



# The Book of Lamentations

## Chapter 2

# Lamentations

- Second Stanza
- The City as a Veiled Woman, Mourns as She Realises It Is God Who Has Punished Her (2:1-22).
  - Her destruction is the act of God (2:1-9),
  - Horrors of desolation and famine (2:10-13).
  - Guilt of false prophets (2:14).
  - They that pass by reproach her (2:15-16):
  - God vindicated (2:17),
  - Prayer of the survivors (2:18-22).

<sup>1</sup> 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!

<sup>2</sup> 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.

## **Lamentations 2:1-2**

- This was the place the LORD had chosen to rest in
- His wrath is as real as His grace!

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.

## Lamentations 2:3-4

- The horn symbolised strength
  - Sin will take your strength away

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.

### Lamentations 2:3-4

- The LORD had promised to fight for Israel
  - Now Israel's sin had removed her from His protection
  - Psalm 66:18



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.

### Lamentations 2:3-4

- The LORD is not their enemy, but the wrath of God is worse than the affliction of an enemy!

<sup>3</sup> 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.

<sup>4</sup> 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.

## Lamentations 2:3-4

- 18x in Lamentations God speaks of Jerusalem as His daughter
  - Whom the Lord loves He chastens (Heb 12:9-11)

<sup>5</sup> 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.

<sup>6</sup> 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.

### Lamentations 2:5-6

- It is easy to become complacent and take His blessings for granted
  - See Jeremiah 2:8



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.

**Lamentations 2:7-8**





<sup>9</sup> 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.

<sup>10</sup> 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.

### **Lamentations 2:9-10**

- “Where there is no vision, the people perish”

– Proverbs 29:18

<sup>11</sup> 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.

<sup>12</sup> 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.

**Lamentations 2:11-12**

<sup>13</sup> 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?

<sup>14</sup> 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.

### **Lamentations 2:13-14**

- When priests and prophets cannot expose sin they no longer have any value!



<sup>15</sup> 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?

<sup>16</sup> 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.

## Lamentations 2:15-16

- Psalm 48:2
- The world loves nothing more than to see the righteous stumble!

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.

### Lamentations 2:17-18

- God keeps both promises of blessings and promises of judgment

<sup>19</sup> 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.

<sup>20</sup> 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?

**Lamentations 2:19-20**

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.

**Lamentations 2:21-22**



# The Book of Lamentations

## Chapter 3



# Lamentations

- Third Stanza
- Jerusalem's Bitter Mourning Represented by the Weeping Prophet (3:1-66).
  - Lament of the afflicted (3:1-20).
  - His hope amidst suffering (3:21-33):
  - God is just in his discipline (3:34-39):
  - A call for conversion (3:40-42).
  - Sorrows of sin (3:43-54).
  - Appeal to the Lord for help (3:55-66):

# Partakers of His Suffering

- 3 Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort;
- 4 Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God.

**2 Corinthians 1:3-7**

# Partakers of His Suffering

- 5 For as the sufferings of Christ abound in us, so our consolation also aboundeth by Christ.
- 6 And whether we be afflicted, it is for your consolation and salvation, which is effectual in the enduring of the same sufferings which we also suffer: or whether we be comforted, it is for your consolation and salvation.

**2 Corinthians 1:3-7**

# Partakers of His Suffering

<sup>7</sup> And our hope of you is steadfast, knowing, that as ye are partakers of the sufferings, so shall ye be also of the consolation.

**2 Corinthians 1:3-7**

<sup>1</sup> I am the man that hath seen affliction by the rod of his wrath.

<sup>2</sup> He hath led me, and brought me into darkness, but not into light.

<sup>3</sup> Surely against me is he turned; he turneth his hand against me all the day.

**Lamentations 3:1-3**



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.

**Lamentations 3:4-6**

<sup>7</sup> He hath hedged me about, that I cannot get out: he hath made my chain heavy.

<sup>8</sup> Also when I cry and shout, he shutteth out my prayer.

<sup>9</sup> He hath inclosed my ways with hewn stone, he hath made my paths crooked.

**Lamentations 3:7-9**

- Psalm 66:18

<sup>10</sup> He was unto me as a bear lying in wait, and as a lion in secret places.

<sup>11</sup> He hath turned aside my ways, and pulled me in pieces: he hath made me desolate.

<sup>12</sup> He hath bent his bow, and set me as a mark for the arrow.

**Lamentations 3:10-12**

- “The wicked flee when no man pursueth”
  - Proverbs 28:1

<sup>13</sup> He hath caused the arrows of his quiver to enter into my reins.

<sup>14</sup> I was a derision to all my people; and their song all the day.

<sup>15</sup> He hath filled me with bitterness, he hath made me drunken with wormwood.

**Lamentations 3:13-15**

<sup>16</sup> He hath also broken my teeth with gravel stones, he hath covered me with ashes.

<sup>17</sup> And thou hast removed my soul far off from peace: I forgot prosperity.

<sup>18</sup> And I said, My strength and my hope is perished from the LORD:

**Lamentations 3:16-18**



# Your Own Funeral

*No one experiences complete sanctification without going through a “white funeral” — the burial of the old life. If there has never been this crucial moment of change through death, sanctification will never be more than an elusive dream. There must be a “white funeral,” a death with only one resurrection— a resurrection into the life of Jesus Christ. Nothing can defeat a life like this. It has oneness with God for only one purpose— to be a witness for Him*

# Your Own Funeral

*Have you really come to your last days? You have often come to them in your mind, but have you really experienced them? You cannot die or go to your funeral in a mood of excitement. Death means you stop being. You must agree with God and stop being the intensely striving kind of Christian you have been. We avoid the cemetery and continually refuse our own death. It will not happen by striving, but by yielding to death. It is dying—being “baptized into His death” (Romans 6:3).*

# Your Own Funeral

*“This is the will of God, your sanctification...” (1 Thessalonians 4:3). Once you truly realize this is God’s will, you will enter into the process of sanctification as a natural response. Are you willing to experience that “white funeral” now? Will you agree with Him that this is your last day on earth? The moment of agreement depends on you.*

Oswald Chambers, *My Utmost For His Highest*

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.

**Lamentations 3:19-21**

- I wilfully choose to set my mind on this...
  - ‘Set your affection on the things above’ Col 3:2

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.

**Lamentations 3:22-24**

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.

### **Lamentations 3:25-27**

- “In your patience possess ye your souls”.
  - Luke 21:19



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.

## Lamentations 3:28-30

- *“But I say unto you, That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also”* Matthew 5:39

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.

**Lamentations 3:31-33**

- *“My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him: For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth”* Hebrews 12:5-6

- 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.

**Lamentations 3:34-36**

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?

**Lamentations 3:37-39**

- No soul in Hell will complain of injustice

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.

**Lamentations 3:40-42**



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.

**Lamentations 3:43-45**

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.

**Lamentations 3:46-48**

- As God lamented with tears the destruction of Jerusalem, so He did when His own son bare our sin on Calvary

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.

**Lamentations 3:49-51**

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.

### Lamentations 3:52-54

- Jeremiah was put into a dungeon
  - See Jeremiah Ch.38:1-13

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.

**Lamentations 3:55-57**

- Great is His faithfulness!
  - See Psalm 34:15-19



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  
imaginings against me.

**Lamentations 3:58-60**

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.

**Lamentations 3:61-63**

- 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.

**Lamentations 3:64-66**



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