

#### Jeremiah – Chosen by God, Rejected by Men

He proclaimed an unpalatable warning for forty years: this world, this Kingdom, this comfortable way of life is coming to an end!'

> 'Jeremiah Lamenting the Destruction of Jerusalem' by Rembrandt, 1630.

#### Lamentations 1 - Catastrophe

- All You Who Pass This Way
- O Jesus, We Adore Thee
- Alone Thou Goest Forth, O Lord

#### Lamentations 2 - Cause

- Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!
- God of Our Life, Through All the Circling Years
- There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

#### Lamentations 3 – Cure

- Amidst the mighty, where is he
- Great Is Thy Faithfulness
- A New Song for Morning and Evening

#### Lamentations 4 – Consequences

- Dieu de L'Homme et de L'Autel (God of Man and the Altar)
- In the shadow of the rock Let me rest
- Yo quiero ser, Señor amado (I Want to Be What You Would Make Me)

#### Lamentations 5 - Cry

- Great God! how infinite art thou!
- י הֹשִׁיבֵנוּ יְהוָה אֵלֶידָ וְנָשֶׁוּבָה (Restore us to Yourself, O Lord, that we may be restored)
- Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven

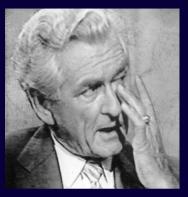
### Hymns from Lamentations





## "Men don't cry"

- In Western society based upon Greco-Roman stoicism, it's not manly to cry.
  - Tears of Bob Hawke, Kevin Rudd and the two Malcolm's were big news in their day.



 When Bob Hope was touring Australia in 1978, an announcer asked about his drug-addicted daughter and he broke out in tears and was widely ridiculed.

 But in Israel it's a manly thing to be able to cry. An Israeli can never become P.M. unless he can weep over the grave of an Israeli soldier. It takes a man to weep.

David wept. Jeremiah wept. Jesus wept.

## **The Prophet Jeremiah**

- Jeremiah's life (c.650-c.570 BC) is better documented in Scripture than any other prophet. Jewish literature parallels his life with Moses (Deut. 18:18, etc.).
- The son of Hilkiah, a kohen (Jewish priest) from the Benjamin village Anathot, he was called by God c. 626 BC to prophesy of Judah's destruction by northern invaders.
- Rabbinic literature claims Ezekiel as his son.
- The Prophet Zephaniah mentored him and his relative Huldah was a contemporary prophetess. Initially a preaching prophet, his unpopular message resulted in plots and persecution. When he complained to God, he is told that things would get worse – and they did.
- Upon predicting that Jerusalem would fall to Babylon, he was cast into a cistern to be forgotten and die, but was saved and imprisoned. The Babylonians freed him in 587 BC. He remained with the newly appointed governors, fleeing with one to Egypt, where he died.

Jeremiah on the ruins of Jerusalem by Horace Vernet, 1844.



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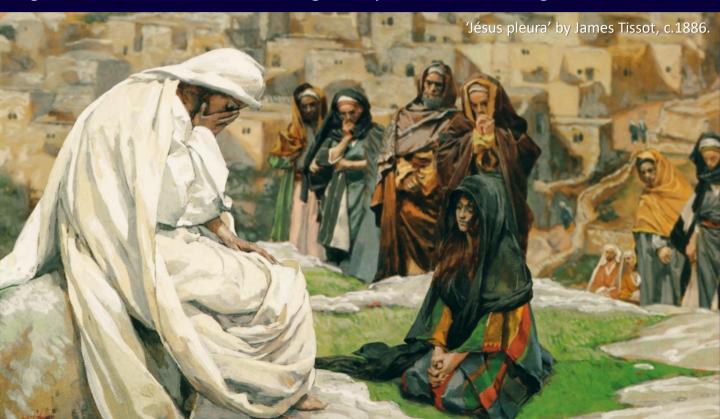
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#### **Man of Sorrows**

The Messiah is central to every book in the Bible (Psa 40:7; Heb 10:7). In Lamentations, Jeremiah weeping over Jerusalem foreshadows Jesus Christ, the Man of Sorrows who weeps for His people.



