

## **~LAMENTATIONS, BOOK OF (1017)**

- .. Name**
- .. Place In The Bible Canon**
- .. Writer**
- .. Style**
- .. Time Of Composition**
- .. Fulfillment Of Prophecy**
- .. Contents**
- .. Highlights Of Lamentations**

- **In Biblical days lamentations, or dirges, were composed and chanted for deceased friends.**
- **Apart from their genealogical enrollment of the males from three years of age upward, of all those coming to the house of Yehowah as a daily matter of course, for their service by their obligations according to their divisions. (2 Chronicles 31:16)**
- **This is the genealogical enrollment of the priests by the house of their fathers and also of the Levites, from the age of twenty years upward, by their obligations in their divisions. (2 Chronicles 31:17)**
- **Both for the genealogical enrollment among all their little ones, their wives and their sons and their daughters, for all the congregation, because in their office of trust they proceeded to sanctify themselves for what was holy. (2 Chronicles 31:18)**
- **And for the sons of Aaron, the priests, in the fields of pasture ground of their cities. In all the different cities there were men that had been designated by their names, to give portions to every male among the priests and to the entire genealogical enrollment among the Levites. (2 Chronicles 31:19)**
- **And Hezekiah proceeded to do like this in all Judah, and he continued to do what was good and right and faithful before Yehowah his God. (2 Chronicles 31:20)**
- **And in every work that he started in the service of the house of the true God and in the Law and in the commandment to search for his God, it was with all his heart that he acted, and he proved successful. (2 Chronicles 31:21)**

- **After these things and this faithful course Sennacherib the king of Assyria came and proceeded to invade Judah and camp against the fortified cities, and kept thinking of making them his by a breakthrough. (2 Chronicles 32:1)**
- **When Hezekiah saw that Sennacherib had come with his face set for war against Jerusalem. (2 Chronicles 32:2)**
- **Then he decided with his princes and his mighty men to stop up the waters of the springs that were outside the city, and so they helped him. (2 Chronicles 32:3)**
- **Accordingly many people were collected together, and they went stopping up all the fountains and the torrent that floods through the middle of the land, saying; Why should the kings of Assyria come and actually find a great deal of water? (2 Chronicles 32:4)**
- **Hear this word that I am taking up over you people as a dirge, O house of Israel. (Amos 5:1)**
- **The virgin, Israel, has fallen, she cannot get up again. She has been forsaken upon her own ground. There is no one raising her up. (Amos 5:2)**
- **Ruined cities,**
- **And as for you, O son of man, raise up concerning Tyre a dirge. (Ezekiel 27:2)**
- **And for you in their lamentation they will certainly lift up a dirge and chant over you, Who is like Tyre, like her that has been brought to silence in the midst of the sea? (Ezekiel 27:32)**
- **When your stores went forth from the open sea, you satisfied many peoples. With the abundance of your valuable things and your articles of exchange you made earth's kings rich. (Ezekiel 27:33)**
- **Now you have been broken by the open sea, in the depths of the waters. As for your articles of exchange and all your congregation, in the midst of you they have fallen. (Ezekiel 27:34)**

- All the inhabitants of the islands, in amazement they will certainly stare at you, and their kings themselves will have to shudder in horror. Faces must become perturbed. (**Ezekiel 27:35**)
- As for merchants among the peoples, they will certainly whistle over you. Sudden terrors are what you must become, and you will be no more to time indefinite. (**Ezekiel 27:36**)
- The book of Lamentations furnishes an inspired example of such mournful composition. It consists of five lyrical poems, in five chapters, lamenting the destruction of Jerusalem at Babylonian hands in **607 B.C.E.**
- The book acknowledges that Yehowah justly brought punishment upon Jerusalem and Judah because of the error of his people.
- Her adversaries have become the head. Those who are her enemies are unconcerned. Because Yehowah himself has brought grief to her on account of the abundance of her transgressions. Her own children have walked captive before the adversary. (**Lamentations 1:5**)
- Yehowah is righteous, for it is against his mouth that I have rebelled. Listen, now, all you peoples, and see my pain. My own virgins and my own young men have gone into captivity. (**Lamentations 1:18**)
- It also highlights God's loving-kindness and mercy and shows that Yehowah is good to the one hoping in him.
- It is the acts of loving-kindness of Yehowah that we have not come to our finish, because his mercies will certainly not come to an end. (**Lamentations 3:22**)
- Good is Yehowah to the one hoping in him, to the soul that keeps seeking for him. (**Lamentations 3:25**)

## .. Name

- In the Hebrew this book is named by the opening word *'Eh-khah'!*; which means, **How!** The **Septuagint** translators called the book *Thre'noi*, meaning, **Dirges, Laments.**

- In the **Babylonian Talmud** [Bava Batra 14b] it is identified by the term *Qi-nohth'*, meaning, **Dirges, Elegies**, and it is called, *Lamentationes*, **Latin**, by Jerome. The English name **Lamentations** comes from this latter title.

