

JERUSALEM'S FALL
(Lamentations 1:1 – 2:22)

I. The MISERY and DESOLATION of Jerusalem (Lamentations 1)

A. JEREMIAH'S sorrow (1:1-11)

1. The once GREAT city has become a destitute SLAVE
2. She had relied on HUMAN support and been BETRAYED
3. DISASTER has fallen after a long period of TROUBLE
4. The city is DESOLATE and GRIEVING
5. This is God's JUDGMENT for their SINS
6. Their LEADERS thought only of themselves and tried to FLEE
7. Her WEALTH had been no protection
8. Their ADULTERIES have brought them SCORN and SHAME
9. Wanton pursuit of lusts has led to RUIN without a COMFORTER
10. HEATHENS had plundered and destroyed the SANCTUARY
11. They exchanged all they held DEAR for FOOD

B. JERUSALEM'S sorrow (1:12-22)

1. No one CARES about her suffering God's WRATH (12)
2. The penetrating affliction that left her COLLAPSING in DESPAIR (13)
3. They have fallen PREY due to the WEIGHT of their SIN (14)
4. God had APPOINTED the time for their DESTRUCTION (15)
5. They WEEP because of their DESOLATION without PITY (16)
6. They are DESPISED by their neighbors as UNCLEAN (17)
7. They affirm God's JUSTICE and their own GUILT (18)
8. They admit they sought aid from ALLIES and their spiritual leaders were concerned only for their OWN WELFARE (19)
9. They beg God to NOTICE their DISTRESS (20)
10. They beg God to DESTROY their ENEMIES (21-22)

II. The DESTRUCTION of Jerusalem (Lamentations 2)

A. The LORD'S perspective (2:1-9)

1. The Lord's STORM of anger even cast down the TEMPLE (1)
2. The Lord DISGRACED/DISHONORED the nation (2)
3. No longer her HELPER, the Lord has become Judah's ENEMY (3-5)
4. The Lord DESTROYED His own "TABERNACLE" (6-7)
5. Jerusalem's destruction was the DELIBERATE PLAN of God (8-9)

B. A HUMAN perspective (2:10-17)

1. All Jerusalem is overcome with GRIEF and HUMILIATION (10)
2. Jeremiah is especially distraught by the impact on the CHILDREN (11-12)
3. Jeremiah wants to COMFORT Jerusalem, but their wound is too DEEP to be HEALED (13)
4. False prophets told them what they WANTED to hear instead of CONFRONTING their SIN (14)
5. Their enemies MOCK them for their CALAMITY (15-16)
6. Even their SCORN was the Lord's DOING (17)

C. JEREMIAH'S prayer (2:18-22)

1. Jeremiah calls Jerusalem to REPENTANCE and PRAYER (18-19)
2. Jeremiah ACCUSES God of being EXCESSIVELY harsh (20-21)
 - a. Women are EATING their CHILDREN
 - b. Priests and prophets were MURDERED in the TEMPLE
 - c. INDISCRIMINATE slaughter left the dead in the STREETS
3. Jeremiah MOURNS the annihilation of those he'd tried to NURTURE (22)