTION

Jeremiah/Lamentations

THE AFFLICTED DAUGHTER OF ZION

Lamentations 1-2

THE MAN THAT HATH SEEN AFFLICTION

Lamentations 3

THE PRECIOUS SONS OF ZION

Lamentations 4-5

The Setting of the Book

EVENT	JEREMIAH	LAM
(1) Jerusalem falls after a lengthy siege	52v4-7	2v2, 4v11-12
(2) The horrors of the siege included famine	52v6	2v12, 4v4,9
(3) Babylonians desecrate the Temple and burn it to ground	52v13	1v10, 2v3,4,7
(4) The people were carried away captive by enemies	52v15	1v5,18
(5) Those left in the land were made menial slaves	52v16	5v2-6
(6) Judah had looked to Egypt to help	2v18	1v2,19, 4v17
(7) Edom rejoices at the downfall of Jerusalem	Obad v11	4v21-23

“How?”

(1) The title of the book traditionally used by the Jews is the first word of all three of the great laments **Lam 1v1,2v1,4v1-2** (3x) – the Hebrew word “Eeyek” which means “**How!**”

(2) It really speaks of bewilderment, confusion, grief and disbelief – “**How** could this happen to us!”, “**How** could we have let this happen to us!”

(3) Other examples of “**How**” lamentations are:

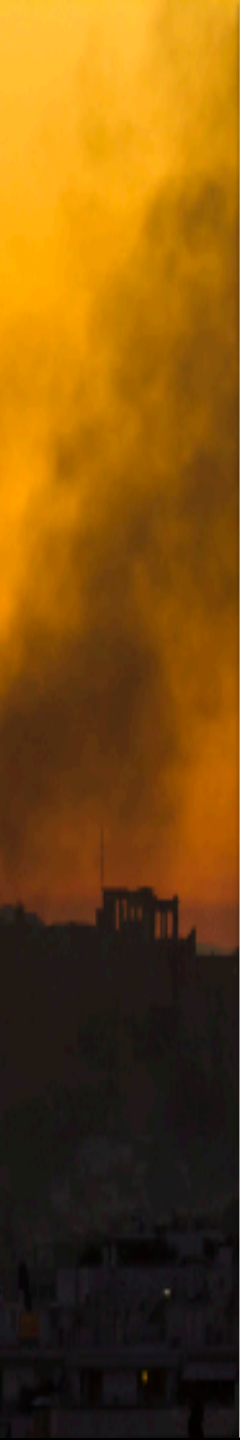
II Samuel 1v17-27 – “How are the mighty fallen...”

Isaiah 1v21 – “How is the faithful city become an harlot...”

Isaiah 14v4,12 – “How hath the oppressor ceased...”

Jeremiah 48v17 – “How is the strong staff broken!...”

Ezekiel 26v17 – “How art thou destroyed...”



Who wrote the Book?

(1) Evidence of the LXX superscription (250BC)

“And it came to pass after Israel had been led into captivity, and Jerusalem had been laid waste, **Jeremiah** sat weeping, and he lamented with this lamentation over Jerusalem, and he said...”

And the Vulgate adds,

“with a bitter spirit, sighing and wailing...”

Who wrote the Book?

- (1) Evidence of the LXX superscription (250BC)
- (2) Jeremiah's dungeon experience **Jer 37v15, 38v6-16** fits well with the words of **Lam 3v52-57**
- (3) The phrase "fear on every side" is Jeremiah's watchcry **Jer 6v25, 20v3** ("Magor-missabib"), **10, 46v5, 49v29** and this phrase appears in the plural form in **Lam 2v22**
NOTE: (Maybe Jeremiah borrowed from **Psalms 31v13**?!)
- (4) The abundance of cross references in the margin of Lamentations to Jeremiah...

Who wrote the Book?

^a ch. 3. 28.
² Heb. is become a removing, or, wandering.
^b Is. 47. 9.
^c Jer. 15. 8.
^d Ezek. 16. 37.
^e ver. 4. 11.
^f ch. 5. 16.
^g Eccles. 2. 8.
^h Deut. 32. 29.
ⁱ Is. 47. 7.
^j Jer. 9. 1.
^k Job 7. 3.
^l Ps. 6. 6.
^m ver. 2.
ⁿ Jer. 22. 22.
^o ver. 9. 16.
^p Eccles. 4. 1.
^q Is. 21. 2.
^r Jer. 52. 27.
^s Or, desirable.
^t Ps. 79. 1.
^u Jer. 51. 51.
^v Heb. for the greatness of servitude.
^w Deut. 28. 64. 65.
^x Cp. Deut. 23. 3.
^y Neh. 13. 1.
^z Jer. 45. 3.
^{aa} ver. 6.
^{ab} Ps. 116. 3.
^{ac} ch. 2. 12.
^{ad} ch. 2. 6.
^{ae} ver. 7.
^{af} Jer. 14. 2.
^{ag} Or, to make the soul to come again.
^{ah} Or, it is nothing.
^{ai} Deut. 28. 13.
^{aj} Jer. 13. 21.
^{ak} Heb. pass by the way!
^{al} Jer. 22. 1.
^{am} ver. 12.
^{an} ver. 22.
^{ao} ch. 2. 20.
^{ap} Jer. 30. 14.
^{aq} Dan. 9. 7.
^{ar} Cp. Jer. 52. 28-30.
^{as} Jer. 22. 22.
^{at} ver. 5.
^{au} Is. 13. 13.
^{av} Cp. Job 20. 23.
^{aw} Ps. 102. 3.
^{ax} Ezek. 12. 13
& 17. 20.
^{ay} ver. 22.
^{az} Deut. 28. 48.
^{ba} ch. 3. 19.
^{bb} Is. 58. 7.
^{bc} Or, desirable.
^{bd} Job 40. 17.
^{be} ch. 2. 17.

^a Jer. 8. 16.
^b ver. 13.
^c ch. 5. 17.
^d Is. 63. 2.
^e Or, the wine-press of the virgin, &c.
^f Jer. 30. 3.
^g Jer. 23. 33.
^h ch. 1. 1.
ⁱ Is. 14. 15.
^j Mat. 21. 23.
^k 2 Sam. 1. 19.
^l 2 Chr. 28. 2.
^m Heb. bring back.
ⁿ ver. 11, 19.
^o ver. 5, 8, 16.
^p Jer. 25. 37.
^q ver. 17, 21.
^r ch. 3. 43.
^s Jer. 4. 31.
^t Heb. made to touch.
^u Ps. 74. 7
& 89. 39.
^v Is. 43. 28.
^w ver. 8.
^x Ezek. 18. 6.
^y Ex. 11. 8.
^z ver. 17.
^{aa} 2 Sam. 2. 1.
^{ab} Jer. 12. 1.
^{ac} Dan. 9. 7.
^{ad} Ps. 74. 11.
^{ae} Heb. mouth.
^{af} Ps. 79. 5
& 89. 46.
^{ag} ch. 3. 12.
^{ah} Job 13. 24.
^{ai} Is. 63. 10.
^{aj} Jer. 30. 14.
^{ak} Heb. all the desirable of the eye.
^{al} ver. 11.
^{am} ver. 2, 8, 16.
^{an} Job 16. 16.
^{ao} Cp. Job 30. 27.
^{ap} Is. 10. 11.
^{aq} Jer. 4. 19.
^{ar} Cp.
^{as} 2 Kin. 25. 9.
^{at} Ezek. 7. 15.
^{au} Cp.
^{av} Jer. 15. 2.
^{aw} Is. 29. 2.
^{ax} Job 15. 33.
^{ay} Cp.
^{az} Ps. 80. 12.
^{ba} ver. 4.
^{bb} Or, hedge.
^{bc} Job 27. 18.
^{bd} Is. 1. 8.
^{be} ver. 2.
^{bf} Cp.
^{bg} Jer. 12. 14.
^{bh} Ps. 74. 4, 8.
^{bi} Is. 1. 13.
^{bj} Or, proclaimed.
^{bk} Deut. 32. 19.
^{bl} Ps. 109. 15.
^{bm} ver. 12.
^{bn} ch. 2. 20.

^a Jer. 2. 8.
^b Heb. shut up.
^c Ezek. 12. 24.
^d Is. 58. 1.
^e Ps. 74. 4.
^f Jer. 30. 3.
^g Jer. 23. 33.
^h Heb. by the way.
ⁱ Job 27. 23.
^j 2 Kin. 21. 13.
^k Heb. swallowing up.
^l 2 Kin. 21. 23.
^m Ezek. 27. 2.
ⁿ Ps. 48. 2.
^o Jer. 14. 2.
^p Cp.
^q ch. 3. 45-51.
^r Job 16. 9.
^s Ps. 35. 25.
^t Jer. 51. 30.
^u Deut. 28. 36.
^v Cp.
^w 2 Chr. 15. 3.
^x Ps. 35. 21.
^y Ps. 74. 9.
^z Cp. Lev. 26. 16, &c.
^{aa} Deut. 28. 15, &c.
^{ab} Is. 3. 26.
^{ac} ch. 1. 7.
^{ad} Josh. 7. 6.
^{ae} Is. 3. 24.
^{af} Jer. 48. 37.
^{ag} ver. 2.
^{ah} ver. 3.
^{ai} Cp. Job 16. 13.
^{aj} Prov. 7. 23.
^{ak} ver. 8.
^{al} Cp.
^{am} Jer. 22. 29.
^{an} ver. 11.
^{ao} ch. 1. 16.
^{ap} ch. 3. 48.
^{aq} Ps. 77. 2.
^{ar} Hab. 1. 4.
^{as} Jer. 44. 7.
^{at} Or, faint.
^{au} Is. 57. 16.
^{av} Ps. 119. 147, 148.
^{aw} Ps. 62. 8.
^{ax} 2 Sam. 7. 6.
^{ay} ch. 1. 11.
^{az} ver. 11.
^{ba} Is. 51. 20.
^{bb} Nah. 3. 10.
^{bc} ch. 1. 22.
^{bd} Cp.
^{be} Is. 46. 5.
^{bf} ch. 1. 12.
^{bg} Jer. 19. 9.
^{bh} ch. 4. 10.
^{bi} Cp.
^{bj} Jer. 37. 21.
^{bk} Or, swaddled with their hands!
^{bl} Cp.
^{bm} ver. 22.
^{bn} Ps. 39. 5.
^{bo} ch. 4. 13.
^{bp} 2 Sam. 5. 20.
^{bq} ver. 12.
^{br} ch. 2. 20.

