

Zephaniah 3:18~ The ones grief-stricken in absence from your festal season, I shall certainly gather together, absent from you¹ they happened to be, because of bearing reproach on her account.

Footnote: You Feminine singular, referring to the city of Jerusalem

1· Then the ones grief stricken, and not coming to his annual festivals, he will gather together, for they have been absent from the congregation for a long time, because of bearing reproach on account of Jerusalem.

[Question] How will the grief stricken ones then rejoice, and what will they come joyously to?

2· To me, my tears have become food day and night, while they say to me all day long; Where is your God? (**Psalms 42:3**)

[Question] How did the Psalmist feel at the reproach of others?

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**)

[Question] What happened when Zion was mourning, to her festivals and her city?

4· 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**)

[Question] What had Yehowah God himself caused to come to ruin, by his destruction of Jerusalem, and who did he show no respect for then?

5· And I myself shall collect **together** the remnant of my sheep, out of all the lands to which I had dispersed them, and I will bring them back to their pasture ground, and they will **certainly** be fruitful, and become many. (**Jeremiah 23:3**)

[Question] Where did Yehowah God then show, that he would collect his people together from, and what ground would he then restore them to?

- 6· **And the sons of Judah and the sons of Israel will **certainly** be collected **together** into a unity, and will actually set up for themselves one head, and go up out of the land, because great will be the day of Jezreel. (**Hosea 1:11**)**

[Question] How then, will the sons of Israel and of Judah dwell, and who will Yehowah God appoint as head over them all?

- 7· **Remember, O Yehowah, what has **happened** to us. Do look and see our **reproach**. (**Lamentations 5:1**)**

[Question] What did Jeremiah ask Yehowah God to remember again, once Jerusalem was destroyed?