## •• Place In The Bible Canon

- In the Hebrew canon the book of **Lamentations** is usually counted in among the five *Meghil-lohth'*, rolls, consisting of The Song of Solomon, Ruth, **Lamentations**, Ecclesiastes, and Esther. However, in ancient copies of the Hebrew Scriptures the book of **Lamentations** is said to have followed the book of Jeremiah, as it does in English Bibles of today.

## •• Writer

- In the **Greek Septuagint** this book is introduced with the words; And it occurred that, after Israel had been taken captive and Jerusalem had been desolated, Jeremiah sat down weeping and **lamented** with this **lamentation** over Jerusalem and said.
- The Targums also identify Jeremiah as the writer, introducing it as follows; Jeremiah the prophet and great priest said. The introduction in the Clementine recension of the **Latin Vulgate** is:
- And it occurred that, after Israel had been led away into captivity and Jerusalem was deserted, Jeremiah the prophet sat weeping and wailed with this **lamentation** over Jerusalem, and sighing with a bitter spirit, and moaning woefully, he said.

## •• Style

- The five chapters 1-5 of the book of **Lamentations** consist of five poems, the first four of which are acrostics. The Hebrew alphabet has 22 distinct letters, consonants, and in each of the first four chapters 1-4 of **Lamentations** successive verses begin with different ones of the 22 letters of the Hebrew alphabet.
- Chapters 1,2, and Chapter 4 each have 22 verses arranged alphabetically according to the Hebrew alphabet, verse 1 beginning with the first **Hebrew** letter *'a'leph*, verse 2 commencing with the second letter, *behth*, and so forth, to the end of the alphabet.

- **(Lamentations Chapter 3)** has 66 verses, and in it three successive verses begin with the same Hebrew letter before passing on to the next letter.
- In chapters 2,3, and chap 4 there is a reversal of the letters *`a'yin* and *pe´*; there they are not in the same order as in **(Lamentations Chapter 1)** and **(Psalms 119)**.
- But this does not mean that the inspired writer of **Lamentations** made a mistake. It has been observed in a consideration of this matter: **Still less does the irregularity in question permit of being attributed to an oversight on the part of the composer, for the irregularity is repeated in three poems.**
- It is rather connected with another circumstance. For we find in other alphabetic poems also, especially the older ones, many deviations from the rule, which undeniably prove that the composers bound themselves rigorously by the order of the alphabet only so long as it fitted in to the course of thought without any artificiality.  
[Commentary on the Old Testament, by C. F. Keil and F. Delitzsch, 1973, Vol. VIII, The Lamentations of Jeremiah, p. 338]
- Among examples then cited are **(Psalms Chapter 34)**, where the *waw* verse is lacking, and **(Psalms Chapter 145)**, which omits the *nun* verse.
- The fact that strict adherence to the alphabetic arrangement of Hebrew letters is not present in these inspired writings should cause no concern.
- While the use of acrostics undoubtedly served as a memory aid, the message was of primary importance, and thought content took precedence over any literary device.
- **(Lamentations Chapter 5)** is not an acrostic poem, though it does contain 22 verses, the same number as the distinct letters of the Hebrew alphabet.

## .. Time Of Composition

- The vividness of Lamentations shows that the book was written shortly after Jerusalem's fall in **607 B.C.E**, while the events of the Babylonian siege and burning of Jerusalem were still fresh in the mind of Jeremiah.

- There is general agreement that the book of Lamentations was penned soon after Jerusalem's fall, and it is reasonable to conclude that the writing of it was completed in **607 B.C.E.**