^a ch. 3. 43.
^b ch. 5. 14.
^c Job 30. 9.
^d Ps. 69. 12.
^e Cp.
^f Is. 51. 21.
^g Heb. bitterness.
^h Ex. 12. 8.
ⁱ Num. 9. 11.
^j ver. 19.
^k Jer. 9. 15.
^l ver. 6.
^m Jer. 20. 3.
ⁿ Prov. 20. 17.
^o Jer. 42. 17
& 44. 14.
^p Jer. 42. 17.
^q Hab. 1. 13.
^r Or, rolled me in the ashes.
^s Jer. 6. 26.
^t Hos. 9. 12, 13.
^u ch. 2. 7.
^v Cp. ver. 20.
^w Heb. good.
^x Jer. 28. 20.
^y ver. 54.
^z 2 Sam. 15. 29.
^{aa} Is. 63. 3.
^{ab} Ps. 39. 7.
^{ac} Or, Remember.
^{ad} Cp.
^{ae} Jer. 20. 18.
^{af} Ps. 1. 9.
^{ag} Heb. bowed.
^{ah} Ps. 42. 6.
^{ai} Is. 5. 30.
^{aj} Heb.
^{ak} make to return to my heart.
^{al} Deut. 4. 39.
^{am} ver. 24.
^{an} Is. 1. 9.
^{ao} Mal. 3. 6.
^{ap} 2 Chr. 17. 9.
^{aq} Ps. 49. 14.
^{ar} Ps. 51. 8.
^{as} Is. 38. 13.
^{at} Job 7. 18.
^{au} Ps. 36. 5.
^{av} Ps. 16. 5.
^{aw} Ps. 143. 3.
^{ax} Is. 30. 18.
^{ay} ver. 9.
^{az} Job 19. 8.
^{ba} Hos. 2. 6.
^{bb} Mic. 7. 7.
^{bc} Job 19. 7.
^{bd} Job 20. 7.
^{be} Ps. 94. 12.
^{bf} Mat. 11. 29.
^{bg} Jer. 15. 17.
^{bh} Cp.
^{bi} Job 42. 6.
^{bj} Hos. 6. 1.
^{bk} Is. 50. 6.
^{bl} Job 16. 12.
^{bm} Cp. Job 6. 4.
^{bn} Heb. sons.
^{bo} Job 41. 28.

^a Heb. 12. 10.
^b Jer. 48. 12.
^c Or, sea calves.
^d Ps. 74. 13.
^e Jer. 5. 31.
^f Ezek. 22. 20.
^g Mat. 23. 31.
^h Job 30. 21.
ⁱ Job 30. 29.
^j Jer. 37. 26
& 38. 6, 9, 10.
^k Dan. 6. 17.
^l Or, a inferior.
^m Deut. 26. 19.
ⁿ Job 22. 11.
^o Ps. 69. 2.
^p Ps. 88. 5.
^q Ezek. 37. 11.
^r ver. 9.
^s Or, yet polluted.
^t Cp.
^u Is. 65. 5.
^v Lev. 13. 45.
^w Prov. 31. 21.
^x Nah. 2. 3.
^y Job 24. 8.
^z 2 Kin. 7. 9.
^{aa} Ps. 69. 27.
^{ab} Job 2. 10.
^{ac} Is. 45. 7.
^{ad} Cp.
^{ae} James 4. 8.
^{af} Cp.
^{ag} Prov. 19. 3.
^{ah} Or, murmur.
^{ai} Num. 11. 1.
^{aj} Mic. 7. 9.
^{ak} Zech. 14. 19.
^{al} Ps. 9. 4
& 25. 23.
^{am} Ps. 25. 1.
^{an} Jer. 11. 19.
^{ao} Dan. 9. 5.
^{ap} Ps. 78. 17.
^{aq} ch. 2. 21.
^{ar} Ps. 139. 2.
^{as} ver. 8.
^{at} ver. 14.
^{au} Ps. 28. 4.
^{av} 1 Cor. 4. 13.
^{aw} Cp.
^{ax} ch. 2. 16, 17
& 4. 16, 17.
^{ay} Jer. 11. 20.
^{az} 2 Tim. 4. 14.
^{ba} Or, obstinacy of heart.
^{bb} Deut. 25. 19.
^{bc} Jer. 10. 11.
^{bd} Ps. 8. 3.
^{be} Ps. 119. 136.
^{bf} Jer. 9. 1.
^{bg} ch. 1. 1.
^{bh} Job 28. 16.
^{bi} Cp.
^{bj} Is. 1. 22.
^{bk} ch. 2. 19.
^{bl} Heb. my soul.
^{bm} Or, more than all.
^{bn} Ps. 19. 10.
^{bo} Jer. 19. 11.

^a Is. 22. 24.
^b Jer. 48. 12.
^c Or, sea calves.
^d Ps. 74. 13.
^e Jer. 5. 31.
^f Ezek. 22. 20.
^g Mat. 23. 31.
^h Job 30. 21.
ⁱ Job 30. 29.
^j Jer. 37. 26
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^k Dan. 6. 17.
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^o Ps. 69. 2.
^p Ps. 88. 5.
^q Ezek. 37. 11.
^r ver. 9.
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^u Is. 65. 5.
^v Lev. 13. 45.
^w Prov. 31. 21.
^x Nah. 2. 3.
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^{aa} Ps. 69. 27.
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^{bh} Job 28. 16.
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^{bj} Is. 1. 22.
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^{bl} Heb. my soul.
^{bm} Or, more than all.
^{bn} Ps. 19. 10.
^{bo} Jer. 19. 11.

^a ch. 4. 16.
^b Ps. 89. 20.
^c Cp.
^d Prov. 25. 6.
^e Judg. 16. 21.
^f Josh. 9. 27.
^g Ps. 79. 1.
^h ch. 3. 14.
ⁱ Ps. 30. 11.
^j Job 30. 31.
^k Heb. cometh for price.
^l Heb. The crown of our head is fallen.
^m Job 19. 9.
ⁿ Heb. On our necks are we persecuted.
^o Jer. 45. 3.
^p ch. 1. 22.
^q 2 Chr. 29. 24.
^r ch. 2. 11.
^s Hos. 12. 1.
^t Dan. 9. 17.
^u Neh. 4. 3.
^v Ps. 9. 7.
^w Hab. 1. 12.
^x Ps. 45. 6.
^y Neh. 2. 10.
^z Ps. 13. 1.
^{aa} Ps. 136. 24.
^{ab} Heb. for length of days!
^{ac} Ps. 23. 6.
^{ad} Ps. 80. 3, 7.
^{ae} Jer. 31. 18.
^{af} Ps. 119. 83.
^{ag} Or, terrars; or, storms.
^{ah} Ps. 11. 6.
^{ai} Or, For wilt thou utterly reject us!
^{aj} Is. 13. 16.

Who wrote the Book?

(1) Evidence of the LXX superscription (250BC)

(2) Jeremiah's dungeon experience **Jer 37v15, 38v6-16** fits well with the words of **Lam 3v52-57**

(3) The phrase "fear on every side" is Jeremiah's watchcry **Jer 6v25, 20v3** ("Magor-missabib"), **10, 46v5, 49v29** and this phrase appears in the plural form in **Lam 2v22**

NOTE: (Maybe Jeremiah borrowed from **Psalms 31v13**?!)

(4) The abundance of cross references in the margin of Lamentations to the book of Jeremiah

(5) Jeremiah's reference to the "virgin daughter of Zion" **Jer 14v17, Lam 2v13** and his indictment of "priest and prophet" **Jer 5v30-31, 6v13, 14v18, 23v11, Lam 4v13-14** is the same

(6) Jeremiah leads the national lament for Josiah in **II Chron 35v25**, and if this was Jeremiah's response to the loss of one man, what of an entire nation?

The Writing Style

(1) **ACROSTIC** – To both aid memory and to give completeness of thought (**Lam 1-4**)

NOTE: Other acrostics include **Psalms 9-10, 25, 34, 37, 111, 112, 119, 145, Prov 31v10-31, Nahum 1v1-8**

(2) **POETRY** - Hebrew poetry lacks the laws, rhyme and metric laws of English verse, but this is not to say that it does not have laws or beauty of its own. Eg: **Lam 3v16, 4v5**

(3) **PARALLELISM** – Especially **Lam 5** (21 out of 22 verses with **v9** paralleling **v10**) where the second half of the verse emphasizes the first. Of the 266 verses in the book, 162 exhibit parallelism, and it expresses inconsolable grief

(4) **LAMENT** – **Lam 1, 2, 4** are dirges concluded by a prayer. Maybe the prophet concludes **Lam 4** with a prayer in **Lam 5**?

