

# LAMENTATIONS

## THE LEGACY BIBLE OUTLINE SERIES

### *The Remnant Church*



### *Bible Institute*

# THE LEGACY BIBLE OUTLINE SERIES

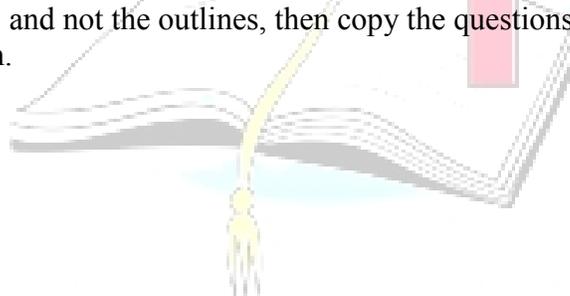
*The Legacy Bible Outline Series* is a study of the Bible using the text of the Bible itself. The series outlines books of the Bible in simple format, providing commentary only as needed to enhance understanding. Text-based questions are also included for every chapter.

We suggest you create a notebook for each book of the Bible. Insert the outlines in your notebooks and add your own study notes. Each time you study a book, you can easily append the outlines to continuously expand the materials.

*The Legacy Bible Outline Series* is designed so you can easily personalize it. The files for the series are in MS Word format to enable you to revise, input your own notes, change page numbers, and alter the layout as needed. You can also create your own outlines for other books of the Bible using this format

The text of the King James Version is included in *The Legacy Bible Outline Series* to enable you to underline and make notes in the actual text as part of your study. Unlike a Bible which will eventually wear out, you can photocopy worn pages if they need to be replaced--which means you won't lose your notes and underlining. Be sure to read the text in other versions of the Bible also, as different translations will greatly enhance your study.

You can print copies of the outlines for your students or--a more cost-effective method--copy the files to a CD ROM and let each student print out their own outlines. If you want students to have only the study questions and not the outlines, then copy the questions to a separate file and print them out for distribution.



**For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line...**

**(Isaiah 28:10, KJV)**

**...His word burns in my heart like a fire. It's like a fire in my bones!...**

**(Jeremiah 20:9, NLT)**

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page Number
Introduction To The Book Of Lamentations	1
Outline Of The Book Of Lamentations	
Lamentations 1	2
Lamentations 2	6
Lamentations 3	10
Lamentations 4	14
Lamentations 5	17
Supplemental Studies	20



*Bible Institute*

# INTRODUCTION TO THE BOOK OF LAMENTATIONS

**AUTHOR:** Jeremiah.

**TO WHOM:** Jews who were captive in Babylon.

**PURPOSES:** To produce repentance necessary for spiritual restoration. What Jeremiah learned in these dark times can help us in our own difficult times.

**KEY VERSES:** *It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness. (Lamentations 3:22-23)*

**LIFE AND MINISTRY PRINCIPLE:** God is faithful in both judgment and mercy.

**MAIN CHARACTER:** Jeremiah.

**A BRIEF OUTLINE:** Lamentations means Aalas@. It is said that Jeremiah sat weeping outside the north wall of Jerusalem under a hill called Golgotha where Christ would later die. Lamentations 5:16 summarizes the reasons for God's judgment upon the city of Jerusalem about which the Prophet Jeremiah is lamenting in this book. Around 1000 B.C. David established his capital in Jerusalem. God blessed this city for nearly 400 years and spared it even after He allowed the northern kingdom to be carried away by the Assyrians in 721 B.C. His mercy was in vain, however, for the people of Judah continued to sin. Judgment had now come.

The book uses an acrostic pattern: Lines start with different letters of the Hebrew alphabet.

Chapter 1: The city speaks:	The results of sin.
Chapter 2: The Lord speaks:	The consuming judgment.
Chapter 3: The prophet speaks:	Perspectives from the pit.
Chapter 4: Possessions speak:	Their luster has perished.
Chapter 5: Captives speak:	They are hungry and hurting.

## QUESTIONS ON THE INTRODUCTION:

1. Who was the author?
2. To whom was the book written?
3. What were the purposes of the book?
4. What are the key verses?
5. What is the life and ministry principle?
6. Who is the main character?
7. What does the word ALamentations@ mean?
8. Give a brief outline for the book.

# Outline Of Lamentations

## Lamentations 1

**1** How doth the city sit solitary, that was full of people how is she become as a widow she that was great among the nations, and princess among the provinces, how is she become tributary

**2** She weepeth sore in the night, and her tears are on her cheeks: among all her lovers she hath none to comfort her: all her friends have dealt treacherously with her, they are become her enemies.

**3** Judah is gone into captivity because of affliction, and because of great servitude: she dwelleth among the heathen, she findeth no rest: all her persecutors overtook her between the straits.

**4** The ways of Zion do mourn, because none come to the solemn feasts: all her gates are desolate: her priests sigh, her virgins are afflicted, and she is in bitterness.

**5** Her adversaries are the chief, her enemies prosper; for the Lord hath afflicted her for the multitude of her transgressions: her children are gone into captivity before the enemy.

**6** And from the daughter of Zion all her beauty is departed: her princes are become like harts that find no pasture, and they are gone without strength before the pursuer.

**7** Jerusalem remembered in the days of her affliction and of her miseries all her pleasant things that she had in the days of old, when her people fell into the hand of the enemy, and none did help her: the adversaries saw her, and did mock at her sabbaths.

**8** Jerusalem hath grievously sinned; therefore she is removed: all that honoured her despise her, because they have seen her nakedness: yea, she sigheth, and turneth backward.

**9** Her filthiness is in her skirts; she remembereth not her last end; therefore she came down wonderfully: she 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 pleasant things: for she hath seen that the heathen entered into her sanctuary, whom thou didst command that they should not enter into thy congregation.

**11** All her people sigh, they seek bread; they have given their pleasant things for meat to relieve the soul: see, O Lord, and consider; for I am become vile.