## • Fulfillment Of Prophecy

- Fulfilled in Jerusalem's experience as vividly portrayed in the book of Lamentations were the words of;
- And it must occur that just as Yehowah exulted over you to do you good and to multiply you, so Yehowah will exult over you to destroy you and to annihilate you, and you will simply be torn away from off the soil to which you are going to take possession of it. (**Deuteronomy 28:63**)
- And Yehowah will certainly scatter you among all the peoples from the one end of the earth to the other end of the earth, and there you will have to serve other gods whom you have not known, neither you nor your forefathers, wood and stone. (**Deuteronomy 28:64**)
- And among those nations you will have no ease, nor will there prove to be any resting-place for the sole of your foot, and Yehowah will indeed give you there a trembling heart and a failing of the eyes and despair of soul. (**Deuteronomy 28:65**)
- The fulfillment of various other divine prophecies and warnings is also shown in this book. For example, compare;
- Profusely she weeps during the night, and her tears are upon her cheeks. She has no one to comfort her from among all her lovers. All her very own companions have dealt treacherously with her. They have become enemies to her. (**Lamentations 1:2**)
- All those intensely loving you are the ones that have forgotten you. You are not the one for whom they keep searching. For with the stroke of an enemy I have struck you, with the chastisement of someone cruel, on account of the abundance of your error, your sins have become numerous. (**Jeremiah 30:14**)
- Yehowah has done what he had in mind. He has accomplished his saying; What he had commanded from the days of long ago. He has torn down and shown no compassion. And over you he causes the enemy to rejoice. He has made the horn of your

adversaries high. (**Lamentations 2:17**)

- And I shall indeed set my face against you, and you will certainly be defeated before your enemies, and those who hate you will just tread down upon you, and you will actually flee when no one is pursuing you. (**Leviticus 26:17**)
- Then you will have to eat the fruit of your belly, the flesh of your sons and your daughters, whom Yehowah your God has given you, because of the tightness and stress with which your enemy will hem you in. (**Deuteronomy 28:53**)

## •• Contents

- In the first chapter, beginning with verse;
- Is it nothing to all you who are passing along the way? Look and see. Does there exist any pain like my pain that has been severely dealt out to me, with which Yehowah has caused grief in the day of his burning anger? (**Lamentations 1:12**)
- Jeremiah personifies Jerusalem, God's covenant woman, Zion, as speaking.
- For the sake of Zion I shall not keep still, and for the sake of Jerusalem I shall not stay quiet until her righteousness goes forth just like the brightness, and her salvation like a torch that burns. (**Isaiah 62:1**)
- And the nations will certainly see your righteousness, O woman, and all kings your glory. And you will actually be called by a new name, which the very mouth of Yehowah will designate. (**Isaiah 62:2**)
- And you must become a crown of beauty in the hand of Yehowah, and a kingly turban in the palm of your God. (**Isaiah 62:3**)
- No more will you be said to be a woman left entirely, and your own land will no more be said to be desolate, but you yourself will be called **My Delight Is in Her**, and your land **Owned as a Wife**. For Yehowah will have taken delight in you, and your own land will be owned as a wife. (**Isaiah 62:4**)
- For just as a young man takes ownership of a virgin as his wife,

your sons will take ownership of you as a wife. And with the exultation of a bridegroom over a bride, your God will exult even over you. (**Isaiah 62:5**)

- Upon your walls, O Jerusalem, I have commissioned watchmen. All day long and all night long, constantly, let them not keep still. You who are making mention of Yehowah, let there be no silence on your part. (**Isaiah 62:6**)
- She is now desolate, as though widowed and bereft of her children, a captive woman put into forced labor as a slave. In (**Lamentations Chapter 2**), Jeremiah himself speaks.
- In (**Lamentations Chapter 3**), Jeremiah pours out his feelings, transferring them to the figure of the nation as an able-bodied man. In (**Lamentations Chapter 4**), Jeremiah continues his lament.
- In the (**Lamentations Chapter 5**), the inhabitants of Jerusalem are pictured as speaking. The expressions of acknowledgment of sin, the hope and confidence in Yehowah, and the desire to turn to the right way, as portrayed throughout, were not the actual feelings of the majority of the people.
- However, there was a remnant like Jeremiah. So the view expressed in the book of **Lamentations** is a true evaluation of Jerusalem's situation as God saw it.
- The book of **Lamentations** is therefore a true and valuable record, inspired by God.

## •• Highlights Of Lamentations

- Five poems lamenting the tragedy that befell Jerusalem and its inhabitants in **607 B.C.E.** at the hands of the Babylonians.
- Written by Jeremiah immediately after the destruction of Jerusalem.
- Jerusalem is personified as a widow bereaved of her children, with no one to give comfort.
- O how she has come to sit solitary, the city that was abundant with people! How she has become like a widow, she that was populous among the nations! How she that was a princess