(5) **DRAMA** – There are a cast of different characters

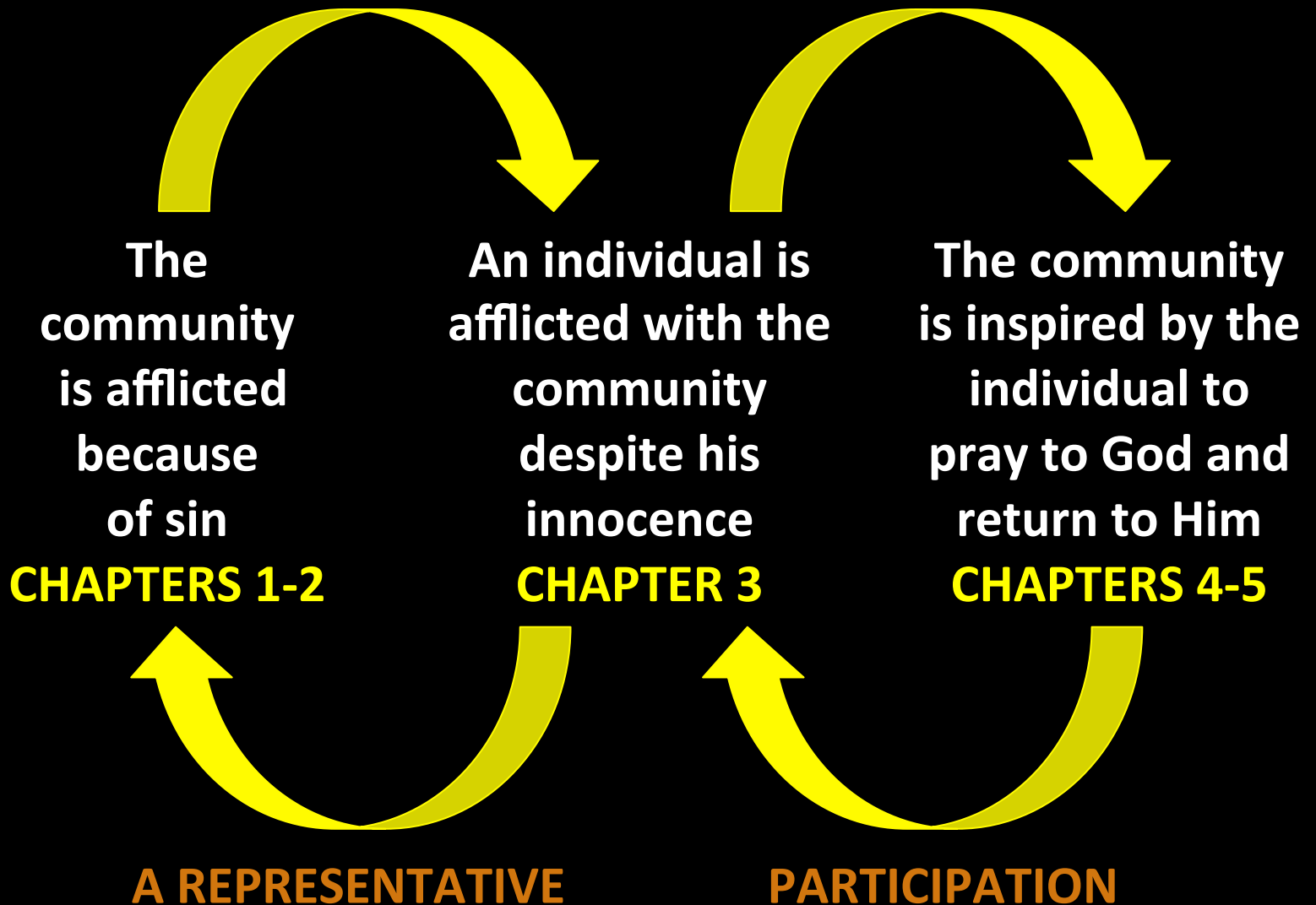
Characters of the Drama

- (1) Jeremiah as the onlooking Narrator (describes the nation as an oppressed woman – “She”, “Her”) **1v1-8**
- (2) Jeremiah’s personal reflections (Characterized by the pronouns - “My”, “mine”, “I”) **2v11-13**
- (3) Jerusalem portrayed as an oppressed and crushed woman (Characterized by the pronouns - “My”, “mine”, “I”) **1v9b, 11b-16**
- (4) Enemies/Adversaries/Heathen/Persecutors **1v2-10, 2v16**
- (5) Those “that pass by” **1v12, 2v15**
- (6) The man that hath seen affliction **3v1-39, 3v48-63**

The Poetic Structure

CHAPTER 1	CHAPTER 2	CHAPTER 3	CHAPTER 4	CHAPTER 5
Acrostic – Each letter x1 22 verses 3 lines/ stanza	Acrostic – Each letter x1 22 verses 3 lines/ stanza	Acrostic – Each letter x3 66 verses 3 lines/ stanza	Acrostic – Each letter x1 22 verses 2 lines/ stanza	22 verses 1 line/ stanza
“How” National lament	“How” National lament	“Remember” Individual lament and prayer	“How” National lament	“Remember” National prayer
Appeal to passers-by for sympathy			TURNING POINT	
				Appeal to God for mercy

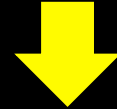
The Parable of the Book



Appreciation of Affliction

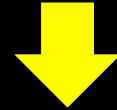
Jerusalem's Affliction

CHAPTER 1



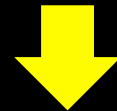
Is brought by God Himself

CHAPTER 2



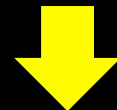
And is a necessary chastening tool

CHAPTER 3



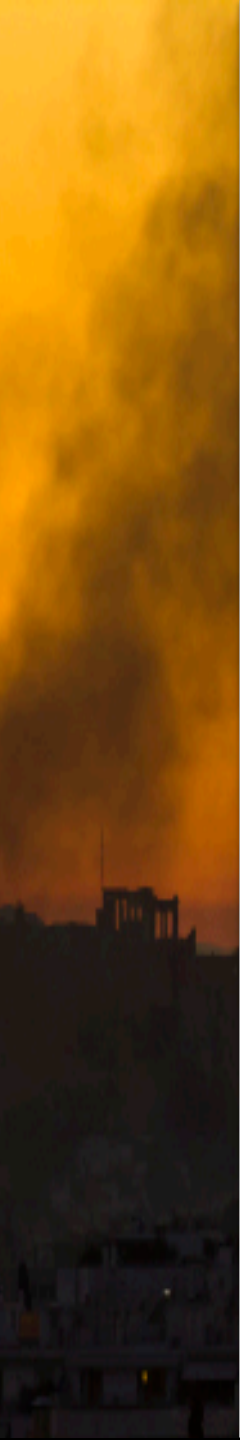
So she could confess her sins and repent

CHAPTER 4



So at the last she could be delivered from affliction

CHAPTER 5



Job and Lamentations

JOB

Personal suffering and
God's assurance of **CONTROL**

LAMENTATIONS

National suffering and
God's assurance of **MEANING**

Our Perspective on Affliction

Hebrews 12v11 – “Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby...”

II Corinthians 4v17 – “For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory;”

Psalms 30v5 – “For his anger endureth but a moment; in his favour is life: weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning.”



The LAMENTATIONS of JEREMIAH

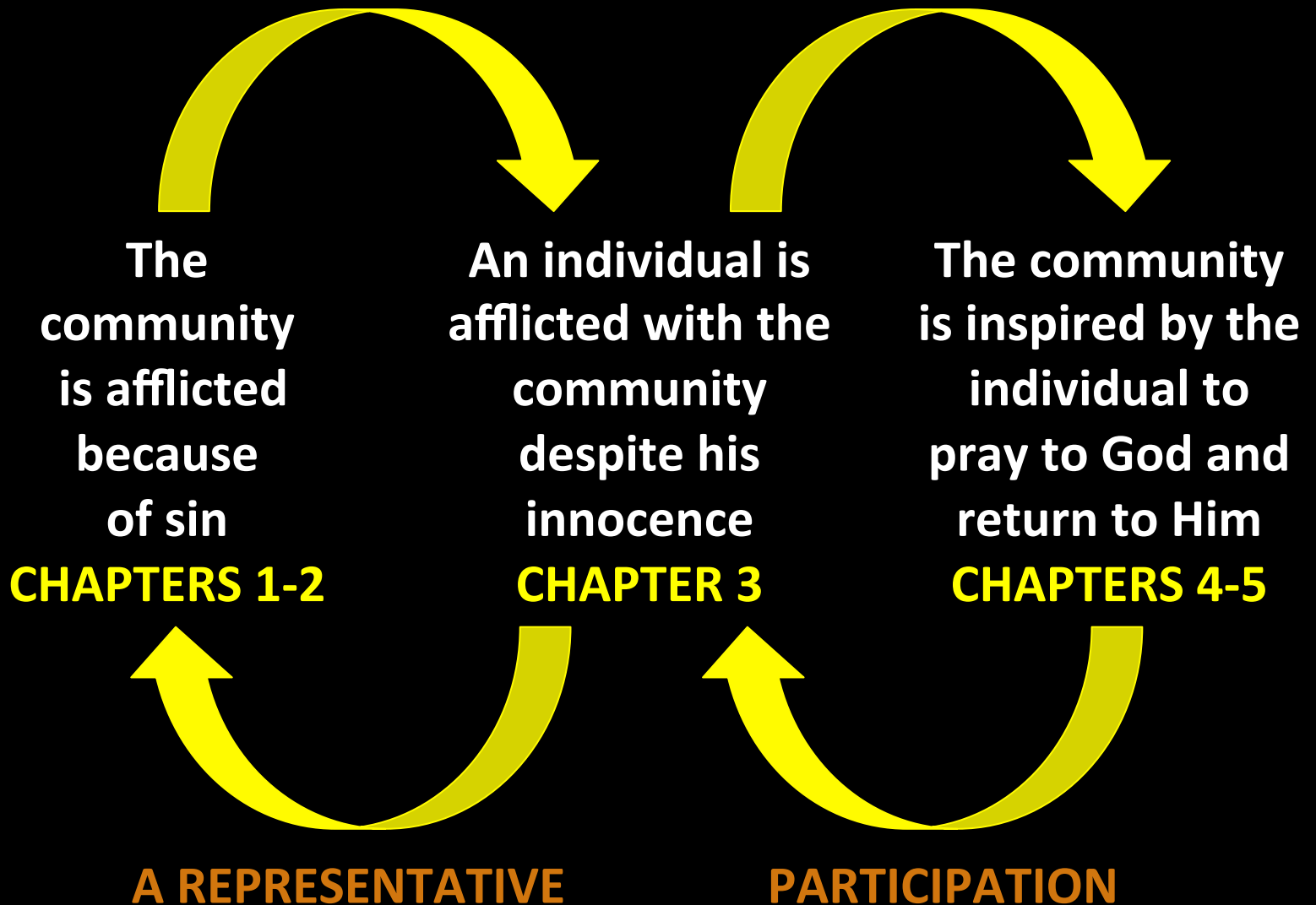


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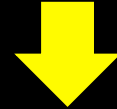
The Parable of the Book



