

SORROWS AND PRAYERS
(Lamentations 4:1 – 5:22)

- I. God's WRATH Detailed (Lamentations 4:1-22)
 - A. Remembrance of BETTER DAYS in JERUSALEM (4:1-11)
 - 1. The once PRECIOUS kingdom had been reduced to the value of CLAY POTS (1-2)
 - 2. Caring only for themselves, they ABANDONED their CHILDREN (3-4)
 - 3. The WEALTHY have been IMPOVERISHED for their SIN (5-6)
 - 4. Even those dedicated to PURITY have greatly SUFFERED (7-8)
 - 5. It is better to be SLAIN in BATTLE than die by STARVATION (9-10)
 - 6. This had all been the outworking of GOD'S WRATH (11)
 - B. The sins of Jerusalem's PROPHETS and PRIESTS (4:12-16)
 - 1. The city thought IMPREGNABLE had FALLEN (12)
 - 2. Her PROPHETS and PRIESTS had LIED to them (13-14)
 - 3. Defiled with BLOOD, they were UNCLEAR OUTCASTS (15-16)
 - C. Jerusalem's VAIN search for HELP (4:17-20)
 - 1. They found no one who could HELP (17)
 - 2. The enemy moved FREELY through the CITY so that no place was SECURE (18)
 - 3. The enemy moved SWIFTLY through the COUNTRY so that no place was SAFE (19)
 - 4. The KING they thought would PROTECT them had been CAPTURED (20)

D. The coming PUNISHMENT upon EDOM (4:21-22)

1. Edom should not GLOAT because of Judah's SUFFERING (21)
2. Edom's JUDGMENT is still COMING and will be WORSE (22)

II. The PRAYERS of the Remnant (Lamentations 5:1-22)

A. Their prayer that the Lord would REMEMBER them (5:1-18)

1. They have BECOME what they DESPISED (1-3)
2. Their lives have become HARSH (4-5)
3. They SINNED by relying on Egypt and Assyria for their SUPPORT (6-7)
4. People they once ENSLAVED were now their MASTERS (8-10)
5. Their people had been ABUSED by the CONQUERORS (11-13)
6. They had lost all JOY and despaired of HOPE (14-18)

B. Their prayer that the Lord would RESTORE them (5:19-22)

1. They affirm God's ETERNAL SOVEREIGNTY (19)
2. They ask that God's WRATH not ENDURE as long as His THRONE (20)
3. Unless His rejection is TOTAL and FINAL, they beg for RESTORATION (21-22)