**12** Is it nothing to you, all ye that pass by? behold, and see if there be any sorrow like unto my sorrow, which is done unto me, wherewith the Lord hath afflicted me in the day of his fierce anger.

**13** From above hath he sent fire into my bones, and it prevaieth against them: he hath spread a net for my feet, he hath turned me back: he hath made me desolate and faint all the day.

**14** The yoke of my transgressions is bound by his hand: they are wreathed, and come up upon my neck: he hath made my strength to fall, the Lord hath delivered me into their hands, from whom I am not able to rise up.

**15 The Lord hath trodden under foot all my mighty men in the midst of me: he hath called an assembly against me to crush my young men: the Lord hath trodden the virgin, the daughter of Judah, as in a winepress.**

**16 For these things I weep; mine eye, mine eye runneth down with water, because the comforter that should relieve my soul is far from me: my children are desolate, because the enemy prevailed.**

**17 Zion spreadeth 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 a menstruous woman among them.**

**18 The Lord is righteous; for I have rebelled against his commandment: hear, I pray you, all people, and behold my sorrow: my virgins and my young men are gone into captivity.**

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

**20 Behold, O Lord; for I am in distress: my bowels are troubled; mine heart is turned within me; for I have grievously rebelled: abroad the sword bereaveth, at home there is as death.**

**21 They have heard that I sigh: there is none to comfort me: all mine enemies have heard of my trouble; they are glad that thou hast done it: thou wilt bring the day that thou hast called, and they shall be like unto me.**

**22 Let all their wickedness come before thee; and do unto them, as thou hast done unto me for all my transgressions: for my sighs are many, and my heart is faint.**

#### **Outline 1:**

- I. The condition of Jerusalem. (1-2)
  - A. The city, once full of people, is now solitary.
  - B. Once great among the nations, she is now as a widow.
  - C. Once as a princess among the provinces, she is become a tributary (*in servitude*).
  - D. She weeps in the night.
  - E. There is no comfort from her lovers (*her allies*).
  - F. Her friends have dealt treacherously with her and become her enemies.
- II. The people of Judah. (3)
  - A. Judah is gone into captivity because of affliction and great servitude.
  - B. She dwells among the heathen.
  - C. She finds no rest.
  - D. All her persecutors overtook her between the straits (*in the midst of her distress*).
- III. Zion mourns because: (4-6)
  - A. None come to the solemn feasts.
  - B. All her gates are desolate.
  - C. Her priests sigh.
  - D. Her virgins are afflicted.
  - E. She is in bitterness.
  - F. Her adversaries are the chief (*in charge*).
  - G. Her enemies prosper.
  - H. The Lord has afflicted her for the multitude of her transgressions.

- I. Her children are gone into captivity before the enemy.
- J. The beauty of the daughter of Zion is departed.
- K. Her princes are become like harts (*deer*) that find no pasture and are gone without strength before the pursuer.
- IV. In the days of her affliction, Jerusalem remembered the pleasant things she had in the days of old before: (7)\
- A. Her people fell into the hand of the enemy.
- B. No one helped her.
- C. The adversaries saw her and mocked at her Sabbaths.
- V. Jerusalem has grievously sinned, therefore: (8-9)
- A. She is removed.
- B. All that honored her now despise her because they have seen her nakedness.
- C. She sighs and turns backward.
- D. Her filthiness is in her skirts.
- E. She does not remember her last end (*did not seriously consider her end*).
- F. She came down wonderfully (*astonishingly*).
- G. She had no comforter.
- VI. The city and its people speak: Oh Lord, behold my affliction. (9-11)
- A. The enemy has magnified himself.
- B. The adversary has spread out his hand upon all her pleasant things.
- C. She has seen the heathen entered into her sanctuary, whom You commanded should not enter the congregation.
- D. All her people sigh, they seek bread, and have given their pleasant things for meat to relieve the soul.
- VII. See, oh Lord, and consider: For I am become vile. (11-15)
- A. Is it nothing to you, all you that pass by?
- B. Behold and see if there be any sorrow like unto my sorrow, which is done unto me, wherewith the Lord has afflicted me in the day of His fierce anger.
- C. From above He has sent fire into my bones and it prevails against them.
- D. He has spread a net for my feet.
- E. He has turned me back.
- F. He has made me desolate and faint all the day.
- G. The yoke of my transgressions is bound by His hand: they are wreathed, and come up upon my neck. (*Their sins became a yoke upon their necks.*)
- H. He has made my strength to fall.
- I. The Lord has delivered me into their hands, from whom I am not able to rise up.
- J. The Lord has trodden under foot all my mighty men in the midst of me.
- K. He has called an assembly against me to crush my young men.
- L. The Lord has trodden the virgin, the daughter of Judah, as in a winepress.
- VIII. For these things I weep and my eye runs with water because: (16-17)
- A. The comforter that should relieve my soul is far from me.
- B. My children are desolate, because the enemy prevailed.
- C. Zion spreads forth her hands, and there is none to comfort her:
1. The Lord has commanded concerning Jacob, that his adversaries should be

- round about him.
2. Jerusalem is as a menstruous woman among them. (*In Bible days, a woman who was menstruating was considered unclean.*)
- IX. The reason for God's judgment: He is righteous and I have rebelled against His commandment. (18)
- X. Hear, I pray you, all people, and behold my sorrow. (18-19)
- A. My virgins and young men are gone into captivity.
- B. I called for my lovers, but they deceived me.
- C. My priests and elders gave up the ghost in the city, while they sought their meat to relieve their souls.
- XI. Behold, Oh Lord. (20-22)
- A. I am in distress.
- B. My bowels are troubled.
- C. My heart is turned within me.
- D. I have grievously rebelled.
- E. Abroad the sword bereaves.
- F. At home there is as death.
- G. They have heard that I sigh and there is none to comfort me.
- H. My enemies have heard of my trouble and are glad that You have done it.
1. You will bring the day that You have called and they shall be like unto me.
2. Let all their wickedness come before You.
3. Do unto them as You have done unto me for all my transgressions.
- I. My sighs are many and my heart is faint.