Appreciation of Affliction

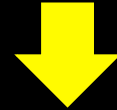
Jerusalem's Affliction

CHAPTER 1



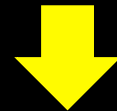
Is brought by God Himself

CHAPTER 2



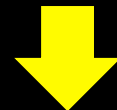
And is a necessary chastening tool

CHAPTER 3



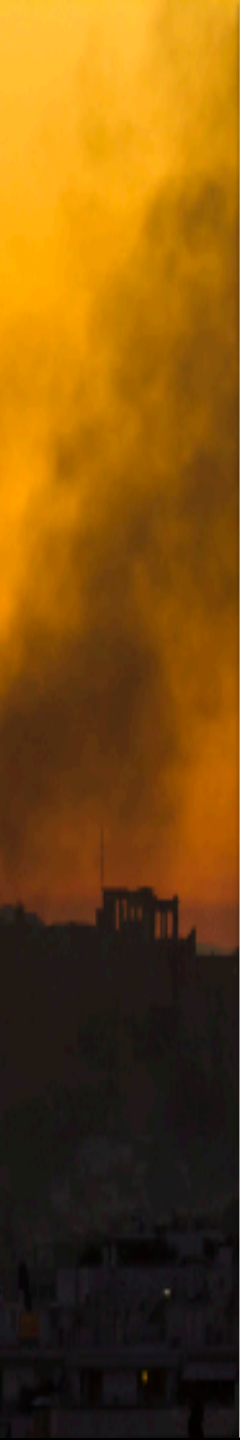
So she could confess her sins and repent

CHAPTER 4



So at the last she could be delivered from affliction

CHAPTER 5



The Overview

THE INTRODUCTION

Jeremiah/Lamentations

THE AFFLICTED DAUGHTER OF ZION

Lamentations 1-2

Behold and see...

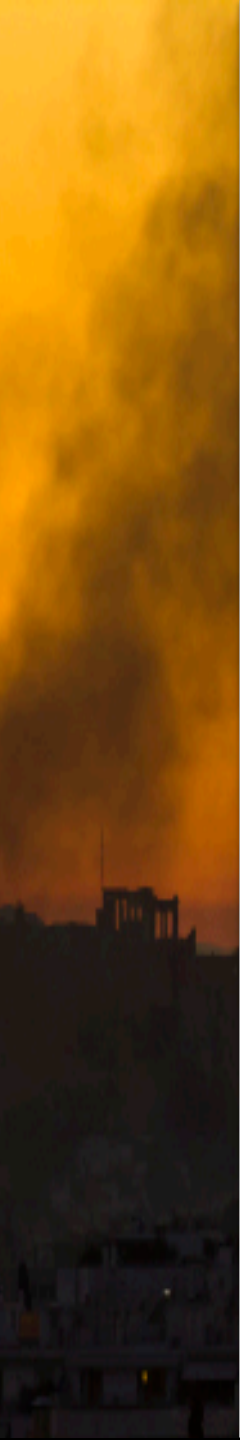
- (1) The city, once full of bustling people, is empty **1v1**
- (2) Feel betrayed by all your friends **1v2**
- (3) The gates are desolate, the feasts abandoned **1v4**
- (4) Priests sit disconsolate on the ground, young maidens depressed **1v4**
- (5) Everyone in misery – can only think of the good old days **1v7**
- (6) The heathen have ransacked and desecrated the Sanctuary – **1v10**
- (7) Everything you own has been sold to buy a loaf of bread **1v11**
- (8) Feel like God is burning your bones or catching you in a net **1v13**
- (9) Keep getting knocked down, unable to rise **1v14**
- (10) Feel like crushed grapes, squeezed till no more drops run out **1v15**
- (11) Can't stop crying **1v16**
- (12) Old people are dying while crying out for food **1v19**
- (13) Can't stop sighing and too tired to move **1v22**
- (14) Feel like God has thrown you from heaven to be dashed on earth **2v1**
- (15) Feel like God is shooting arrows at you in His anger **2v4**

Behold and see...

- (16) Feel like God has torn up your carefully manicured garden **2v5-6**
- (17) The elders sit on the ground with dust on their heads in silence **2v10**
- (18) God has poured your liver out on the ground in front of you **2v11**
- (19) Nursing babies breathe their last still sucking for milk **2v12**
- (20) Feel like the sea is crashing on top of you relentlessly **2v13**
- (21) Passersby, rather than helping, mock and laugh **2v15**
- (22) Your enemies actually think they have brought you down **2v16**
- (23) Tears flow like a river day and night **2v18**
- (24) Children lie down to die at every intersection **2v19**
- (25) Mothers eat their own newborn children **2v20**
- (26) Young and old die alike and are piled up in the streets **2v21**
- (27) Feel like you are in a maze and cannot escape **3v7**
- (28) Feel like any cries for help go deliberately unanswered **3v8**
- (29) Feel like God is a like a lion or bear tearing you to pieces **3v10-11**
- (30) Feel like your liver is the target practice for God's arrows **3v12-13**

Behold and see...

- (31) Feel like God has filled your mouth with gravel **3v16**
- (32) It is impossible to remember anything “good” anymore **3v17**
- (33) Feel like food scraps or sewerage thrown into the streets **3v45**
- (34) Feel like you are drowning **3v54**
- (35) Everything left is worthless, even the gold **4v1**
- (36) The child’s tongue sticks to the roof of its mouth for hunger **4v4**
- (37) Restaurant owners eat scraps, fashion models embrace dunghills **4v5**
- (38) Skin sticks to the bones and you look like a black withered stick **4v8**
- (39) Those killed by the sword are blessed compared to starving **4v9**
- (40) The compassionate mothers boil their children to end the pain **4v10**
- (41) Houses are turned over to be inhabited by complete strangers **5v2**
- (42) The women and maids are ravished **5v11**
- (43) The princes are tortured, the elders mutilated and disfigured **5v12**
- (44) All the young people are sold as slaves **5v13**
- (45) Music and songs die in your throat **5v15**



Themes of Lamentations 1-2

CHAPTER ONE

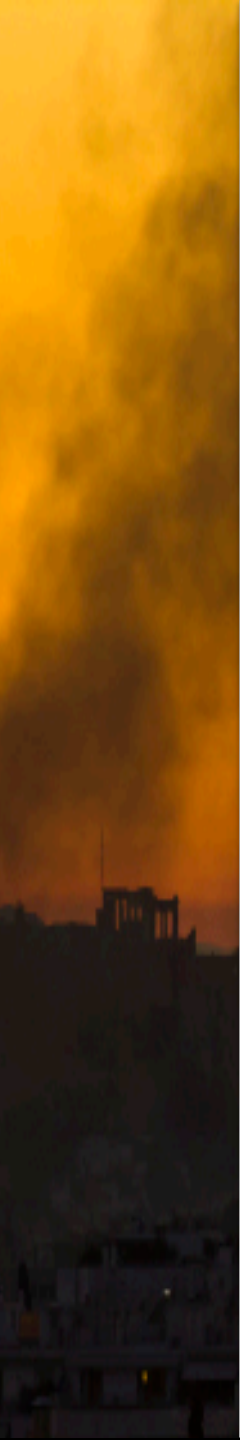
(1) “MY LOVERS/FRIENDS HAVE LEFT” – 1v2,8,19

EGYPT – **Isaiah 30v7,36v6**

BABYLON – **Isaiah 39v3-4, Ezekiel 23v22-23**

EDOM – **Obadiah v11-12**

AMMON – **Ezekiel 25v3-6, Jeremiah 40v14**



Themes of Lamentations 1-2

CHAPTER ONE

- (1) "MY LOVERS/FRIENDS HAVE LEFT" – 1v2,8,19
- (2) "NONE TO COMFORT ME" - 1v2,3,7,9,16,17,21 (7x)
- (3) "MY AFFLICTION" – 1v3,7,9,3v1,19,33,5v11 (7x)
- (4) "MY SIGHS" – 1v4,8,11,21,22

CHAPTER TWO

- (5) "HE HATH DONE THIS" – Yahweh/Adonai -14x
- (6) "HIS ANGER" – 2v1(x2),2,3,4,6,21,22
- (7) "HE HATH SWALLOWED UP" – 2v2,5(x2),8,16
- (8) "HE HATH NOT PITIED" – 2v2,17,21

Israel or Babylon?