**among the jurisdictional districts has come to be for forced labor!  
([Lamentations 1:1](#))**

- **Profusely she weeps during the night, and her tears are upon her cheeks. She has no one to comfort her from among all her lovers. All her very own companions have dealt treacherously with her. They have become enemies to her. ([Lamentations 1:2](#))**
- **Judah has gone into exile because of the affliction and because of the abundance of servitude. She herself has had to dwell among the nations. No resting-place has she found. All those who were persecuting her have overtaken her among distressing circumstances. ([Lamentations 1:3](#))**
- **The ways of Zion are mourning, because there are none coming to the festival. All her gates are laid desolate, her priests are sighing. Her virgins are grief-stricken, and she herself has bitterness. ([Lamentations 1:4](#))**
- **Her adversaries have become the head. Those who are her enemies are unconcerned. Because Yehowah himself has brought grief to her on account of the abundance of her transgressions. Her own children have walked captive before the adversary. ([Lamentations 1:5](#))**
- **And from the daughter of Zion there goes out all her splendor. Her princes have proved to be like stags that have found no pasturage, and they keep walking without power before the pursuer. ([Lamentations 1:6](#))**
- **Jerusalem has remembered in the days of her affliction and of her homeless people all her desirable things that happened to be from days of long ago. When her people fell into the hand of the adversary and she had no helper, The adversaries saw her. They laughed over her collapse. ([Lamentations 1:7](#))**
- **Jerusalem has committed outright sin. That is why she has become a mere abhorrent thing. All who were honoring her have treated her as something cheap, for they have seen her nakedness. She herself is also sighing and turns her back. ([Lamentations 1:8](#))**
- **Her uncleanness is in her skirts. She did not remember the future for her, and down she goes in a wondrous manner. No**

comforter does she have. O Yehowah, see my affliction, for the enemy has put on great airs. (**Lamentations 1:9**)

- The adversary has spread out his own hand against all her desirable things. For she has seen nations that have come into her sanctuary, whom you commanded that they should not come into the congregation belonging to you. (**Lamentations 1:10**)
- All her people are sighing, they are looking for bread. They have given their desirable things for something to eat, in order to refresh the soul. See, O Yehowah, and do look, for I have become as a valueless woman. (**Lamentations 1:11**)
- Is it nothing to all you who are passing along the way? Look and see. Does there exist any pain like my pain that has been severely dealt out to me, with which Yehowah has caused grief in the day of his burning anger? (**Lamentations 1:12**)
- From the height he has sent fire into my bones, and he subdues each one. He has spread out a net for my feet. He has turned me backward. He has made me a woman laid desolate. All the day I am ill. (**Lamentations 1:13**)
- He has kept himself alert against my transgressions. In his hand they intertwine one another. They have come up upon my neck. My power has stumbled. Yehowah has given me into the hand of those against whom I am unable to rise up. (**Lamentations 1:14**)
- All my powerful ones Yehowah has tossed aside from the midst of me. He has called against me a meeting, in order to break my young men to pieces. Yehowah has trodden the very winepress belonging to the virgin daughter of Judah. (**Lamentations 1:15**)
- Over these things I am weeping as a woman. My eye, my eye is running down with waters. For a comforter has become far away from me, someone to refresh my soul. My sons have become those laid desolate, for the enemy has put on great airs. (**Lamentations 1:16**)
- Zion has spread out her hands. No comforter does she have. Yehowah has given a command concerning Jacob to all who are around him as his adversaries. Jerusalem has become an abhorrent thing in among them. (**Lamentations 1:17**)

- **Yehowah is righteous, for it is against his mouth that I have rebelled. Listen, now, all you peoples, and see my pain. My own virgins and my own young men have gone into captivity. (Lamentations 1:18)**
- **I have called to those intensely loving me. They themselves have tricked me. In the city my own priests and my own old men have expired, while they had to look for something to eat for themselves that they might refresh their soul. (Lamentations 1:19)**
- **See, O Yehowah, for I am in sore straits. My very intestines are in a ferment. My heart has been overturned in the midst of me, for I have been absolutely rebellious. Outside the sword caused bereavement of children. Within the house it is the same as death. (Lamentations 1:20)**
- **People have heard how I myself am sighing as a woman. There is no comforter for me. All my enemies themselves have heard of my calamity. They have exulted, because you yourself have done it. You will certainly bring the day that you have proclaimed, that they may become like me. (Lamentations 1:21)**
- **May all their badness come before you, and deal severely with them, just as you have dealt severely with me on account of all my transgressions. For my sighs are many, and my heart is ill. (Lamentations 1:22)**
- **She acknowledges that her sin against Yehowah is the reason for her distress.**
- **She prays for the Almighty to punish those who rejoice over her suffering.**
- **Yehowah has acted in anger against Jerusalem.**
- **O how Yehowah in his anger beclouds the daughter of Zion! He has thrown down from heaven to earth the beauty of Israel. And he has not remembered his footstool in the day of his anger. (Lamentations 2:1)**
- **Yehowah has swallowed up, he has shown no compassion upon any abiding places of Jacob. In his fury he has torn down the fortified places of the daughter of Judah. He has brought into**

contact with the earth, he has profaned the kingdom and her princes. (**Lamentations 2:2**)