"If you had known, even you, especially in this your day, the things that make for your peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes." Luke 19:43
"O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under *her* wings, but you were not willing! Mat 23:37



## Jeremiah



- rejected by the people
- wept over the city of Jerusalem because of knowledge that destruction was coming
- hated without cause
- ridiculed by the leaders
- rejected by his family (Jer. 11:18–23)
- emphasized a "heart religion" and not just ritual
- taught by means of visual images using common objects and activities
- Jewish leaders rejected Jeremiah and his messages
- ended up in Egyptian exile
- considered a failure in his day
- proved right by history

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- hated without cause
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- rejected by His family (John 7:1–8)
- emphasized a "heart religion" and not just ritual
- taught by means of visual images using common objects and activities
- Jewish leaders rejected Jesus and His messages
- ended up on a Roman cross
- considered a failure in His day
- proved right by history

North of Jerusalem outside the Damascus Gate lie cliffs called ① Golgotha that resemble the face of a skull. To the west of the skull is the ② Garden Tomb, and to the east is a cave called ③ Jeremiah's Grotto. Golgotha, the peak of ancient Mount Moriah, looks down over the city of Jerusalem. Per tradition, Jeremiah sat in this grotto when he wrote the book of Lamentations; there he wept and cried over the desolation of Jerusalem as buildings were leveled and walls torn down.



#### MCMAUGHTON FINE ART







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## Literary device(s)

- Parallelism [thought rhyme] is a technique in which a second line repeats, clarifies or intensifies, or provides contrast to the first line.
  - Synonymous meanings of both are similar

To know wisdom and instruction, To discern the sayings of understanding. (Prov. 1:2)

Synthetic – second elaborates meaning of first

It is better to heed a wise man's rebuke than to listen to the song of fools. (Ecclesiastes 7:5)

Antithetic – meanings of both contrast

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; Fools despise wisdom and instruction. (Prov. 1:7)

## Literary device(s)

Chiasm [concentric parallellism] – an A-B-C-B-A thought structure where the focus often is at C.

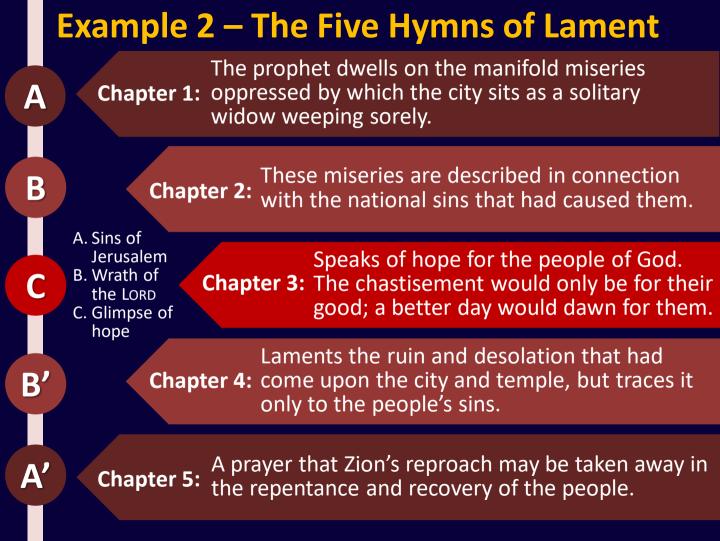
1<sup>st</sup> Thought B 2<sup>nd</sup> Thought 3<sup>rd</sup> Thought B' 4<sup>th</sup> Thought 5<sup>th</sup> Thought Δ