ISRAEL

BABYLON

Lam 1v9	(1) Humiliating fall from grace	Isa 47v1
Lam 2v13	(2) Described as a “Virgin daughter”	Isa 47v1
Lam 2v10	(3) Sitting on the ground amidst dust	Isa 47v1
Lam 1v8	(4) Nakedness exposed	Isa 47v3
Lam 2v10,3v2	(5) In silence in darkness	Isa 47v5
Lam 1v1	(6) No more “Lady”/ “Princess”	Isa 47v5
Lam 1v9	(7) “Remembered not her last end”	Isa 47v7
Lam 1v7,10,11	(8) Given to pleasures	Isa 47v8
Lam 1v1,5	(9) Becomes a widow and childless	Isa 47v9
Ezek 8v12,9v9	(10) Said “None seeth me!”	Isa 47v10
Lam 2v14	(11) False prophets unable to help	Isa 47v13
Lam 2v3-4	(12) Consumed by God’s fiery judgments	Isa 47v14

Israel or Babylon?

ISRAEL

BABYLON

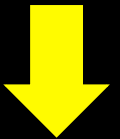
Lam 5v2,11	(13) Houses spoiled, women ravished	Isa 13v16
Lam 4v6	(14) Destroyed as Sodom and Gomorrah	Isa 13v19
Lam 2v1	(15) Cast down from heaven to earth	Isa 14v12
Lam 2v15	(16) Passersby astounded	Isa 14v16
Lam 1v15	(17) Trodden under foot	Isa 14v19
Lam 2v17	(18) Yahweh's purpose is accomplished	Isa 14v24
Lam 2v9	(19) Gates broken, bars destroyed	Isa 45v2
Lam 2v15	(20) All that pass by hiss in astonishment	Jer 50v13
Lam 1v13	(21) Caught unawares in Yahweh's net	Jer 50v24
Lam 2v21	(22) Young men fail in streets	Jer 50v30
Lam 1v14	(23) There be "none to raise him up"	Jer 50v32
Lam 2v11	(24) Ironically both experience livers poured upon the earth!	Ezek 21v21

Themes of Lamentations 1-2

CHAPTER ONE

- | | |
|---|----|
| (1) "MY LOVERS/FRIENDS HAVE LEFT" – 1v2,8,19 | ME |
| (2) "NONE TO COMFORT ME" - 1v2,3,7,9,16,17,21 | ME |
| (3) "MY AFFLICTION" – 1v3,7,9,3v1,19,33,5v11 | ME |
| (4) "MY SIGHS" – 1v4,8,11,21,22 | ME |

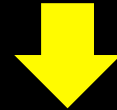
CHAPTER TWO



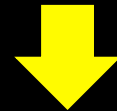
- | | |
|--|-----|
| (5) "HE HATH DONE THIS" – Yahweh/Adonai -14x | GOD |
| (6) "HIS ANGER" – 2v1(x2),2,3,4,6,21,22 | GOD |
| (7) "HE HATH SWALLOWED UP" – 2v2,5(x2),8,16 | GOD |
| (8) "HE HATH NOT PITIED" – 2v2,17,21 | GOD |

Stirrings of hope...

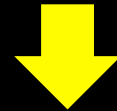
“I am become vile” 1v11



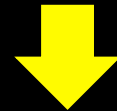
“The comforter that should relieve my soul...” 1v16



“Yahweh is righteous; for I have rebelled...” 1v18



“For thy breach is great...who can heal thee?” 2v13



“Arise, cry out...pour out thine heart like water before the face of Yahweh: lift up thy hands toward Him...” 2v19



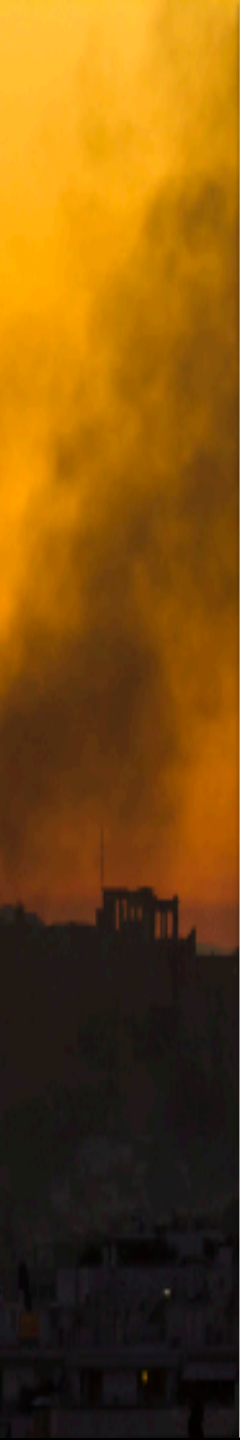
“Thou hast slain...thou hast killed and not pitied...” 2v21



The LAMENTATIONS of JEREMIAH



The LAMENTATIONS of JEREMIAH



The Overview

THE INTRODUCTION

Jeremiah/Lamentations

THE AFFLICTED DAUGHTER OF ZION

Lamentations 1-2

THE MAN THAT HATH SEEN AFFLICTION

Lamentations 3

NATION

EXPERIENCES

INDIVIDUAL

2v1	(1) God's anger	3v1
1v13	(2) Destroying body and bones	3v4
2v3	(3) Hedged/ devouring round about	3v7
1v21	(4) Noone answers	3v8
1v15	(5) God destroys like a marauding animal	3v10-11
1v4,16	(6) Desolate	3v11
2v4	(7) Bent his bow	3v12-13
2v15-16	(8) Mocked by passersby	3v14
1v4	(9) Bitterness	3v15
2v10	(10) Sackcloth and ashes	3v16
1v3	(11) No rest/peace	3v17
1v14	(12) Strength fails	3v18
1v1	(13) Alone, solitary	3v28
2v2,17,21	(14) God shows "no pity"	3v43
1v16,2v18	(15) Tears like rivers	3v48-49
2v5,16	(16) Swallowed up/waters over head	3v53-54

The Suffering Servant

ISAIAH	EXPERIENCES	LAM
52v14	(1) Visage marred, aged before his time	3v4
53v2	(2) No form or beauty	3v4
53v3	(3) Despised and rejected of men	3v14
53v3	(4) Man of sorrows, acquainted with grief	3v1
53v4	(5) Stricken, smitten, afflicted	3v1,3
53v5	(6) Wounded and bruised	3v11-13
53v7	(7) Oppressed but silent	3v26-29
53v8	(8) Taken from justice	3v59
53v8	(9) Cut off from the living	3v53-54
53v10	(10) It pleased Yahweh to bruise him	3v10-13

“thy **bruise** is great... who can **heal** thee” **Lam 2v13**

“and with his **bruise** (marg) are we **healed**” **Isa 53v5**

Psalm 143 and David's Key

PSALM	EXPERIENCES	LAM
142v3	(1) Felt caught in a snare	3v47
142v4	(2) Refuge or hope had perished	3v18
142v7	(3) Felt imprisoned	3v7
143v3	(4) He hath set me in dark places	3v6
143v4	(5) My heart within me is desolate	3v11
143v7	(6) Lest I be like them that go down to the dungeon	3v53-55

BUT THEN HE STARTS TO BECOME MORE POSITIVE

142v5	(9) Yahweh is my portion	3v24
143v2	(10) Admits that no man living can be justified	3v39

BECAUSE HE SUDDENLY...

143v5	(7) I remember!!	3v21
--------------	-------------------------	-------------

What does he remember?

PSALM

LAM

143v1

THY FAITHFULNESS

3v23

143v8,12

**THY LOVINGKINDNESS (“Chesed”
compassions) IN THE MORNING**

3v22-23

143v10

THY GOODNESS

3v25,26,27

143v1,11

THY RIGHTEOUSNESS

3v35

143v12

THY MERCY

3v22,32

HE RECALLS TO HIS MIND GOD’S GOOD CHARACTER...

When we forget the good...

When we forget what is good, we lose perspective and start to just focus on ourselves **v17**



ANGER

It is unfair, and
God is to blame



FRUSTRATION

It is too hard, and
I give up



DOUBT

It is confusing, and
God doesn't care

We need to
remember the good...

**GOD'S GOOD CHARACTER PUTS ALL THIS IN THE
RIGHT PERSPECTIVE...**

God's character means...

- (1) God's mercies mean that we are not consumed **v22**
- (2) Far from forgetful, His compassions are new each day **v23**
- (3) God's timetable may require our patience **v25-26**
- (4) Bearing a yoke is not heavy if it is salvation! **v27**
- (5) God's righteousness should humble and silence us **v26-29**
- (6) Suffering is not for ever – it will always end **v31**
- (7) Suffering is God's opportunity to show mercy **v32**

And by logical implication...

- (8) God never sends suffering without excellent reason **v33**
- (9) God always provides an escape so we are not crushed **v34**
- (10) God is not, and cannot be, unfair **v35** or misleading **v36**
- (11) He controls everything, and to question His judgment is to doubt His promises, Word, power and character **v37**
- (12) Evil and good can all be for our benefit **v38**
- (13) In fact our position is so lowly we don't deserve life! **v39**

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ANGER

It is unfair, and
God is to blame



If it was fair we
would be dead
v22,39 and God's
ways and His
goodness are not
to be questioned
v37-38



FRUSTRATION

It is too hard, and
I give up



Suffering is only
for a time and so
God can show
compassion
v31-32 and we just
have to last one
day **v23**



DOUBT

It is confusing, and
God doesn't care



God's ways might
not make sense at
the time **v25-26**
but God does care
and cannot afflict
willingly or with-
out purpose **v33**

Why do we suffer?...



Suffering is essential...

“Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.” **Acts 14v22**

“For verily, when we were with you, we told you before that we should suffer tribulation; even as it came to pass, and ye know:” **I Thess 3v4**

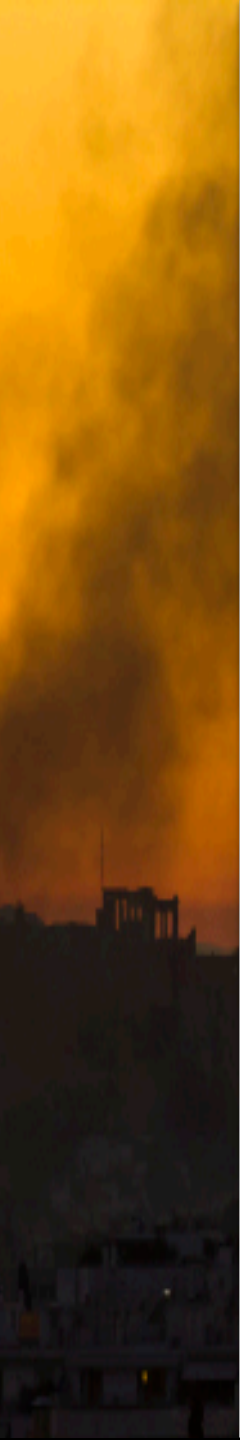
“that ye may be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which ye also suffer:” **II Thess 1v5**

“Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution..” **II Tim 3v12**

That Christ be formed in us!

Why do we suffer?...





The Purpose of Suffering

“And not only so, but we glory in **tribulations** also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience; And patience, experience; and experience, **hope**: And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts”

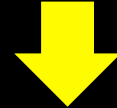
Romans 5v3-5

...Is to lead us to Hope...

The Progression of hope...

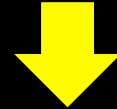
“My hope is perished from Yahweh” 3v18

HOPE SEEMS TO BE DEAD



“This I recall to my mind: therefore I have hope” 3v21

HOPE GLIMMERS AS A POSSIBILITY



“Yahweh is my portion...therefore I will hope” 3v24

HOPE IS A GIFT FRESH EVERY MORNING



“It is good that a man should both hope...” 3v26

HOPE IS A PROFITABLE AND GOOD THING



“if so be there may be hope” 3v29

HOPE IS ALL WE HAVE

Christ's Inspiration?

LAMENTATIONS

- (1) Narrator (Jeremiah)
- (2) Jerusalem has no strength, unable to rise **1v14**
- (3) The enemies are thieves **1v10**
- (4) Those that pass by on the way don't care **1v12**
- (5) The "man that hath seen affliction" sympathizes **3v10**
- (6) "Compassion" and "mercy" are shown **3v22,32**
- (7) Their lives were redeemed **3v58**

LUKE 10

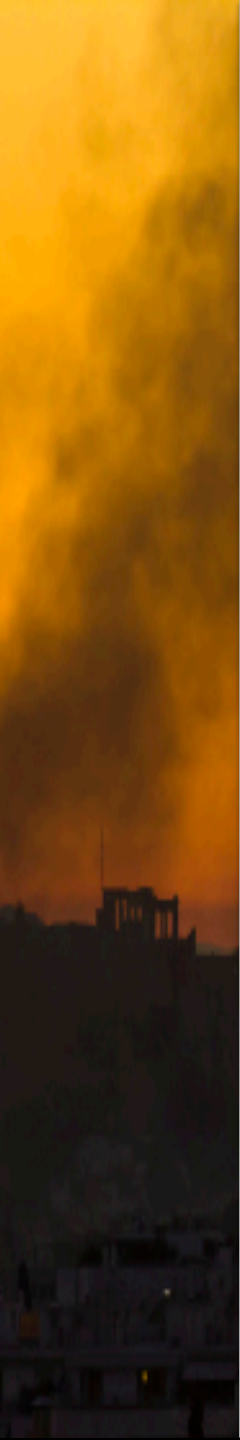
- (1) Narrator (Christ)
- (2) The man from Jerusalem is wounded, left for dead **10v30**
- (3) The enemies are thieves **10v30**
- (4) The Priest and Levite pass by on the other side **10v32-33**
- (5) The Good Samaritan sympathizes **10v33**
- (6) "Compassion" and "mercy" are shown **10v33,37**
- (7) "He took out two pence" (silver coins) **10v35**



The LAMENTATIONS of JEREMIAH



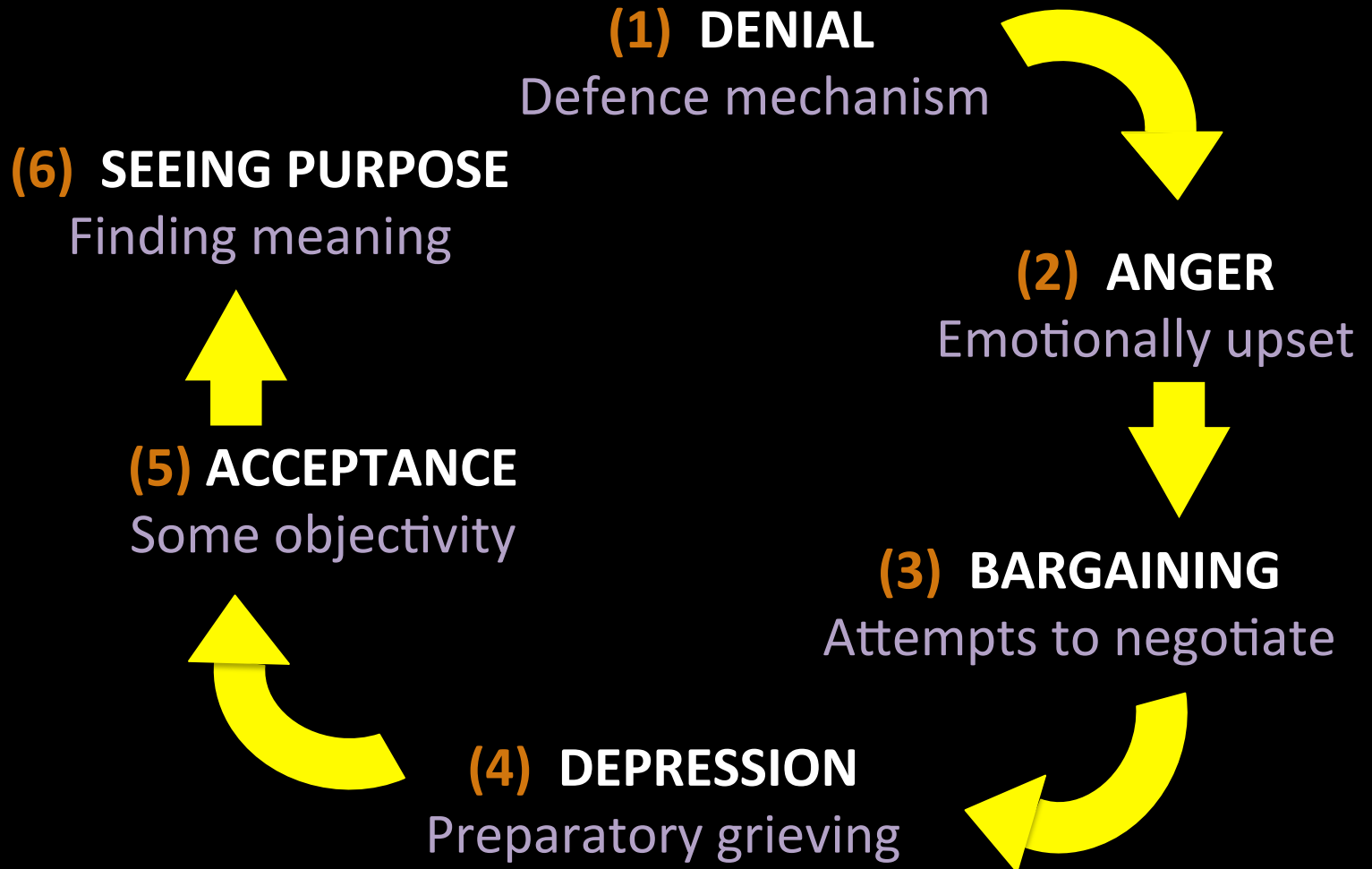
The LAMENTATIONS of JEREMIAH



The Man of Affliction...

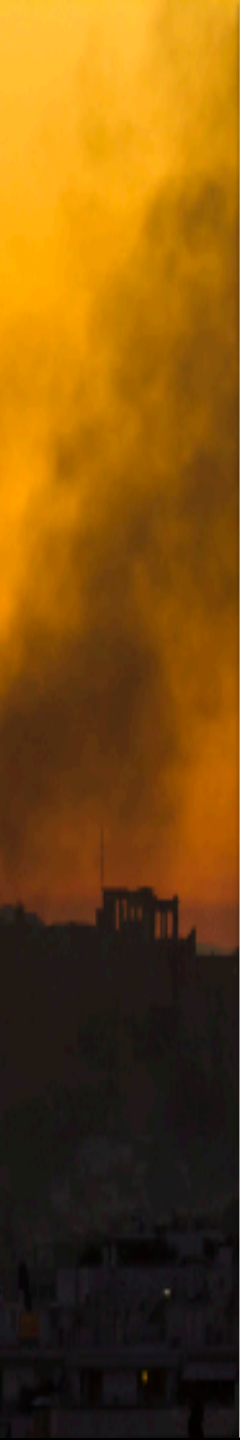
- (1) He never blames God, but is highly aware of his miserable state **v1-17**
- (2) Then choosing wisdom, he remembers the experiences of the past **v18-21**
- (3) He reminds himself of God's glorious merciful character **v22-23**
- (4) So he concludes that suffering has purpose, and ultimately good objectives **v24-32**
- (5) Which means that God will never afflict without excellent reason **v33-36**
- (6) And if we question or complain about our sufferings, we are doubting God's character and promises **v37-39**

Elisabeth Kübler-Ross – The 5 stages of grief (1969)



Elisabeth Kübler-Ross – The 5 stages of grief (1969)