- In the heat of anger he has cut down every horn of Israel. He has turned his right hand back from before the enemy, and in Jacob he keeps burning like a flaming fire that has devoured all around. (**Lamentations 2:3**)
- He has trodden his bow like an enemy. His right hand has taken its position like an adversary, and he kept killing all those desirable to the eyes. Into the tent of the daughter of Zion he has poured out his rage, just like fire. (**Lamentations 2:4**)
- Yehowah has become like an enemy. He has swallowed down Israel. He has swallowed down all her dwelling towers, he has brought his fortified places to ruin. And in the daughter of Judah he makes mourning and lamentation abound. (**Lamentations 2:5**)
- And he treats his booth violently like that in a garden. He has brought his festival to ruin. Yehowah has caused to be forgotten in Zion festival and Sabbath, and in his angry denunciation he shows no respect for king and priest. (**Lamentations 2:6**)
- Yehowah has cast off his altar. He has spurned his sanctuary. Into the hand of the enemy he has surrendered the walls of her dwelling towers. In the house of Yehowah they have let out their own voice, as in the day of a festival. (**Lamentations 2:7**)
- Yehowah has thought of bringing the wall of the daughter of Zion to ruin. He has stretched out the measuring line. He has not turned back his hand from swallowing up. And he causes rampart and wall to go mourning. Together they have faded away. (**Lamentations 2:8**)
- Her gates have sunk down into the very earth. He has destroyed and broken her bars in pieces. Her king and her princes are among the nations. There is no Law. Her own prophets also have found no vision from Yehowah. (**Lamentations 2:9**)
- The older men of the daughter of Zion sit down on the earth, where they keep silence. They have brought up dust upon their head. They have girded on sackcloth. The virgins of Jerusalem have brought their head down to the very earth. (**Lamentations 2:10**)

- **My eyes have come to their end in sheer tears. My intestines are in a ferment. My liver has been poured out to the very earth, on account of the crash of the daughter of my people, because of the fainting away of child and suckling in the public squares of the town. ([Lamentations 2:11](#))**
- **To their mothers they kept saying; Where are grain and wine? Because of their fainting away like someone slain in the public squares of the city, because of their soul being poured out into the bosom of their mothers. ([Lamentations 2:12](#))**
- **Of what shall I use you as a witness? What shall I liken to you, O daughter of Jerusalem? What shall I make equal to you, that I may comfort you, O virgin daughter of Zion? For your breakdown is just as great as the sea. Who can bring healing to you? ([Lamentations 2:13](#))**
- **Your own prophets have visioned for you worthless and unsatisfying things; And they have not uncovered your error in order to turn back your captivity; But they kept visioning for you worthless and misleading pronouncements. ([Lamentations 2:14](#))**
- **At you all those passing along on the road have clapped their hands. They have whistled and kept wagging their head at the daughter of Jerusalem, saying; Is this the city of which they used to say; It is the perfection of prettiness, an exultation for all the earth? ([Lamentations 2:15](#))**
- **At you all your enemies have opened their mouth. They have whistled and kept grinding the teeth. They have said; We will swallow her down. This indeed is the day that we have hoped for. We have found! We have seen! ([Lamentations 2:16](#))**
- **Yehowah has done what he had in mind. He has accomplished his saying; what he had commanded from the days of long ago. He has torn down and shown no compassion. And over you he causes the enemy to rejoice. He has made the horn of your adversaries high. ([Lamentations 2:17](#))**
- **Their heart has cried out to Yehowah, O wall of the daughter of Zion. Cause tears to descend just like a torrent day and night. Give no numbness to yourself. May the pupil of your eye not keep quiet. ([Lamentations 2:18](#))**

- **Rise up! Whine during the night at the start of the morning watches. Pour out your heart before the face of Yehowah just like water. Raise to him your palms on account of the soul of your children, who are fainting away because of famine at the head of all the streets. ([Lamentations 2:19](#))**
- **See, O Yehowah, and do look to the one to whom you have dealt severely in this manner. Should the women keep eating their own fruitage, the children born fully formed, or in the sanctuary of Yehowah should priest and prophet be killed? ([Lamentations 2:20](#))**
- **Boy and old man have lain down on the earth of the streets. My virgins and my young men themselves have fallen by the sword. You have killed in the day of your anger. You have slaughtered; You have had no compassion. ([Lamentations 2:21](#))**
- **As in the day of a festival you proceeded to call out my places of alien residence all around. And in the day of the wrath of Yehowah there proved to be no escapee or survivor. Those whom I brought forth fully formed and reared, my enemy himself exterminated them. ([Lamentations 2:22](#))**
- **He has thrown Jerusalem down from heaven to earth.**
- **He has spurned his sanctuary and shown no respect for king and priest.**
- **As a result, passersby are amazed at what has happened to the city that was the perfection of prettiness.**
- **The able-bodied man, representing the nation, speaks of his affliction, yet expresses hope.**
- **I am the able-bodied man that has seen affliction because of the staff of his fury. ([Lamentations 3:1](#))**
- **It is I whom he has led and makes to walk in darkness and not in light. ([Lamentations 3:2](#))**
- **Indeed, it is against me that he repeatedly turns his hand all day long. ([Lamentations 3:3](#))**