#### Example 1 – The Flood of Noah



Noah and his sons (Genesis 6:10) All life on earth (6:13a) Curse on earth (6:13b) Ark (6:14-16) All living creatures (6:17-20) Food (6:21) Animals in mans' hands (7:2-3) Entry into Ark (7:13-16) Waters increase (7:17-19) Mountains covered (7:20) God remembered Noah (8:1) Mountains visible (8:5) Waters decrease (8:13-14) Exit from Ark (8:15-19) Animals in man's hands (9:2) Food (9:3-4) All living creatures (9:10a) Ark (9:10b) Blessings on earth (9:13-16) All life on earth (9:17) Noah and his sons (9:19)



## More literary device(s)

- Abbreviation shortened form of a word or phrase
  - Mr., ms., i.e., e.g., abbr., memo, AM, PM, etc.
    Psycho, math, RSVP, CV, CEO, Dr., Email, BC
- Acronym abbreviation formed from the initial letters of words or phrases; pronounced as a word.
  - TGIF, NRL, NASA, NSW, NZ, LOL, ATO, Anzac, ACT
  - ASAP, FAQ, FYI, LOL, XOXO, DIY, ETA, TBA, TGIF, DOB

## Why use an acrostic?

- A. Awful is the site of the ruined city,
- B. Blood flows through the streets.
- C. Catastrophe has come to my people,
- D. Dreadful is their fate.
- E. Every house has been destroyed,
- F. Families are broken forever.
- G. God has promised he would do this-
- H. Holy is his name.
- I. I am worn out with weeping,
- J. Just broken in spirit,
- K. Knowing not why.
- L. Let me die like the others-
- M. My life has no meaning.

- N. Never again will I laugh
- O. Or dance for joy.
- P. Please comfort me, Lord;
- Q. Quieten my spirit,
- R. Remind me of your future plans.
- S. Save your people from despair,
- T. Tell them you still love them.
- U. Understand their feelings,
- V. Vent anger on their destroyers.
- W. We will again
- X. eXalt your name,
- Y. Yield to your will,
- Z. Zealous for your reputation.

## Acrostics in Lamentations

ו:1 אַיְגָה יָשְׁבָה בָדָד הָאִיר רַבָּתִי עָם הִיְתָה פְּאַלְמָנָה הַבָּתִי בַגּוֹיִם שָׁרָתִי בַּמְדִינוֹת הִיְתָה לָמֵס; ס

1:2 כּכִּי תִבְכָּה בַּלִּיְלָה וְדִמְעָתָה עַל לֶחֶיָה אֵין־לָה מִנַחֵם מִכָּל־אַהֲבֶיהָ כָּל־רֵעֶיהָ בָּגְדוּ בָה הָיוּ לָה לְאיְבֶים ס

1:3 גְּלְחֵה יְהוּדָה מֵעֹנִי וּמֵרֹב עֲבֹדָה הִיא יִשְׁבָה בָגוֹיִם לֹא מָצְאָה מְנוֹחַ כָּל־רֹדְפֶיהָ הִשִּׂיגוּהָ בֵּין הַמְצָרִים ס

ני שָּׁמְעָג כִּי נֶאֶנָחָה אָנִי אֵין מְנַחֵם לִי כָּל־אֹיְבֵי שָׁמְעָג רְעָ תִי שָׁשּׁרְכִּי אַתָּה עָשִׁיתָ הֵבֵאתִ יוֹם־קָרָאתָ וְיְהִיוּ כָמְוֹנִי סָ 1:22 הָבָא כָל־רָעָתָם לְפָנֶידְ וְעוֹלֵל לָמוֹ כַּאֲשֶׁר עוֹלַלְתָּ לִי עַל כָּר כְּשָׁעֵי כִּי־רַבּוֹת אַנְחֹתֵי וְלָבִי דַוְיָ



#### Background

"And the Chaldeans burned the king's house and the houses of the people with fire, and broke down the walls of Jerusalem.