	NATION	PROPHET
(1) DENIAL Defence mechanism	1v11-12	1v1-2
(2) ANGER Emotionally upset	2v21-22	2v1-2
(3) BARGAINING Attempts to negotiate	2v20	2v13
(4) DEPRESSION Preparatory grieving	4v17-20	4v1-12
(5) ACCEPTANCE Some objectivity	5v1-20	4v22
(6) SEEING PURPOSE Finding meaning	5v21	3v39-40



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Jeremiah/Lamentations

THE AFFLICTED DAUGHTER OF ZION

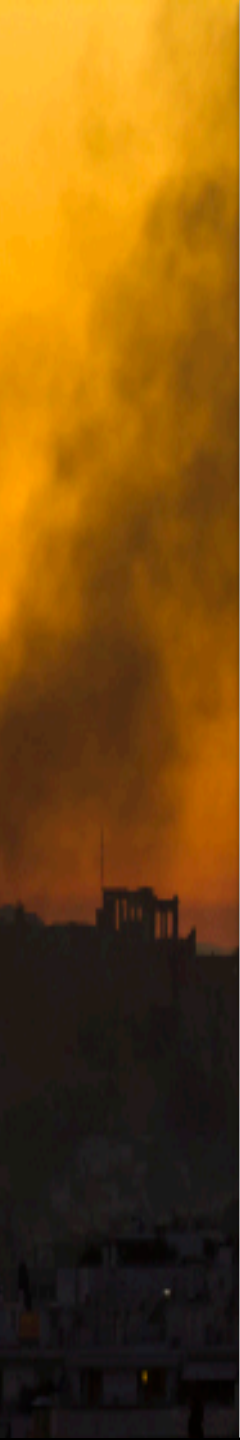
Lamentations 1-2

THE MAN THAT HATH SEEN AFFLICTION

Lamentations 3

THE PRECIOUS SONS OF ZION

Lamentations 4-5



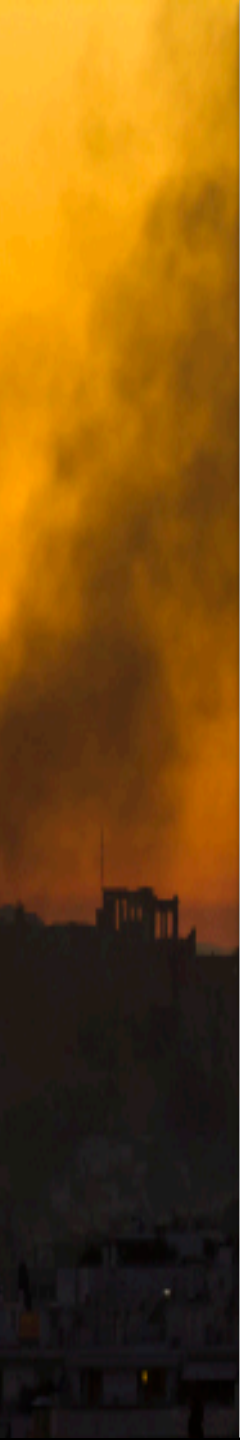
Everything upside down...

“The most fine gold has changed” v1-2

THEIR FAITH WAS GONE

“The daughter of my people is become cruel” v3-4

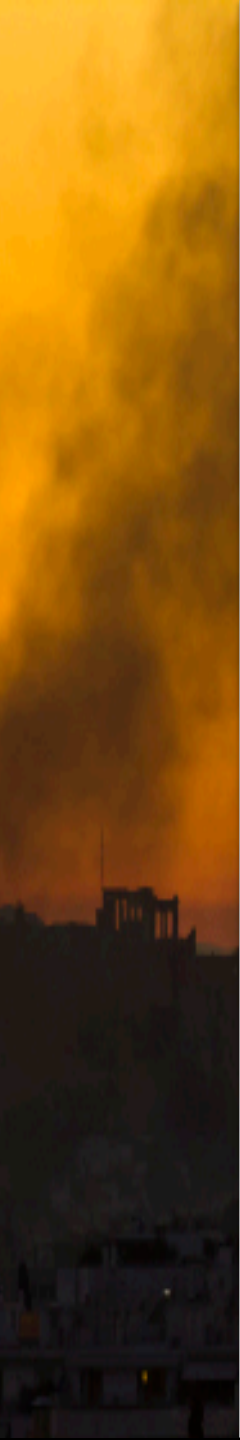
THEIR FEELINGS WERE GONE



Worse than animals...

“The ox knoweth his owner, and the ass his master's crib: but **Israel doth not know**, my people doth not consider.” **Isaiah 1v3**

“Yea, the stork in the heaven knoweth her appointed times; and the turtle and the crane and the swallow observe the time of their coming; but **my people know not** the judgment of the LORD.” **Jeremiah 8v7**



Everything upside down...

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“They that did feed delicately are desolate” v5-6

THEIR WEALTH WAS GONE

“They are not known in the streets” v7-8

THEIR LEADERS WERE GONE

“Not known in the streets”

LAM 4v7

LAM 4v8

Purer than snow

HOLY

Blacker than coal

Whiter than
milk

CLEAN

Unrecognizably
dirty

More ruddy than
rubies

HEALTHY

Skin cleaveth to
their bones

More beautiful
than sapphires

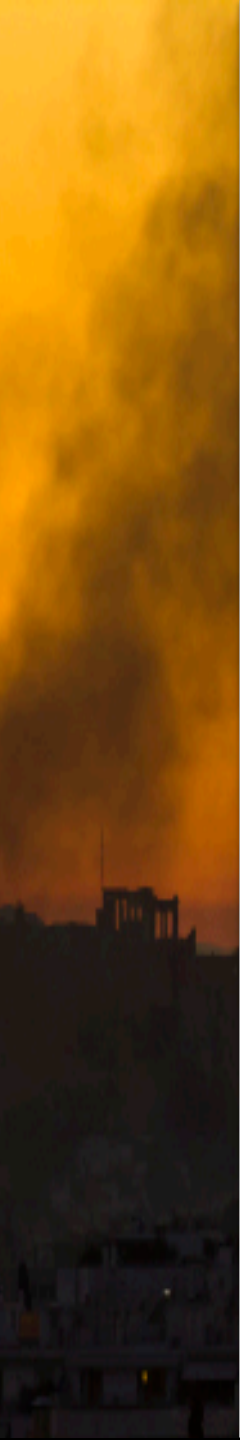
BEAUTIFUL

Withered like a
stick

From “whiter than
snow”



to “darker than
blackness” (marg)



Everything upside down...

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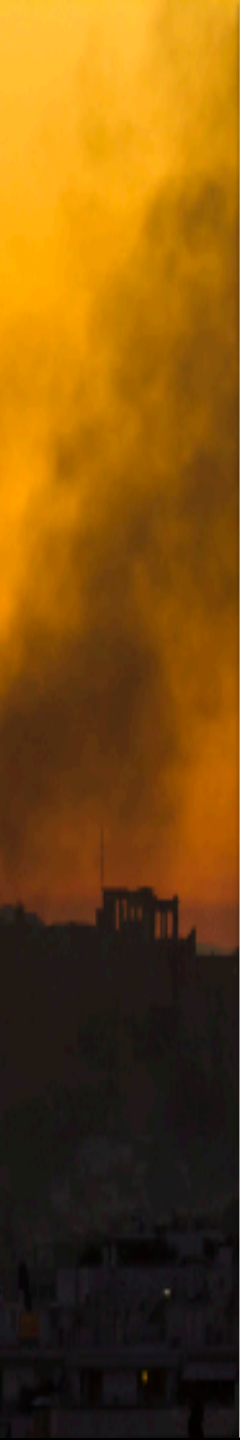
THEIR LEADERS WERE GONE

“The pitiful women have sodden their own children” v9-10

THEIR CONSCIENCE WAS GONE

“Sadden their own children”

Lam 1v5	Gone into captivity
Lam 1v15-16	Crushed, desolate
Lam 2v11	Infants swoon in the streets
Lam 2v12	Soul poured into mother’s bosom
Lam 2v19	Faint for hunger in the streets
Lam 2v20	Children a span long eaten as food
Lam 2v21	Young lie dead on ground
Lam 2v22	Those I swaddled are consumed
Lam 4v4	Dying of thirst and hunger
Lam 4v10	Boiled and eaten as food
Lam 5v13	Children fell under the wood



Everything upside down...

“The most fine gold has changed” v1-2

THEIR FAITH WAS GONE

“The daughter of my people is become cruel” v3-4

THEIR FEELINGS WERE GONE

“They that did feed delicately are desolate” v5-6

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“They are not known in the streets” v7-8

THEIR LEADERS WERE GONE

“The pitiful women have soddenn their own children” v9-10

THEIR CONSCIENCE WAS GONE

“The Kings of the earth...would not have believed” v11-12

THEIR CITY WAS GONE

tayed
purer
whiter
ruddy
their
ire:
than
wn in
aveth
red, it
h the
y that
these
rough
f the
bitiful
rown
meat
augh-

6 Or, *face*.
Job 23. 15.
° Is. 1. 10.
Mat. 10. 15.
p ch. 3. 39.
q Gen. 19. 25.
2 Pet. 2. 6.
r ch. 5. 12, 14.
s Num. 6. 2.
t Cp.
2 Kin. 24. 7.
u Is. 30. 5, 6.
x Ex. 24. 10.
y Job 28. 18.
z Ezek. 41.
12-15.
a Rev. 21. 19.
b ch. 3. 52.
7 Heb.
*darker
than black-
ness.*
c Job 19. 20.
d Jer. 4. 13.
8 Heb.
flow out.
Ps. 78. 20.
e Jer. 51. 4.
f Cp.
Gen. 2. 7.
g Ezek. 12.
13.

priests, ^r they favoured not the elders.