- He has caused my flesh and my skin to wear away. He has broken my bones. (**Lamentations 3:4**)
- He has built against me, that he may encircle me with poisonous plant and hardship. (**Lamentations 3:5**)
- In dark places he has made me sit like men dead for a long time. (**Lamentations 3:6**)
- He has blocked me up as with a stone wall, that I may not go forth. He has made my copper fetters heavy. (**Lamentations 3:7**)
- Also, when I call for aid and cry for help, he actually hampers my prayer. (**Lamentations 3:8**)
- He has blocked up my ways with hewn stone. My roadways he has twisted. (**Lamentations 3:9**)
- As a bear lying in wait he is to me, as a lion in places of concealment. (**Lamentations 3:10**)
- My ways he has disarranged, and he makes me lie fallow. He has made me one laid desolate. (**Lamentations 3:11**)
- He has trodden his bow, and he sets me up as the target for the arrow. (**Lamentations 3:12**)
- He has brought into my kidneys the sons of his quiver. (**Lamentations 3:13**)
- I have become an object of laughter to all people against me, the theme of their song all day long. (**Lamentations 3:14**)
- He has given me a sufficiency of bitter things. He has saturated me with wormwood. (**Lamentations 3:15**)
- And with gravel he makes my teeth get broken. He has made me cower in the ashes. (**Lamentations 3:16**)
- You also do a casting off so that there is no peace for my soul. I have lost memory of what good is. (**Lamentations 3:17**)
- And I keep saying; My excellency has perished, and my expectation from Yehowah. (**Lamentations 3:18**)

- Remember my affliction and my homeless state, the wormwood and the poisonous plant. (**Lamentations 3:19**)
- Without fail your soul will remember and bow low over me. (**Lamentations 3:20**)
- This is what I shall bring back to my heart. That is why I shall show a waiting attitude. (**Lamentations 3:21**)
- It is the acts of loving-kindness of Yehowah that we have not come to our finish, because his mercies will certainly not come to an end. (**Lamentations 3:22**)
- They are new each morning. Your faithfulness is abundant. (**Lamentations 3:23**)
- Yehowah is my share, my soul has said; that is why I shall show a waiting attitude for him. (**Lamentations 3:24**)
- Good is Yehowah to the one hoping in him, to the soul that keeps seeking for him. (**Lamentations 3:25**)
- Good it is that one should wait, even silently, for the salvation of Yehowah. (**Lamentations 3:26**)
- Good it is for an able-bodied man that he should carry the yoke during his youth. (**Lamentations 3:27**)
- Let him sit solitary and keep silent, because he has laid something upon him. (**Lamentations 3:28**)
- Let him put his mouth in the very dust. Perhaps there exists a hope. (**Lamentations 3:29**)
- Let him give his cheek to the very one striking him. Let him have his sufficiency of reproach. (**Lamentations 3:30**)
- For not to time indefinite will Yehowah keep on casting off. (**Lamentations 3:31**)
- For although he has caused grief, he will also certainly show mercy according to the abundance of his loving-kindness. (**Lamentations 3:32**)



- For not out of his own heart has he afflicted or does he grieve the sons of men. (**Lamentations 3:33**)
- For crushing beneath ones feet all the prisoners of the earth. (**Lamentations 3:34**)
- For turning aside the judgment of an able-bodied man before the face of the Most High. (**Lamentations 3:35**)
- For making a man crooked in his legal case, Yehowah himself has had no countenance. (**Lamentations 3:36**)
- Who, now, has said that something should occur when Yehowah himself has not commanded? (**Lamentations 3:37**)
- From the mouth of the Most High bad things and what is good do not go forth. (**Lamentations 3:38**)
- How can a living man indulge in complaints, an able-bodied man on account of his sin? (**Lamentations 3:39**)
- Do let us search out our ways and explore them, and do let us return clear to Yehowah. (**Lamentations 3:40**)
- Let us raise our heart along with our palms to God in the heavens. (**Lamentations 3:41**)
- We ourselves have transgressed, and we have behaved rebelliously. You yourself have not forgiven. (**Lamentations 3:42**)
- You have blocked approach with anger, and you keep pursuing us. You have killed. You have shown no compassion. (**Lamentations 3:43**)
- You have blocked approach to yourself with a cloud mass, that prayer may not pass through. (**Lamentations 3:44**)
- You make us mere offscouring and refuse in the midst of the peoples. (**Lamentations 3:45**)
- Against us all our enemies have opened their mouth. (**Lamentations 3:46**)