"Then Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard carried away captive to Babylon the remnant of the people who remained in the city and those who defected to him, with the rest of the people who remained."

Jeremiah 39:8-9

The Flight of the Prisoners, James Tissot, 1902

## Tisha B'Av 586 BC

The Flight of the Prisoners, James Tissot, 1902

## Tisha B'Ay AD 70

Destruction of the Temple of Jerusalem, Francesco Hayez, 1867

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## 🗧 Theme

- Lamentations combines elements of the <u>ginah</u>, a funeral dirgenor the loss of the city, and a "communal lament" pleading for the section of its people.

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Lamentations combines elements of the <u>ginah</u>, a funeral dirge for the loss of the city, and a "communal lament" pleading for the restoration of its people. It reflects the view, traceable to the Sumerian literature of a thousand years earlier, that the destruction of the holy city was a punishment by God for the communal sin of its people.



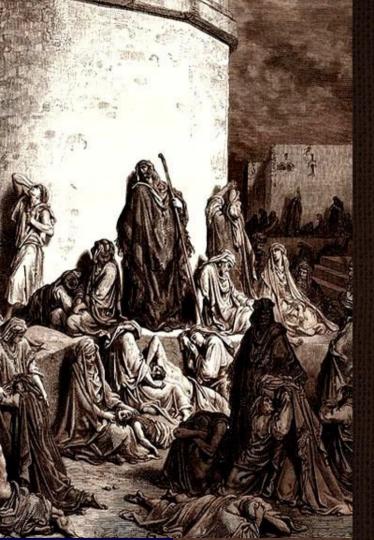
## Theme

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- Beginning with the reality of disaster, Lamentations concludes with the bitter possibility that God may have finally rejected Israel (Lam. 5:22).
- Nevertheless, it also affirms confidence that God's compassions never fail but are new every morning (Lam. 3:22–33).

## Outline

Jerusalem's Devastation (Lamentations 1)	<ul> <li>Jeremiah's Sorrow (1:1–11)</li> <li>Jerusalem's Sorrow (1:12–22)</li> </ul>
The Lord's Anger Explained (Lamentations 2)	<ul> <li>The LORD'S Perspective (2:1–10)</li> <li>A Human Perspective (2:11–19)</li> <li>Jeremiah's Prayer (2:20–22)</li> </ul>
Jeremiah's Griefs Expressed (Lamentations 3)	<ul> <li>Jeremiah's Distress (3:1–20)</li> <li>Jeremiah's Hope (3:21–38)</li> <li>Jeremiah's Counsel/Prayer (3:39–66)</li> </ul>
God's Wrath Detailed (Lamentations 4)	<ul> <li>For Jerusalem(4:1-20).</li> <li>For Edom (4:21-22).</li> </ul>
The Remnant's Prayers (Lamentations 5)	<ul> <li>To Be Remembered by the LORD (5:1-18).</li> <li>A plea to Be Restored by the LORD (5:19-22).</li> </ul>





## BUBLE Is ABOUT

# LAMENTATIONS

CHAPTER 1

#### Jerusalem in Affliction

N<sup>1</sup> How lonely sits the city That was full of people! How like a widow is she, Who was great among the nations! The princess among the provinces Has become a slave!



#### Jerusalem in Affliction

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   She has none to comfort her. All her friends have dealt treacherously with her; They have become her enemies.

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   She has none to comfort her. All her friends have dealt treacherously with her; They have become her enemies.

 <sup>3</sup> Judah has gone into captivity, Under affliction and hard servitude; She dwells among the nations, She finds no rest; All her persecutors overtake her in dire straits.  <sup>4</sup> The roads to Zion mourn Because no one comes to the set feasts. All her gates are desolate; Her priests sigh, Her virgins are afflicted, And she *is* in bitterness.



 <sup>4</sup> The roads to Zion mourn Because no one comes to the set feasts. All her gates are desolate; Her priests sigh, Her virgins are afflicted, And she *is* in bitterness.