**Study questions on chapter 1:**

1. How did the writer describe the city? (1-2)
2. What happened to Judah and why? (3)
3. Why were the roads to Mt. Zion empty? (4-6)
4. Who afflicted Jerusalem and why? (5)
5. What happened to the children of Jerusalem? (5)
6. Who was now in charge and prospering? (5)
7. What departed from the daughters of Zion? (6)
8. What happened to the princes? (6)
9. What specific things did the enemy mock? (7)
10. What did Jerusalem remember in her time of affliction? (7)
11. What conditions are described in verses 8-11?
12. What was the response of the people in verses 11-14?
13. Who was behind the punishment of Jerusalem? (12)
14. List the judgments described in verses 13-17.
15. Why were Zion's pleas for help ignored? (17)
16. What price did Zion pay for her rebellion? (18-19)
17. How did devastated Jerusalem describe her condition in verses 20-22?
18. What was her appeal for herself in verse 20?
19. What was Zion's appeal in relation to her enemies? (21-22)

20. What did you learn in this chapter to apply to your life and ministry?

## Lamentations 2

**1 How hath the Lord covered the daughter of Zion with a cloud in his anger, and cast down from heaven unto the earth the beauty of Israel, and remembered not his footstool in the day of his anger!**

**2 The Lord hath swallowed up all the habitations of Jacob, and hath not pitied: he hath thrown down in his wrath the strong holds of the daughter of Judah; he hath brought them down to the ground: he hath polluted the kingdom and the princes thereof.**

**3 He hath cut off in his fierce anger all the horn of Israel: he hath drawn back his right hand from before the enemy, and he burned against Jacob like a flaming fire, which devoureth round about.**

**4 He hath bent his bow like an enemy: he stood with his right hand as an adversary, and slew all that were pleasant to the eye in the tabernacle of the daughter of Zion: he poured out his fury like fire.**

**5 The Lord was as an enemy: he hath swallowed up Israel, he hath swallowed up all her palaces: he hath destroyed his strong holds, and hath increased in the daughter of Judah mourning and lamentation.**

**6 And he hath violently taken away his tabernacle, as if it were of a garden: he hath destroyed his places of the assembly: the Lord hath caused the solemn feasts and sabbaths to be forgotten in Zion, and hath despised in the indignation of his anger the king and the priest.**

**7 The Lord hath cast off his altar, he hath abhorred his sanctuary, he hath given up into the hand of the enemy the walls of her palaces; they have made a noise in the house of the Lord, as in the day of a solemn feast.**

**8 The Lord hath purposed to destroy the wall of the daughter of Zion: he hath stretched out a line, he hath not withdrawn his hand from destroying: therefore he made the rampart and the wall to lament; they languished together.**

**9 Her gates are sunk into the ground; he hath destroyed and broken her bars: her king and her princes are among the Gentiles: the law is no more; her prophets also find no vision from the Lord.**

**10 The elders of the daughter of Zion sit upon the ground, and keep silence: they have cast up dust upon their heads; they have girded themselves with sackcloth: the virgins of Jerusalem hang down their heads to the ground.**

**11 Mine eyes do fail with tears, my bowels are troubled, my liver is poured upon the earth, for the destruction of the daughter of my people; because the children and the sucklings swoon in the streets of the city.**

**12 They say to their mothers, Where is corn and wine? when they swooned as the wounded in the streets of the city, when their soul was poured out into their mothers' bosom.**

**13 What thing shall I take to witness for thee? what thing shall I liken to thee, O daughter of Jerusalem? what shall I equal to thee, that I may comfort thee, O virgin daughter of Zion? for thy breach is great like the sea: who can heal thee?**

**14 Thy prophets have seen vain and foolish things for thee: and they have not discovered thine iniquity, to turn away thy captivity; but have seen for thee false burdens and causes of banishment.**

**15 All that pass by clap their hands at thee; they hiss and wag their head at the daughter of Jerusalem, saying, Is this the city that men call The perfection of beauty, The joy of the whole earth?**

**16 All thine enemies have opened their mouth against thee: they hiss and gnash the teeth: they say, We have swallowed her up: certainly this is the day that we looked for; we have found, we have seen it.**

**17 The Lord hath done that which he had devised; he hath fulfilled his word that he had commanded in the days of old: he hath thrown down, and hath not pitied: and he hath caused thine enemy to rejoice over thee, he hath set up the horn of thine adversaries.**

**18 Their heart cried unto the Lord, O wall of the daughter of Zion, let tears run down like a river day and night: give thyself no rest; let not the apple of thine eye cease.**

**19 Arise, cry out in the night: in the beginning of the watches pour out thine heart like water before the face of the Lord: lift up thy hands toward him for the life of thy young children, that faint for hunger in the top of every street.**

**20 Behold, O Lord, and consider to whom thou hast done this. Shall the women eat their fruit, and children of a span long? shall the priest and the prophet be slain in the sanctuary of the Lord?**

**21 The young and the old lie on the ground in the streets: my virgins and my young men are fallen by the sword; thou hast slain them in the day of thine anger; thou hast killed, and not pitied.**

**22 Thou hast called as in a solemn day my terrors round about, so that in the day of the Lord's anger none escaped nor remained: those that I have swaddled and brought up hath mine enemy consumed.**

### **Outline 2:**

- I. What the Lord has done to the daughter of Zion. He has: (1-3)
  - A. Covered her with a cloud in His anger.
  - B. Cast down from heaven unto the earth the beauty of Israel.
  - C. Remembered not His footstool in the day of His anger.
  - D. Swallowed up all the habitations of Jacob and has not pitied them.
  - E. Thrown down in His wrath the strong holds of the daughter of Judah and has brought them to the ground.
  - F. Polluted the kingdom and the princes thereof.
  - G. Cut off in His fierce anger all the horn (*the power and strength, means of defense*) of Israel.
  - H. Burned against Jacob like a flaming fire, which devours round about.
- II. The Lord's actions as an enemy to Israel. He has: (4-5)
  - A. Bent His bow like an enemy:
    - 1. Stood with His right hand as an adversary.
    - 2. Slew all that were pleasant to the eye in the tabernacle of the daughter of Zion.
  - B. Poured out His fury like fire.