17 As for us, our eyes as yet failed ^t for our vain help: in our watching we have watched ^u for a nation *that* could not save us.

18 ^b They hunt our steps, that we cannot go in our streets: our end is near, our days are fulfilled; for our end is come.

19 Our persecutors are ^d swifter than the eagles of the heaven: they pursued us upon the mountains, they laid wait for us in the wilderness.

20 ^f The breath of our nostrils, the anointed of the LORD, ^g was taken in their pits, of whom we said, Under his shadow we shall live among the heathen.

21 ¶ Rejoice and be glad, O daughter of Edom, that dwellest

despise her, because they have seen her nakedness: yea, ^dshe sigheth, and turneth backward.

9 Her filthiness is in her skirts; she ^oremembereth not her last end; therefore she came down wonderfully: ^kshe had no comforter. O LORD, behold my affliction: for the enemy hath magnified himself.

10 The adversary hath spread out his hand upon all her ³pleasant things: for she hath seen that ^pthe heathen entered into her sanctuary, whom thou didst command that ^rthey should not enter into thy congregation.

11 All her people ^dsigh, ^xthey seek bread; they have given ^ztheir pleasant things for meat ⁵to relieve the soul: see, O LORD, and consider; for I am become vile.

12 ¶ ^eIs it nothing to you, all ye that ^rpass by? behold, and see if there be any sorrow like unto my sorrow, ^ewhich is done unto me, wherewith the LORD ⁱhath afflicted me ^kin the day of his fierce anger.

13 From above ^lhath he sent fire into

mine eye, because I have come down with water, because the comforter that should ³relieve my soul is far from me: my children are desolate, because the enemy prevailed.

17 Zion ^lspreadeth forth her hands, and there is none to comfort her: the LORD hath commanded concerning Jacob, that his adversaries should be round about him: Jerusalem is as ^oa menstruous woman among them.

18 ¶ ^rThe LORD is righteous; for I have rebelled against his ⁵commandment: hear, I pray you, all people, and behold my sorrow: my virgins and my young men are gone into captivity.

19 I called for ^ymy lovers, but they deceived me: my priests and mine elders gave up the ghost in the city, ^zwhile they sought their meat to relieve their souls.

20 Behold, O LORD; for I am in distress: ^bmy bowels are troubled; mine heart is turned within me; for I have grievously rebelled: ^dabroad ^ethe

Jer. 25. 37.
ver. 17, 21.
ch. 3. 43.
Jer. 4. 31.
Heb. *ma-*
to touch.
Ps. 74.
& 89. 39.
Is. 43. 28.
ver. 8.
Ezek. 18.
Ex. 11. 8.
ver. 17.
1 Sam. 2.
Jer. 12. 1.
Dan. 9. 7.
Ps. 74. 1.
Heb.
mouth.
Ps. 79. 5.
& 89. 46.
ch. 3. 12.
Job 13. 2.
Is. 63. 10.
Jer. 30. 1.
Heb.
all the d-
sirable o-
the eye.
ver. 11.
ver. 2, 8.
Job 16.
Cp.
Job 30. 1.
Is. 16. 1.
Jer. 4. 1.
Cp.
2 Kin. 2.
Ezek. 7.
Cp.
Jer. 15.
Is. 29. 2.

The Characters of the Drama

(1) Narrator (Jeremiah)	1v1-9a
(2) Jerusalem	1v9b
(3) Narrator (Jeremiah)	1v10-11a
(4) Jerusalem	1v11b-16
(5) Narrator (Jeremiah)	1v17
(6) Jerusalem	1v18-22
(7) Narrator (Jeremiah)	2v1-19
(8) (Passersby/Enemies)	2v15b,16b
(9) Jerusalem	2v20-22
(10) The man that has seen affliction	3v1-66
(11) (The afflicted one on behalf of the nation)	3v40-47
(12) Narrator (Jeremiah)	4v1-16
(13) Jerusalem	4v17-20
(14) Narrator (Jeremiah)	4v21-22
(15) Jerusalem	5v1-22

Reflections and Regrets...

v17 “Our eyes as yet failed”

JUST LIKE ZEDEKIAH THEIR FAILED KING WHO
TURNED OUT TO BE WRONG! **II Kings 25v7**

v17 “We have watched for a nation that could not save us”
EGYPT WAS NOT THE FRIEND THEY THOUGHT AND
JEREMIAH WAS RIGHT! **Jeremiah 37v7**

v18 “Our end is come”

EZEKIEL WAS RIGHT! **Ezekiel 7v2,3,5,6(3x),7(2x),10,12**

v19 “Our persecutors are swifter than eagles”

THE BABYLONIANS HAD COME “SWIFTER THAN
EAGLES” AND JEREMIAH WAS RIGHT! **Jeremiah 4v13**

v20 “The anointed of Yahweh was taken”

THEY HAD RELIED ON JOSIAH TOO HEAVILY AND NEVER
DEVELOPED A PERSONAL FAITH! **Lam 2v4, II Chron 35v23**

The Nation's Response

LAM 3

RESPONSE

LAM 5

v19-21

(1) Remember, recall to mind

v1

v42

(2) We have sinned, transgressed

v7,16

v22

(3) God's steadfast love and mercy are
forever

v19

v31

(4) Yahweh will not cast off forever

v20

v33-34

(5) Yahweh will not utterly reject us or
crush us

v22

v40

(6) Turn again to Yahweh

v21

LAM 3



GREATLY INFLUENCES



LAM 5

“thy **bruise** is great... who can **heal** thee” **Lam 2v13**

“and with his **bruise** (marg) are we **healed**” **Isa 53v5**

“Desolate”

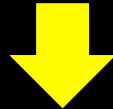
“all her gates are desolate” **1v4**

THE CITY IS DESOLATE



“he hath made me desolate” **1v13**

I AM DESOLATE



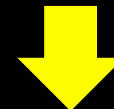
“my children are desolate” **1v16**

MY CHILDREN ARE DESOLATE



“They that did feed delicately are desolate” **4v5**

THE PEOPLE ARE DESOLATE



“the mountain of Zion, which is desolate” **5v18**

GOD AND HIS MOUNTAIN ARE DESOLATE!!!

“His Sanctuary”

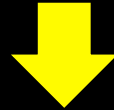
“the heathen have entered into her sanctuary” **1v10**

DISBELIEF AT THE DESECRATION



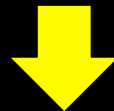
“He hath abhorred His sanctuary” **2v7**

CONFUSION THAT GOD COULD ALLOW THIS



“Let us lift up our hands to God in the heavens” **3v41**

GOD DWELLS IN THE HEAVENS NOT IN BUILDINGS



“The stones of the sanctuary are poured out” **4v1**

THE DESTRUCTION MUST BE GOD’S WILL



“Thou O Yahweh remainest for ever” **5v19**

GOD’S SANCTUARY CAN NEVER BE REMOVED!!!

“O Jerusalem Jerusalem!”

CHRIST	ALLUDES TO...	LAM
Matt 23v35	(1) Shed blood of the just	4v13
Matt 23v38	(2) House left to you desolate	1v4
Matt 24v2	(3) Stones poured out	4v1
Mark 13v14	(4) Enemy stand where they ought not	1v10
Luke 19v41	(5) Weeping over Jerusalem	2v11
Luke 19v44	(6) Children lying on ground	2v21
Luke 21v23	(7) Woe to those that give suck	4v4
Luke 21v23	(8) Distress and wrath upon the people	2v1
Luke 23v28	(9) “Daughters of Jerusalem”	2v13
Matt 11v24	(10) Punishment greater than Sodom	4v6

“where is **corn** and **wine**?” **Lam 2v12**

“Jesus took **bread**...and he took the **cup**” **Matt 26v26**

"The cup shall pass to thee"

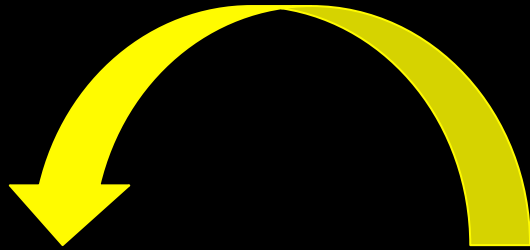
LAMENTATIONS

REVELATION

1v1	(1) A woman	17v3
1v2,8-9	(2) An adulterer	17v1-2,5
4v5	(3) Once clothed in fine scarlet	17v4
4v13	(4) Drunk with innocent blood	17v6
1v1	(5) Once a great city	17v18
2v1	(6) Now fallen	18v2
5v18	(7) Become a dwelling place for beasts	18v2
1v1	(8) Once a proud queen	18v7
4v5	(9) Once known for delicacies	18v3,7
4v12	(10) Lamentation made for it	18v9-10

"How is Sheshach taken... how is Babylon become an astonishment among the nations!" Jer 51v41

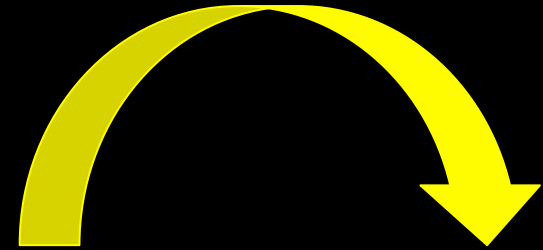
So where are we?



The unrepentant
community
afflicted because
of sinfulness
engulfed by grief
and without
meaning

CHAPTERS 1-2

**THE
AFFLICTED DAUGHTER
OF ZION**



The Man who
has seen
affliction despite
his innocence
and who offers
meaning and
hope

CHAPTER 3

The faithful
community
inspired by the
Man of Chapter 3
to rely on God and
wait patiently for
Him

CHAPTERS 4-5

**THE
PRECIOUS SONS
OF ZION**



The LAMENTATIONS of JEREMIAH