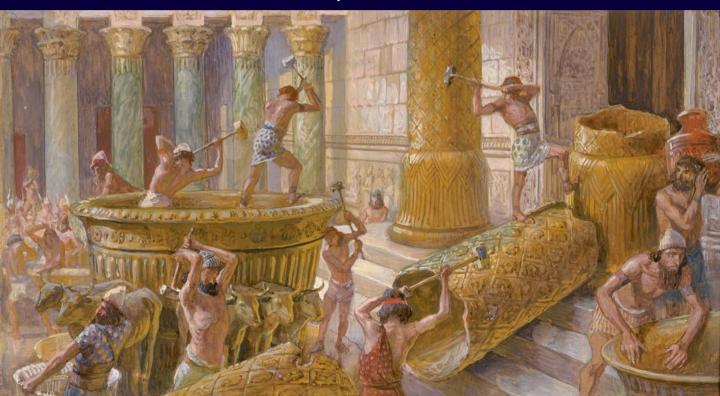
 Her adversaries have become the master, Her enemies prosper; For the LORD has afflicted her Because of the multitude of her transgressions. Her children have gone into captivity before the enemy.  <sup>4</sup> The roads to Zion mourn Because no one comes to the set feasts. All her gates are desolate; Her priests sigh, Her virgins are afflicted, And she *is* in bitterness.

 Her adversaries have become the master, Her enemies prosper; For the LORD has afflicted her Because of the multitude of her transgressions. Her children have gone into captivity before the enemy.

 <sup>6</sup> And from the daughter of Zion All her splendor has departed. Her princes have become like deer *That* find no pasture, That flee without strength Before the pursuer.

- In the days of her affliction and roaming, Jerusalem remembers all her pleasant things That she had in the days of old.
   When her people fell into the hand of the enemy, With no one to help her, The adversaries saw her And mocked at her downfall.
- <sup>8</sup> Jerusalem has sinned gravely, Therefore she has become vile. All who honored her despise her Because they have seen her nakednes Yes, she sighs and turns away.

 <sup>9</sup> Her uncleanness *is* in her skirts; She did not consider her destiny; Therefore her collapse was awesome She had no comforter.
 "O LORD, behold my affliction, For *the* enemy is exalted!" v  <sup>10</sup> The adversary has spread his hand Over all her pleasant things; For she has seen the nations enter her sanctuary, Those whom You commanded Not to enter Your assembly.



 <sup>11</sup> All her people sigh, They seek bread; They have given their valuables for food to restore life.
 "See, O LORD, and consider, For I am scorned."  <sup>12</sup> "Is it nothing to you, all you who pass by? Behold and see If there is any sorrow like my sorrow, Which has been brought on me, Which the LORD has inflicted In the day of His fierce anger.

'Jeremiah Lamenting the Destruction of Jerusalem' by Rembrandt, 1630.

 <sup>13</sup> "From above He has sent Fire into my bones, And it overpowered them; He has spread a net for my feet And turned me back; He has made me desolate And faint all the day. ⊽

Jeremiah on the ruins of Jerusalem by Horace Vernet, 1844.



 <sup>14</sup> "The yoke of my transgressions was bound; They were woven together by His hands, And thrust upon my neck. He made my strength fail; The Lord delivered me into the hands of those whom I am not able to withstand.  The Lord has trampled underfoot all my mighty *men* in my midst; He has called an assembly against me To crush my young men; The Lord trampled *as* in a winepress The virgin daughter of Judah.



<sup>16</sup> "For these *things* I weep; My eye, my eye overflows with water; Because the comforter, who should restore my life, Is far from me. My children are desolate Because the enemy prevailed."

#### <sup>17</sup> Zion spreads out her hands, But no one comforts her; The LORD has commanded concerning Jacob That those around him become his adversaries; Jerusalem has become an unclean thing among them.