- C. Swallowed up Israel and all her palaces.
  - D. Destroyed His strong holds.
  - E. Increased the mourning and lamentation of the daughter of Judah.
- III. The Lord's judgment against His tabernacle. He has: (6-7)
- A. Violently taken away His tabernacle, as if it were of a garden.
  - B. Destroyed His places of the assembly.
  - C. Caused the solemn feasts and sabbaths to be forgotten in Zion.
  - D. Despised the king and the priests in the indignation of His anger.
  - E. Cast off His altar.
  - F. Abhorred His sanctuary.
  - G. Given into the hand of the enemy the walls of the palaces.
  - H. Caused a noise (*raised a clamor*) in the house of the Lord, as in the day of a solemn feast.
- IV. His judgment on the walls (*defenses*) of Zion. He has: (8-9)
- A. Purposed to destroy the wall of the daughter of Zion.
  - B. Stretched out a line.
  - C. Not withdrawn His hand from destroying.
  - D. Made the rampart and the wall to lament; they languished together.
  - E. Made her gates sink into the ground.
  - F. Destroyed and broken her bars.
- V. Judgment on the people; (9-12, 14)
- A. Her king and princes are among the Gentiles (*nations*).
  - B. The law is no more.
  - C. Her prophets:
    1. Find no vision from the Lord.
    2. Have seen vain and foolish things.
    3. Have not discovered (*disclosed*) the iniquity in order to turn away their captivity.
    4. Have seen false burdens and causes of banishment (*false, misleading prophecies*).
  - D. The elders of the daughter of Zion:
    1. Sit silently upon the ground.
    2. Cast dust upon their heads.
    3. Gird themselves with sackcloth
  - E. The virgins of Jerusalem hang down their heads to the ground.
  - F. The prophet himself:
    1. His eyes fail with tears.
    2. His bowels are troubled.
    3. His liver is poured upon the earth for the destruction of the daughter of God's people. (*The bowels and liver refer to the innermost being.*)
  - G. The children and the sucklings (*nursing babies*) swoon in the streets of the city.
    1. They said to their mothers, "Where is corn and wine?"
    2. They swooned as the wounded in the streets of the city.
    3. Their soul was poured out into their mothers' bosom (*crying*).

- VI. Questions without answers. (13)
- A. What thing shall I take to witness for you?
  - B. What thing shall I liken to you, O daughter of Jerusalem?
  - C. What shall I equal to you that I may comfort you, O virgin daughter of Zion?
  - D. Your breach is great like the sea: Who can heal you?
- VII. The response of observers (15-16)
- A. All that pass by clap their hands at you.
  - B. They hiss and wag their head at the daughter of Jerusalem, saying, "Is this the city that men call The perfection of beauty, The joy of the whole earth?"
  - C. All your enemies have opened their mouths against you:
    - 1. They hiss and gnash the teeth.
    - 2. They say, "We have swallowed her up: certainly this is the day that we looked for we have found, we have seen it."
- VIII. The Lord has done that which He had devised. (17)
- A. He has fulfilled His word that He had commanded in the days of old.
  - B. He has thrown down and has not pitied.
  - C. He has caused the enemy to rejoice over His people.
  - D. He has set up the horn of His people's adversaries.
- IX. Their heart cried out to the Lord. (18-19)
- A. Oh wall of the daughter of Zion, let tears run down like a river day and night.
  - B. Give yourself no rest.
  - C. Do not let the apple of your eye cease.
  - D. Arise, cry out in the night.
    - 1. In the beginning of the watches pour out your heart like water before the face of the Lord.
    - 2. Lift up your hands toward Him for the life of your young children, that faint for hunger in the top of every street.
- X. Behold, Oh Lord, and consider: (20-22)
- A. Shall the women eat their fruit, and children of a span long?
  - B. Shall the priest and the prophet be slain in the sanctuary of the Lord?
  - C. The young and the old lie on the ground in the streets.
  - D. The virgins and young men are fallen by the sword: You have slain them in the day of your anger. You have killed, and not pitied.
  - E. No one escaped Your anger; no one remained; even those swaddled (*young and protected*) the enemy has consumed.

**Study questions on chapter 2:**

- 1. Summarize what the Lord did to the daughter of Zion. (1-3)
- 2. What had the Lord become to the Israelites and how had He shown this? (4-5)
- 3. Summarize the judgment against the tabernacle. (6-7)
- 4. Summarize the judgment on the walls and gates. (8-9)
- 5. What judgment came upon the king and princes? (9)
- 6. What judgment came upon the elders? (10)
- 7. What judgment came upon the virgins? (10)
- 8. What happened to the children and sucklings? (11-12)

9. How had the prophets responded? (9,14)
10. What were the questions raised in verse 13?
11. What was the response of observers to this judgment? (15-16)
12. What had the Lord done according to verse 17?
13. What was the suffering city told to do? (18-19)
14. Summarize how the people cried out to the Lord as recorded in verses 18-19.
15. What do the people ask the Lord to behold and consider in verses 20-22.
16. What did you learn in this chapter to apply to your life and ministry?

