

# The Book of LAMENTATIONS

Greek: "to cry aloud"

A Book of Mourning

In the Hebrew Bible, it is in The Writings

In the Greek Septuagint/English Bible, it is in The Prophets

Jeremiah 31:3 The Lord has appeared of old to me, saying: "Yes, I have loved you with an everlasting love; Therefore, with lovingkindness I have drawn you. 4 Again I will build you, and you shall be rebuilt, O virgin of Israel! You shall again be adorned with your tambourines, And shall go forth in the dances of those who rejoice. 5 You shall yet plant vines on the mountains of Samaria; The planters shall plant and eat them as ordinary food. 6 For there shall be a day When the watchmen will cry on Mount Ephraim, 'Arise, and let us go up to Zion, To the Lord our God.'" Jeremiah 31:3-6 NKJV

"Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us, and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins" (1 John 4:10)

The only prophet to actually **foresee what would** happen, then **actually live through it**.

The prophesy Jer 13:17 But if you will not hear it, My soul will weep in secret for your pride;

My eyes will weep bitterly, And run down with tears, Because the Lord's flock has been taken captive.

Jeremiah's weeping over Jerusalem was history.

Lam 1:18-19

Jesus' weeping over Jerusalem was prophesy.

Matt 23:36-38 and Luke 13:34-35 & 19:41-44

Laugh, and the world laughs with you; Weep, and you weep alone:

For this sad old earth must borrow its mirth, But it has trouble enough of its own.

Solitude – 1883

Ella Wheeler Wilcox

## HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

722 BC The Northern Kingdom (10 Tribes of Israel falls to Assyria)

640 BC 2 Kings 22:1,2 & 20 Josiah became King of Judah at 8 Years old Reigned 31 years

609 BC Josiah was killed in battle of Megiddo against Egypt The last good king

2 Kings 23:31 Jehoahaz becomes King at 23 years old and reigns 3 months

Pharaoh took him to Egypt and he died there 23:34

2 Kings 23:36 Pharaoh Necho makes Eliakim/Jehoiakim King 608 BC

25 years old and reigned 11 years Evil King

605 BC Nebuchadnezzar defeats Assyria and Egypt and becomes the world power

2 Kings 24:1 Daniel 1:1-2 3<sup>rd</sup> year of Jehoiakim, God gave Jehoiakim ... into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar

2 Kings 24:8 597 BC Jehoiachin 18 years old and reigns 3 months Evil King

2 Kings 24:12-14 8<sup>th</sup> year of Nebuchadnezzar 597 BC

Jehoiachin, educated people, upper class, etc taken in first deportation/exile

Probably Daniel was taken in this deportation

2 Kings 24:17 Nebuchadnezzar makes Jehoiachin's uncle Mattaniah the king. Evil King

He was 21 and his name was changed to Zedekiah. He reigned 11 years.

2 Kings 25:8 19<sup>th</sup> year of Nebuchadnezzar 605 BC minus 19<sup>th</sup> year 586 BC

**586 BC 2 Kings 25:9-12 SOLOMON'S TEMPLE DESTROYED  
WALLS OF JERUSALEM DESTROYED THE FINAL EXILE  
Only some poor people were left**

Jeremiah was not taken to Babylon. He was taken to Egypt. Jer 43

Tradition says he was stoned by the remnant in Egypt.

# BRIEF OVERVIEW OF LAMENTATIONS

## 5 Chapters

Chapters 1 & 2 and 3 & 4 Each have 22 verses for the 22 letters of the Hebrew alphabet  
Chapter 5 has 66 verses, 3 verses for each letter of the Hebrew alphabet.

### Ch 1 The Affliction of Jerusalem

:1-3 Desolation, :5 the Lord has afflicted her, :8 Jerusalem has sinned, :12 The Lord has inflicted,  
:14 The Lord has..., :15a The Lord has... 15b The Lord has... Vs.18 THE LORD IS RIGHTEOUS

### Ch 2 The Anger of Jehovah The City's Destruction

:2 The Lord has... :3 3 times "He has..." :4, :5, :6, :7, :8, and verse 9

WHY? :14 False prophets telling the people what they want to hear, Your visions and dreams, not God's.  
:17 He has fulfilled His word  
2:21 and 4:10, women cooking their own children

### Ch 3 The Grief of Jeremiah

Vs 1-3 Affliction of God's wrath

:19 Remember my affliction: Look at yourself and you will be depressed,  
Look at your circumstances and you'll be distressed,  
Look at God and you will be blessed.

:21 Therefore I have hope.

:22-33 Great is Thy faithfulness

1 Thes 5:23-24 He who calls you is faithful, who also will do it.

2 Thes 3:3 But the Lord is faithful, who will establish you and guard you from the evil one.

Hymn CHORUS: "Great is Thy faithfulness!" "Great is Thy faithfulness!"

Morning by morning new mercies I see; All I have needed Thy hand hath provided—

"Great is Thy faithfulness, " Lord, unto me!

Romans 10:13 "Whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved!"

1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to  
cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

### Ch 4 The Anger of Jehovah

:1-5 Starvation

:6 & 9 Slow death rather than swift judgement 10: Eating their own children

:11 The Lord has...

:12 The world can't believe what God has allowed to happen to His children.

:13&16 Sins and false messages of the prophets and priests

:22 Judgement Day has come!

### Ch 5 The Prayer of Jerusalem A Prayer for Restoration

:1 & 2 Remember us, Don't forget or forsake us.

:15-18 Jerusalem is desolate. Woe to us, for we have sinned.

:21 Turn us back to You O Lord.

Psalm 85:6 Will you not revive us again, That Your people may rejoice in You?

:7 Show us Your mercy, Lord, and grant us Your salvation.

**When God says, "That's Enough," judgement will come. Your vote will not matter!!**