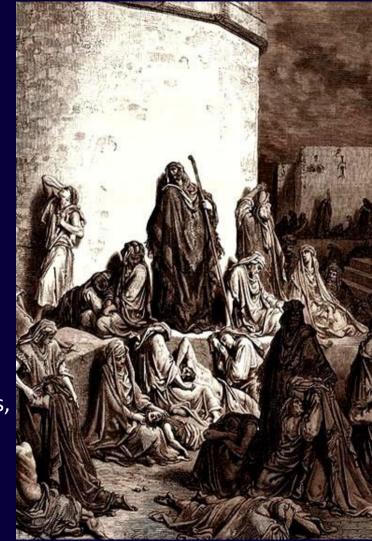
'The Prophet Isaiah' by Marc Chagall, 1968.

 <sup>18</sup> "The LORD is righteous, For I rebelled against His commandment. Hear now, all peoples, And behold my sorrow; My virgins and my young men Have gone into captivity.



 <sup>19</sup> "I called for my lovers, But they deceived me; My priests and my elders Breathed their last in the city, While they sought food To restore their life.

<sup>20</sup> "See, O LORD, that I am in distress; My soul is troubled; My heart is overturned within me, For I have been very rebellious. Outside the sword bereaves, At home *it is* like death. ⊽



<sup>21</sup> "They have heard that I sigh,
But no one comforts me.
All my enemies have heard of my trouble;
They are glad that You have done *it*.
Bring on the day You have announced,
That they may become like me.

1 22 "Let all their wickedness come before You, And do to them as You have done to me For all my transgressions; For my sighs are many, And my heart is faint."

The Flight of the Prisoners, James Tissot, 1902

	s now, the once crowded city!		
B(1:2) 1:2 With not one to console her of all her dear ones;			
	ne lives among the nations she finds no pla	ce to rest:	
	eways are deserted, her priests groan,		
	RD has punished her for her many sins.	Vieweo from the	
	princes, like rams that find no pasture	vieweu nom the	
	she had no one to help her	outside looking in	
	:8 She herself groans and turns away.		
	1:9 Her filth is on her skirt	L	
<b>First</b> J(1:10) K(1:11)	1:10 She has seen those nations enter 1:11 Look O LORD, and see how wo		
Song <sup>K'(1:12)</sup>	1:13 He left me desolate, in pain all the		
l'(1:14)	1:14 They have settled about my neck, he	_	
H'(1:15) 1:15 The LORD has trodden in the wine press virgin daughter Judah.			
G'(1:16) 1:16 Far from me are all who could console me, any who might revive me			
F'(1:17) 1:17 Zion stretched out her hands, but there was no one to console her			
E'(1:18) 1:18   had i	defied his command		
D'(1:19) 1:19 My priests and my elders perished in the city		Viewed from the	
C'(1:20 1:20 Look, O LORD, upon my distress			
B'(1:21) 1:21 there is no one to console me inside looking out			
A'(1:22) 1:22 My groans are m	any, and I am sick at heart.		
A: Lamentation.	E: Rebellion.	I: Dirty.	
B: No one to console.	F: No one to console.	J: Devastation.	
C: Sufferings.	G: No one to console.	K: See my suffering.	

D: Priests.

H: Her sufferings.