- Dread and the hollow themselves have become ours, desolateness and breakdown. (**Lamentations 3:47**)
- With streams of water my eye keeps running down on account of the breakdown of the daughter of my people. (**Lamentations 3:48**)
- My very eye has been poured forth and will not keep still, so that there are no pauses. (**Lamentations 3:49**)
- Until Yehowah looks down and sees from heaven. (**Lamentations 3:50**)
- My own eye has dealt severely with my soul, because of all the daughters of my city. (**Lamentations 3:51**)
- My enemies have positively hunted for me just as for a bird, for no cause. (**Lamentations 3:52**)
- They have silenced my life in the pit itself, and they kept hurling stones at me. (**Lamentations 3:53**)
- Waters have flowed over my head. I have said; I shall certainly be cut off! (**Lamentations 3:54**)
- I have called out your name, O Yehowah, from a pit of the lowest sort. (**Lamentations 3:55**)
- My voice you must hear. Do not hide your ear to my relief, to my cry for help. (**Lamentations 3:56**)
- You have drawn near in the day that I kept calling you. You said; Do not be afraid. (**Lamentations 3:57**)
- You have taken up, O Yehowah, the contests of my soul. You have repurchased my life. (**Lamentations 3:58**)
- You have seen, O Yehowah, the wrong done to me. O do conduct the judgment for me. (**Lamentations 3:59**)
- You have seen all their vengeance, all their thoughts against me. (**Lamentations 3:60**)

- You have heard their reproach, O Yehowah, all their thoughts against me. (**Lamentations 3:61**)
- The lips of those rising up against me and their whispering against me all day long. (**Lamentations 3:62**)
- Do look at their very sitting down and their rising up. I am the subject of their song. (**Lamentations 3:63**)
- You will give back to them a treatment, O Yehowah, according to the work of their hands. (**Lamentations 3:64**)
- You will give to them the insolence of heart, your curse to them. (**Lamentations 3:65**)
- You will pursue in anger and annihilate them from under the heavens of Yehowah. (**Lamentations 3:66**)
- He describes his present desperate situation.
- Nevertheless, he is confident that Yehowah will hear his peoples prayers and show mercy.
- Terrible effects of the siege of Jerusalem.
- O how the gold that shines becomes dim, the good gold! O how the holy stones are poured out at the head of all the streets! (**Lamentations 4:1**)
- As for the precious sons of Zion, those who were weighed against refined gold, O how they have been reckoned as large jars of earthenware, the work of the hands of a potter! (**Lamentations 4:2**)
- Even jackals themselves have presented the udder. They have suckled their cubs. The daughter of my people becomes cruel, like ostriches in the wilderness. (**Lamentations 4:3**)
- The tongue of the suckling has cleaved to its palate because of thirst. Children themselves have asked for bread. There is no one dealing it out to them. (**Lamentations 4:4**)
- The very ones that were eating pleasant things have been struck with astonishment in the streets. The very ones that were being

reared in scarlet have had to embrace ash heaps. (**Lamentations 4:5**)

- The punishment for the error of the daughter of my people also becomes greater than the punishment for the sin of Sodom; Which was overthrown as in a moment, and to which no hands turned helpfully. (**Lamentations 4:6**)
- Her Nazirites were purer than snow, they were whiter than milk. They were in fact more ruddy than corals, their polish was as the sapphire. (**Lamentations 4:7**)
- Their aspect has become darker than blackness itself. They have not been recognized in the streets. Their skin has shriveled upon their bones. It has become just as dry as a tree. (**Lamentations 4:8**)
- Better have those slain with the sword proved to be than those slain by famine, because these pine away, pierced through for lack of the produce of the open field. (**Lamentations 4:9**)
- The very hands of compassionate women have boiled their own children. They have become as bread of consolation to one during the breakdown of the daughter of my people. (**Lamentations 4:10**)
- Yehowah has accomplished his rage. He has poured out his burning anger. And he sets a fire ablaze in Zion, which eats up her foundations. (**Lamentations 4:11**)
- The kings of the earth and all the inhabitants of the productive land had not believed that the adversary and the enemy would come into the gates of Jerusalem. (**Lamentations 4:12**)
- Because of the sins of her prophets, the errors of her priests, there were in the midst of her those pouring out the blood of righteous ones. (**Lamentations 4:13**)
- They have wandered about as blind in the streets. They have become polluted with blood; So that none are able to touch their garments. (**Lamentations 4:14**)
- Get out of the way! Unclean! They have called out to them. Get out of the way! Get out of the way! Do not touch! For they have