### Lamentations 3

- 1 I am the man that hath seen affliction by the rod of his wrath.**
- 2 He hath led me, and brought me into darkness, but not into light.**
- 3 Surely against me is he turned; he turneth his hand against me all the day.**
- 4 My flesh and my skin hath he made old; he hath broken my bones.**
- 5 He hath builded against me, and compassed me with gall and travail.**
- 6 He hath set me in dark places, as they that be dead of old.**
- 7 He hath hedged me about, that I cannot get out: he hath made my chain heavy.**
- 8 Also when I cry and shout, he shutteth out my prayer.**
- 9 He hath inclosed my ways with hewn stone, he hath made my paths crooked.**
- 10 He was unto me as a bear lying in wait, and as a lion in secret places.**
- 11 He hath turned aside my ways, and pulled me in pieces: he hath made me desolate.**
- 12 He hath bent his bow, and set me as a mark for the arrow.**
- 13 He hath caused the arrows of his quiver to enter into my reins.**
- 14 I was a derision to all my people; and their song all the day.**
- 15 He hath filled me with bitterness, he hath made me drunken with wormwood.**
- 16 He hath also broken my teeth with gravel stones, he hath covered me with ashes.**
- 17 And thou hast removed my soul far off from peace: I forgot prosperity.**
- 18 And I said, My strength and my hope is perished from the Lord:**
- 19 Remembering mine affliction and my misery, the wormwood and the gall.**
- 20 My soul hath them still in remembrance, and is humbled in me.**
- 21 This I recall to my mind, therefore have I hope.**
- 22 It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not.**
- 23 They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness.**
- 24 The Lord is my portion, saith my soul; therefore will I hope in him.**
- 25 The Lord is good unto them that wait for him, to the soul that seeketh him.**
- 26 It is good that a man should both hope and quietly wait for the salvation of the Lord.**
- 27 It is good for a man that he bear the yoke in his youth.**
- 28 He sitteth alone and keepeth silence, because he hath borne it upon him.**
- 29 He putteth his mouth in the dust; if so be there may be hope.**
- 30 He giveth his cheek to him that smiteth him: he is filled full with reproach.**
- 31 For the Lord will not cast off for ever:**
- 32 But though he cause grief, yet will he have compassion according to the multitude of his mercies.**

33 For he doth not afflict willingly nor grieve the children of men.  
 34 To crush under his feet all the prisoners of the earth,  
 35 To turn aside the right of a man before the face of the most High,  
 36 To subvert a man in his cause, the Lord approveth not.  
 37 Who is he that saith, and it cometh to pass, when the Lord commandeth it not?  
 38 Out of the mouth of the most High proceedeth not evil and good?  
 39 Wherefore doth a living man complain, a man for the punishment of his sins?  
 40 Let us search and try our ways, and turn again to the Lord.  
 41 Let us lift up our heart with our hands unto God in the heavens.  
 42 We have transgressed and have rebelled: thou hast not pardoned.  
 43 Thou hast covered with anger, and persecuted us: thou hast slain, thou hast not pitied.  
 44 Thou hast covered thyself with a cloud, that our prayer should not pass through.  
 45 Thou hast made us as the offscouring and refuse in the midst of the people.  
 46 All our enemies have opened their mouths against us.  
 47 Fear and a snare is come upon us, desolation and destruction.  
 48 Mine eye runneth down with rivers of water for the destruction of the daughter of my people.  
 49 Mine eye trickleth down, and ceaseth not, without any intermission,  
 50 Till the Lord look down, and behold from heaven.  
 51 Mine eye affecteth mine heart because of all the daughters of my city.  
 52 Mine enemies chased me sore, like a bird, without cause.  
 53 They have cut off my life in the dungeon, and cast a stone upon me.  
 54 Waters flowed over mine head; then I said, I am cut off.  
 55 I called upon thy name, O Lord, out of the low dungeon.  
 56 Thou hast heard my voice: hide not thine ear at my breathing, at my cry.  
 57 Thou drewest near in the day that I called upon thee: thou saidst, Fear not.  
 58 O Lord, thou hast pleaded the causes of my soul; thou hast redeemed my life.  
 59 O Lord, thou hast seen my wrong: judge thou my cause.  
 60 Thou hast seen all their vengeance and all their imaginations against me.  
 61 Thou hast heard their reproach, O Lord, and all their imaginations against me;  
 62 The lips of those that rose up against me, and their device against me all the day.  
 63 Behold their sitting down, and their rising up; I am their musick.  
 64 Render unto them a recompence, O Lord, according to the work of their hands.  
 65 Give them sorrow of heart, thy curse unto them.  
 66 Persecute and destroy them in anger from under the heavens of the Lord.

### Outline 3:

- I. The affliction of the prophet. (1-17)
  - A. I am the man that has seen affliction by the rod of His wrath.
  - B. He has led me and brought me into darkness, but not into light.
  - C. Surely against me is He turned; He turns His hand against me all the day.
  - D. My flesh and my skin He has made old; He has broken my bones.
  - E. He has built (*a siege*) against me, and compassed me with gall and travail.
  - F. He has set me in dark places, as they that be dead of old.
  - G. He has hedged me about, that I cannot get out: He has made my chain heavy.

- H. Also when I cry and shout, He shuts out my prayer.
- I. He has enclosed my ways with hewn stone, He has made my paths crooked.
- J. He was unto me as a bear lying in wait, and as a lion in secret places.
- K. He has turned aside my ways and pulled me in pieces: He has made me desolate.
- L. He has bent his bow and set me as a mark for the arrow.
- M. He has caused the arrows of His quiver to enter into my reins.
- N. I was a derision to all my people and (*the subject of*) their song all the day.
- O. He has filled me with bitterness and made me drunken with wormwood (*bitterness*).
- P. He has also broken my teeth with gravel stones and has covered me with ashes.
- Q. He has removed my soul far off from peace: I forgot prosperity.
- II. The prophet's response to affliction. (18-20)
- A. I said, "My strength and my hope is perished from the Lord."
- B. Remembering my affliction and misery, the wormwood and the gall.
- C. My soul has them still in remembrance, and is humbled in me.
- III. The affirmation of the prophet. (21-30)
- A. This I recall to my mind, therefore I have hope.
- B. It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not.
- C. They are new every morning: Great is Your faithfulness.
- D. The Lord is my portion, says my soul; therefore will I hope in Him.
- E. The Lord is good unto them that wait for Him, to the soul that seeks Him.
- F. It is good that a man should both hope and quietly wait for the salvation of the Lord.
- G. It is good for a man that he bear the yoke (*of God's chastisement*) in his youth.
1. He sits alone and keeps silence, because he has borne it upon him.
  2. He puts his mouth in the dust; if so be there may be hope.
  3. He gives his cheek to him that smites him: He is filled full with reproach.
- IV. The Lord does not cast off forever. (31-36)
- A. Though He causes grief, yet will He have compassion according to the multitude of His mercies.
- B. For He does not willingly afflict nor grieve the children of men. The Lord does not approve:
1. Crushing under His feet all the prisoners of the earth,
  2. Turning aside the right of a man before the face of the Most High.
  3. Subverting a man in his cause
- V. Questions considered. (37-39)
- A. Who is he that says and it comes to pass, when the Lord commands it not?
- B. Out of the mouth of the Most High proceeds not evil and good?
- C. Wherefore does a living man complain for the punishment of his sins?
- VI. Searching their ways. (40-42)
- A. Let us search and try our ways, and turn again to the Lord.
- B. Let us lift up our heart with our hands unto God in the heavens.
- C. We have transgressed and rebelled.
- VII. The results of their transgression. (42-47)