- <u>A(2:1)</u> 2:1 Unmindful of his footstool on the day of his wrath. (2:1)
  - **<u>B(</u>2:2)** 2:2 He has brought to the ground in dishonour her king and her princes. (2:2)
    - $\underline{C}(2:3)$  2:3 He broke off, in fiery wrath, the horn that was Israel's whole strength (2:3)
      - D(2:4) 2:4 He took his stand as a foe, and slew all on whom the eye doted (2:4)
        - E(2:5) 2:5 For daughter Judah he has multiplied moaning and groaning. (2:5)
          - $\underline{F}(2:6)$  2:6 He has scorned in fierce wrath both king and priest. (2:6)
            - G(2:7) 2:7 Who shout in the house of the LORD as on a feast day. (2:7)
              - H(2:8) 2:8 The LORD marked for destruction the wall of daughter Zion (2:8)
                - 1(2:9) 2:9 And her prophets have not received any vision from the LORD. (2:9)
                  - J(2:10) 2:10 On the ground in silence sit the old men of daughter Zion (2:10)
                    - K(2:11) 2:11 As child and infant faint away in the open spaces of the town. (2:11)
                    - K'(2:12) 2:12 They ask their mothers, "Where is the cereal?" (2:12)
                  - J'(2:13) "2:13 To what can I liken or compare you, O daughter Jerusalem? (2:13)"
                - I'(2:14) 2:14 Your prophets had for you false and specious visions (2:14)
              - H'(2:15) 2:15 They hiss and wag their heads over daughter Jerusalem (2:15)
            - G'(2:16) 2:16 All your enemies open their mouths against you (2:16)
          - F'(2:17) 2:17 Letting the enemy gloat over you and exalting the horn of your foes. (2:17)
      - E'(2:18) "2:18 moan, O daughter Zion! (2:18)"
      - D'(2:19) 2:19 Lift up your hands to him for the lives of your little ones (2:19)
    - C'(2:20) 2:20 Are priest and prophet to be slain in the sanctuary of the LORD? (2:20)
  - B'(2:21) 2:21 Dead in the dust of the streets lie young and old (2:21)
- A'(2:22) "2:22 There was not, on the day of your wrath (2:22)"
- A: Anger.

Second

Song

- B: Falling.
- C: Death of leaders.
- D: Beloved.

- E: Girls.
- F: Leaders.
- G: Enemies.
- H: Gir;s.

I: Prophets. J: Girls. K: Infants.



# BLESSINGS



#### **Parallels with Deuteronomy**

She dwells among the nations; she finds no resting place. (Lam. 1:3)

### Lamentations

### Deuteronomy

Among those nations you will find no repose, no resting place for the sole of your foot. (Deut. 28:65)

## <u> Peuteronomy 28</u>

### Blessings

Deu 28:1 "And if you faithfully obey the voice of YHWH your Elohim, being careful to do all his commandments that I command you today, YHWH your Elohim will set you high above all the nations of the earth.

Deu 28:2 And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, if you obey the voice of YHWH your Elohim.



Deu 28:15 "But if you will not obey the voice of YHWH your Elohim or be careful to do all his commandments and his statutes that I command you today, then all these curses shall come upon you and overtake you.

### **Parallels with Deuteronomy I**

| DEUTERONOMY  | LAMENTATIONS  |
|--|---|
| 28:65 Among those nations you will find no repose, no resting place for the sole of your foot.   | 1:3 She dwells among the nations; she finds no resting place.   |
| 28:25 The Lord will cause you to be defeated before your enemies.  | 1:6 In weakness they have fled before<br>the pursuer. You will come at them<br>form one direction but flee from them<br>in seven. |
| 28:41 You will have sons and daughters<br>but you will not keep them, because<br>they will go into captivity.                          | 1:18 My young men and maidens have gone into exile.   |
| 28:37 You will become a thing of horror<br>and an object of scorn and ridicule to all<br>the nations where the Lord will drive<br>you. | 2:15 All who pass your way clap their<br>hands at you; they scoff and shake their<br>heads at daughter Jerusalem.                 |
| 28:50 a fierce-looking nation without respect for the old or pity for the young.   | 3   |