gone homeless. They have also wandered about. People have said among the nations; They will not reside again as aliens. (**Lamentations 4:15**)

- The face of Yehowah has divided them up. He will not look upon them again. Men will certainly show no consideration even for the priests. They will certainly show no favor even to the old men. (**Lamentations 4:16**)
- While we yet are, our eyes keep pining away in vain for assistance to us. During our looking about we have looked out to a nation that can bring no salvation. (**Lamentations 4:17**)
- They have hunted our steps so that there is no walking in our public squares. Our end has drawn near. Our days have come to their full, for our end has come. (**Lamentations 4:18**)
- Swifter than the eagles of the heavens our pursuers have proved to be. Upon the mountains they have hotly pursued us. In the wilderness they have lain in wait for us. (**Lamentations 4:19**)
- The very breath of our nostrils, the anointed one of Yehowah, has been captured in their large pit. The one of whom we have said; In his shade we shall live among the nations. (**Lamentations 4:20**)
- Exult and rejoice, O daughter of Edom, dwelling as you do in the land of Uz. To you also the cup will pass along. You will become drunk and show yourself in nakedness. (**Lamentations 4:21**)
- Your error, O daughter of Zion, has come to its finish. He will not carry you off into exile again. He has turned his attention to your error, O daughter of Edom. He has uncovered your sins. (**Lamentations 4:22**)
- Death by the sword was better than death from the famine, women even ate their own children.
- Fleeing survivors were relentlessly pursued in mountainous and wilderness regions.
- Yehowah is petitioned to note the peoples suffering and to restore them to favor.

- Remember, O Yehowah, what has happened to us. Do look and see our reproach. (**Lamentations 5:1**)
- Our own hereditary possession has been turned over to strangers, our houses to foreigners. (**Lamentations 5:2**)
- We have become mere orphans without a father. Our mothers are like widows. (**Lamentations 5:3**)
- For money we have had to drink our own water. For a price our own wood comes in. (**Lamentations 5:4**)
- Close onto our neck we have been pursued. We have grown weary. No rest has been left for us. (**Lamentations 5:5**)
- To Egypt we have given the hand, to Assyria, in order to get satisfaction with bread. (**Lamentations 5:6**)
- Our forefathers are the ones that have sinned. They are no more. As for us, it is their errors that we have had to bear. (**Lamentations 5:7**)
- Mere servants have ruled over us. There is no one tearing us away from their hand. (**Lamentations 5:8**)
- At the risk of our soul we bring in our bread, because of the sword of the wilderness. (**Lamentations 5:9**)
- Our very skin has grown hot just like a furnace, because of the pangs of hunger. (**Lamentations 5:10**)
- The wives in Zion they have humbled, the virgins in the cities of Judah. (**Lamentations 5:11**)
- Even young men have lifted up a hand mill itself, and under the wood mere boys have stumbled. (**Lamentations 5:13**)
- Old men themselves have ceased even out of the gate, young men from their instrumental music. (**Lamentations 5:14**)
- The exultation of our heart has ceased. Our dancing has been changed into mere mourning. (**Lamentations 5:15**)
- The crown of our head has fallen. Woe, now, to us, because we

have sinned! (**Lamentations 5:16**)

- On this account our heart has become ill. On account of these things our eyes have grown dim. (**Lamentations 5:17**)
- On account of Zion's mountain that is desolated, foxes themselves have walked on it. (**Lamentations 5:18**)
- As for you, O Yehowah, to time indefinite you will sit. Your throne is for generation after generation. (**Lamentations 5:19**)
- Why is it that forever you forget us, that you leave us for the length of days? (**Lamentations 5:20**)
- Bring us back, O Yehowah, to yourself, and we shall readily come back. Bring new days for us as in the long ago. (**Lamentations 5:21**)
- However, you have positively rejected us. You have been indignant toward us very much. (**Lamentations 5:22**)
- His peoples hereditary possession has been given to strangers.
- They have been shamed and debased.
- They pray for Yehowah to bring them back to himself even though he rejected them with indignation.