- A. You have not pardoned.
  - B. You have covered us with anger and persecuted us.
  - C. You have slain and have not pitied.
  - D. You have covered yourself with a cloud, that our prayer should not pass through.
  
  - E. You have made us as the offscouring and refuse in the midst of the people.
  - F. All our enemies have opened their mouths against us.
  - G. Fear and a snare have come upon us, desolation and destruction.
- VIII. The prophet's emotional response to these conditions (48-54)
- A. My eye runs down with rivers of water for the destruction of the daughter of my people.
  - B. My eye trickles down, and ceases not, without any intermission.
  - C. Till the Lord look down, and beholds from heaven.
  - D. My eye affects my heart because of all the daughters of my city.
  - E. My enemies chased me sore, like a bird, without cause.
  - F. They have cut off my life in the dungeon, and cast a stone upon me.
  - G. Waters flowed over my head.
  - H. Then I said, I am cut off.
- IX. Calling on the name of the Lord. (55-66)
- A. I called upon Your name, oh Lord, out of the low dungeon.
  - B. You have heard my voice; do not hide Your ear at my breathing, at my cry.
  - C. You drew near in the day that I called upon You: You said, "Fear not."
  - D. Oh Lord, You have hast pleaded the causes of my soul; You have redeemed my life (*managing and protecting all my affairs*).
  - E. O Lord, You have seen my wrong: Judge my cause.
  - F. You have seen all their vengeance and their imaginations against me.
  - G. You have heard their reproach, oh Lord, and all their imaginations against me.
  - H. The lips of those that rose up against me and their devices against me all the day.
  - I. Behold their sitting down and their rising up; I am their music (*the subject of their merriment*).
  - J. Render unto them a recompence, oh Lord, according to the work of their hands.
  - K. Give them sorrow of heart, Your curse unto them.
  - L. Persecute and destroy them in anger from under the heavens of the Lord.

**Study questions on chapter 3:**

1. List the afflictions suffered by the prophet described in verses 1-17. Describe the condition of his prophetic vision, his physical and emotional condition, his perception of God, his material circumstances, and the way he perceived his prayer life.
2. What was the prophet's response to affliction as recorded in verses 18-20?
3. Summarize the affirmation of the prophet in verses 21-30. Despite the judgment, how did he perceive God?
4. In the middle of lamenting the siege and destruction of Jerusalem, what assurance did the writer express? (22-25)
5. Summarize what you learn about God's judgment in verses 31-36. Of what does He not approve?

6. What are the questions in verses 37-39?
7. What do the people decide to do in verses 40-41?
8. What were the results of the peoples' transgressions described in verses 42-47?
9. Summarize the emotional response of the prophet to the dire conditions around him. (48-54)
10. Summarize the contents of the appeal to the Lord made by the people in verses 55-66.
11. What was intolerable to the Lord? (34-36)
12. How is the nature of God=s knowledge described? (37-38)
13. What did the writer say about sin and punishment? (39)
14. In identifying with God=s people, what did the prophet urge them to do? (40-42)
15. How did the writer describe the sorrows of sin? (43-54)
16. Summarize the prayer of the repentant sinner in verses 55-66.
17. What did you learn in this chapter to apply to your life and ministry?

#### Lamentations 4

- 1 How is the gold become dim! how is the most fine gold changed! the stones of the sanctuary are poured out in the top of every street.**
- 2 The precious sons of Zion, comparable to fine gold, how are they esteemed as earthen pitchers, the work of the hands of the potter!**
- 3 Even the sea monsters draw out the breast, they give suck to their young ones: the daughter of my people is become cruel, like the ostriches in the wilderness.**
- 4 The tongue of the sucking child cleaveth to the roof of his mouth for thirst: the young children ask bread, and no man breaketh it unto them.**
- 5 They that did feed delicately are desolate in the streets: they that were brought up in scarlet embrace dunghills.**
- 6 For the punishment of the iniquity of the daughter of my people is greater than the punishment of the sin of Sodom, that was overthrown as in a moment, and no hands stayed on her.**
- 7 Her Nazarites were purer than snow, they were whiter than milk, they were more ruddy in body than rubies, their polishing was of sapphire:**
- 8 Their visage is blacker than a coal; they are not known in the streets: their skin cleaveth to their bones; it is withered, it is become like a stick.**
- 9 They that be slain with the sword are better than they that be slain with hunger: for these pine away, stricken through for want of the fruits of the field.**
- 10 The hands of the pitiful women have sodden their own children: they were their meat in the destruction of the daughter of my people.**
- 11 The Lord hath accomplished his fury; he hath poured out his fierce anger, and hath kindled a fire in Zion, and it hath devoured the foundations thereof.**
- 12 The kings of the earth, and all the inhabitants of the world, would not have believed that the adversary and the enemy should have entered into the gates of Jerusalem.**
- 13 For the sins of her prophets, and the iniquities of her priests, that have shed the blood of the just in the midst of her,**
- 14 They have wandered as blind men in the streets, they have polluted themselves with blood, so that men could not touch their garments.**