### **Parallels with Deuteronomy II**

| DEUTERONOMY                                | LAMENTATIONS                           |
|--|--|
| 28:56-57 The most gentle and sensitive     | 4:10 With their own hands              |
| among you will begrudge the husband        | compassionate women have cooked        |
| she loves and her own son or daughter      | their own children                     |
| the afterbirth from her womb and the       |  |
| children she bears for she intends to      |  |
| eat them secretly during the siege.        |  |
| 28:65 Among those nations you will find    | 5:5 We are weary and find no rest.     |
| no repose.                                 |  |
| 28:30 You will be pledged to be married    | 5:11 Women have been ravished in Zion, |
| to a woman, but another will take her      | and virgins in the towns of Judah.     |
| and ravish her.                            |  |
| 28:50 a fierce-looking nation without      | 5:12 Elders are shown no respect.      |
| respect for the old                        |  |
| 28:26 Your carcasses will be food for all  | 5:18 Mount Zion lies desolate, with    |
| the birds of the air and the beasts of the | jackals prowling over it               |
| earth, and there will be no one to         |  |
| frighten them away.                        |  |

#### **Choosing Sides**

The consequences God ordains for those who obey and disobey him

Deuteronomy 28

#### Curses for Disobedience

Cursed in the city and country

Infertile women

**Destroyed crops** 

Infertile livestock

Scarce bread and grain

Cursed coming in and going out

**Defeated by enemies** 

**Ridiculed by other nations** 

Filled with fear and despair

Powder and dust instead of rain

Borrow from other nations rather than lend

Be the tail and not the head

Afflicted with many diseases

#### Blessings for Obedience

Blessed in the city and country Fertile women Plentiful crops Fertile livestock Abundant bread and grain Blessed coming in and going out Defeat enemies Established as God's holy people Feared by other nations Plentiful rain

Lend to other nations rather than than borrow

Be the head and not the tail



# BLESSINGS

#### **Deuteronomy 28: Blessings on Obedience**

<sup>1</sup> "Now it shall come to pass, if you diligently obey the voice of the LORD your God, to observe care-fully all His commandments which I command you today, that the LORD your God will set you high above all nations of the earth.



# AND ALL THESE BLESSINCS SHALL COME UPON YOU AND OVERTAKE YOU,

IF YOU OBEY THE VOICE OF LORD THE LORD YOUR GOD. 28:2

<sup>3</sup> "Blessed shall you be in the city, and

## blessed *shall* you *be* in the country.

- <sup>4</sup> "Blessed shall be the fruit of your body, the produce of your ground and the increase of your herds, the increase of your cattle and the offspring of your flocks.
- <sup>5</sup> "Blessed shall be your basket and your kneading bowl.
- <sup>6</sup> "Blessed shall you be when you come in, and blessed shall you be when you go out."

Selessed shall you be when you come in, Selessed shall you be when you go out. <sup>7</sup> "The LORD will cause your enemies who rise against you to be defeated before your face; they shall come out against you one way and flee before you seven ways.

## Deuteronomy 28:7

New King James Version

The LORD will cause your enemies who rise against you to be defeated before your face; they shall come out against you one way and flee before you seven ways.

- \* "The LORD will command the blessing on you in your store-houses and in all to which you set your hand, and He will bless you in the land which the LORD your God is giving you.
- <sup>9</sup> "The LORD will establish you as a holy people to Himself, just as He has sworn to you, if you keep the commandments of the LORD your God and walk in His ways. <sup>10</sup> Then all peoples of the earth shall see that you are called by the name of the LORD, and they shall be afraid of you.

<sup>11</sup> And the LORD will grant you plenty of goods, in the fruit of your body, in the increase of your livestock, and in the produce of your ground, in the land of which the LORD swore to your fathers to give you.

- <sup>12</sup> The LORD will open to you His good treasure, the heavens, to give the rain to your land in its season, and to bless all the work of your hand. You shall lend to many nations, but you shall not borrow.
- <sup>13</sup> And the LORD will make you the head and not the tail; you shall be above only, and not be beneath if you heed the commandments of the LORD your God, which I command you today, and are careful to observe *them*.
- <sup>14</sup> So you shall not turn aside from any of the words which I command you this day, to the right or the left, to go after other gods to serve them.