**15 They cried unto them, Depart ye; it is unclean; depart, depart, touch not: when they fled away and wandered, they said among the heathen, They shall no more sojourn there.**

**16 The anger of the Lord hath divided them; he will no more regard them: they respected not the persons of the priests, they favoured not the elders.**

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

**18 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 swifter than the eagles of the heaven: they pursued us upon the mountains, they laid wait for us in the wilderness.**

**20 The breath of our nostrils, the anointed of the Lord, 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 in the land of Uz; the cup also shall pass through unto thee: thou shalt be drunken, and shalt make thyself naked.**

**22 The punishment of thine iniquity is accomplished, O daughter of Zion; he will no more carry thee away into captivity: he will visit thine iniquity, O daughter of Edom; he will discover thy sins.**

#### **Outline 4:**

- I. The economy and its leadership. (1-2)
  - A. How is the gold become dim.
  - B. How is the most fine gold changed.
  - C. The stones of the sanctuary are poured out in the top of every street.
  - D. The precious sons of Zion, comparable to fine gold:
    1. They are esteemed as earthen pitchers.
    2. They are like the work of the hands of the potter.
- II. The young. (3-4)
  - A. Even the sea monsters draw out the breast, they give suck to their young ones.
  - B. The daughter of my people is become cruel, like the ostriches in the wilderness (*who desert their young*).
  - C. The tongue of the sucking child cleaves to the roof of his mouth for thirst: the young children ask bread, and no man breaks it unto them.
- III. The wealthy. (5)
  - A. They that did feed delicately are desolate in the streets.
  - B. They that were brought up in scarlet embrace dunghills. (*They were brought up in wealth and now are in poverty*).
- IV. The reason for the judgment: For the punishment of the iniquity of the daughter of my people is greater than the punishment of the sin of Sodom, that was overthrown as in a moment, and no hands stayed on her (*no one to help her*). (6)
- V. The Nazarites. (7-8)
  - A. Their former condition: They were purer than snow, they were whiter than milk, they were more ruddy in body than rubies, their polishing was of sapphire.
  - B. Their present condition: Their visage is blacker than coal; they are not known in the streets: their skin cleaves to their bones; it is withered, it is become like a

- stick.
- VI. The famine. (9-10)
- A. They that be slain with the sword are better than they that be slain with hunger: for these pine away, stricken through for want of the fruits of the field.
  - B. The hands of the pitiful (*previously compassionate*) women have sodden (*cooked*) their own children: They were their meat in the destruction of the daughter of my people.
- VII. The fury of the Lord: The Lord has accomplished His fury; He has poured out His fierce anger and kindled a fire in Zion which devoured the foundations thereof. (11)
- VIII. The response of the nations: The kings of the earth and all the inhabitants of the world would not have believed that the adversary and the enemy should have entered into the gates of Jerusalem. (12)
- IX. The sins of the prophets and priests. (13-16)
- A. For the sins of her prophets, and the iniquities of her priests, that have shed the blood of the just in the midst of her.
  - B. They have wandered as blind men in the streets.
  - C. They have polluted themselves with blood, so that men could not touch their garments.
  - D. They cried unto them, "Depart ye; it is unclean; depart, depart, touch not."
  - E. When they fled away and wandered, they said among the heathen, "They shall no more sojourn there."
  - F. The anger of the Lord has divided them; He will no more regard them: They did not respect the persons of the priests, they did not favor the elders.
- X. Searching for a savior. (17-20)
- A. As for us, our eyes failed for our vain help: in our watching we have watched for a nation that could not save us.
  - 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.
  - C. Our persecutors are swifter than the eagles of the heaven: they pursued us upon the mountains, they laid wait for us in the wilderness.
  - D. The breath of our nostrils, the anointed of the Lord, was taken in their pits, of whom we said, "Under his shadow we shall live among the heathen."
- XI. A message to Edom. (21-22)
- A. Rejoice and be glad, oh daughter of Edom, that dwells in the land of Uz.
  - B. The cup also shall pass through unto you.
  - C. You will be drunken and make yourself naked.
  - D. He will visit your iniquity, oh daughter of Edom.
  - E. He will discover your sins.
- XII. God's judgment accomplished. (22)
- A. The punishment of your iniquity is accomplished, oh daughter of Zion.
  - B. He will no more carry you away into captivity.

**Study questions on chapter 4:**

1. What was scattered throughout the streets? (1)
2. What was the condition of the sons of Zion? (2)

3. How did the children fare in the siege of Jerusalem? (3-4)
4. What happened to the wealthy? (5)
5. How did Zion's punishment compare with that of Sodom? (6)
6. Compare the former and present condition of the Nazarites. (7-8)
7. Describe results of the famine. (9-10)
8. What does verse 11 say about the fury of the Lord?
9. What was the response of the nations to the judgment of Jerusalem? (12)
10. Describe the sins of the prophets and priests. How were they punished? (13-16)
11. Why were the people disappointed in their allies? (17)
12. How are the enemy attacks described in verses 18-20?
13. What did the future hold for Edom? (21)
14. What was Zion's hope? (22)
15. What did you learn in this chapter to apply to your life and ministry?

## Lamentations 5

- 1 Remember, O Lord, what is come upon us: consider, and behold our reproach.**
- 2 Our inheritance is turned to strangers, our houses to aliens.**
- 3 We are orphans and fatherless, our mothers are as widows.**
- 4 We have drunken our water for money; our wood is sold unto us.**
- 5 Our necks are under persecution: we labour, and have no rest.**
- 6 We have given the hand to the Egyptians, and to the Assyrians, to be satisfied with bread.**
- 7 Our fathers have sinned, and are not; and we have borne their iniquities.**
- 8 Servants have ruled over us: there is none that doth deliver us out of their hand.**
- 9 We gat our bread with the peril of our lives because of the sword of the wilderness.**
- 10 Our skin was black like an oven because of the terrible famine.**
- 11 They ravished the women in Zion, and the maids in the cities of Judah.**
- 12 Princes are hanged up by their hand; the faces of elders were not honoured.**
- 13 They took the young men to grind, and the children fell under the wood.**
- 14 The elders have ceased from the gate, the young men from their musick.**
- 15 The joy of our heart is ceased; our dance is turned into mourning.**
- 16 The crown is fallen from our head: woe unto us, that we have sinned!**
- 17 For this our heart is faint; for these things our eyes are dim.**
- 18 Because of the mountain of Zion, which is desolate, the foxes walk upon it.**
- 19 Thou, O Lord, remainest for ever; thy throne from generation to generation.**
- 20 Wherefore dost thou forget us for ever, and forsake us so long time?**
- 21 Turn thou us unto thee, O Lord, and we shall be turned; renew our days as of old.**
- 22 But thou hast utterly rejected us; thou art very wroth against us.**

### Outline 5:

- I. The opening appeal: Remember, Oh Lord. (1)
  - A. Remember what has come upon us.
  - B. Consider and behold our reproach.
- II. The reproach described. (2-18)
  - A. Our inheritance is turned to strangers, our houses to aliens.

- B. We are orphans and fatherless, our mothers are as widows.
- C. We have drunk our water for money; our wood is sold unto us.  
(*They had to pay for their own water and wood.*)
- D. Our necks are under persecution: We labor, and have no rest.
- E. We have given the hand to the Egyptians and the Assyrians, to be satisfied with bread (*they attack when we try to harvest*).
- F. Our fathers have sinned, and are not; and we have borne their iniquities.
- G. Servants have ruled over us: there is none that delivers us out of their hand.
- H. We got our bread with the peril of our lives because of the sword of the wilderness.
- I. Our skin was black like an oven because of the terrible famine.
- J. They (*the enemy*) ravished the women in Zion and the maids in the cities of Judah.
- K. Princes are hanged up by their hands: the faces of elders were not honored.
- L. They took the young men to grind, and the children fell under the wood (*under the burden of the wood*).
- M. The elders have ceased from (*congregating at*) the gate, the young men from their music.
- N. The joy of our heart is ceased; our dance is turned into mourning.
- O. The crown is fallen from our head (*we have lost our honor*).
- P. For this our heart is faint; for these things our eyes are dim.
- Q. The mountain of Zion is desolate, the foxes walk upon it.
- III. The reason: We have sinned! (16)
- IV. The praise: You, Oh Lord, remain forever; Your throne from generation to generation. (19)
- V. The rejection perceived. (20-22)
- A. Why do You forget us forever and forsake us so long time?
- B. You have utterly rejected us.
- C. You are very wroth (*angry*) against us.
- VI. The closing appeal: Turn us unto You, oh Lord, and we shall be turned; renew our days as of old. (21)

### Study questions on chapter 5:

1. What is the opening appeal of this chapter? (1)
2. What happened to the peoples' inheritance and houses? (2)
3. How did the people perceive themselves in verse 3?
4. What were the conditions described in verses 4-6?
5. What consequences were other generations forced to bear? (7)
6. Describe the results of sin listed in verses 8-10.
7. What happened to the women and maids in the cities of Judah? (11)
8. What happened to the princes? (12)
9. What happened to the young men and the children? (13-14)
10. What happened to the elders? (12,14)

11. What were the sad conditions described in verses 15-16?
12. What three words in verse 16 explain why conditions were so bad?
13. Why were their hearts faint and their eyes dim? (17)
14. Describe the condition of Mt. Zion. (18)
15. How did the writer describe the Lord and His throne? (19)
16. What questions were asked in verse 20?
17. What was the closing appeal in verse 21?
18. According to verse 22, how did the people feel?
19. What did you learn in this chapter to apply to your life and ministry?

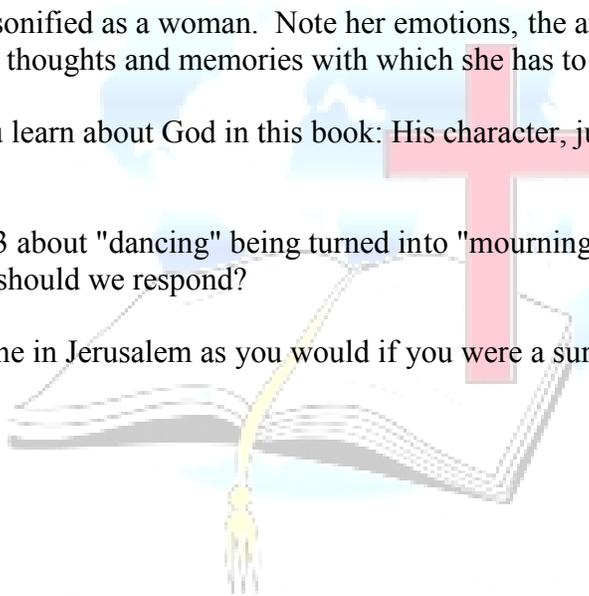
# *The Remnant Church*



## *Bible Institute*

## SUPPLEMENTAL STUDIES

1. One of the greatest passages on the faithfulness of God is found in Lamentations 3:21-33. Compare this with 2 Timothy 2:13.
2. Compare Revelation 18 to the book of Lamentations. In Lamentations, the prophet weeps over the destruction of the Messianic city of Jerusalem. In Revelation 18, the merchants weep over the destruction of the materialistic city of Babylon.
3. For centuries, the Jews have publicly read Lamentations each year on the ninth month of Ab to commemorate the destruction of the first Temple in 586 B.C. and the second Temple in A.D. 70.
4. Jerusalem is personified as a woman. Note her emotions, the anguish because of her children, and the thoughts and memories with which she has to deal.
5. Record what you learn about God in this book: His character, judgments, and why He acts as He does.
6. Review chapter 3 about "dancing" being turned into "mourning." How does God deal With sin? How should we respond?
7. Describe the scene in Jerusalem as you would if you were a survivor of the judgment or a news reporter.



*Bible Institute*