

Lesson 24
The Destruction of Jerusalem and the Distress of Jeremiah
Lamentations 1

Questions

1. What did Jeremiah lament in this book (1:1, 19; see also 2:11-12, 15; 3:51)?

2. How was Jerusalem described (1:1-2)?

3. Why did the people of Judah and Jerusalem go into captivity (1:3-5)?

4. What happened to the pleasant or precious things of Jerusalem (1:6-11)?

5. What did the Lord do to Jerusalem (1:12-15)?

6. What did Jerusalem want, but did not receive (1:16-17)?

7. What did Jerusalem admit about the Lord and about her lovers (1:18-19)?

8. What did Jerusalem call upon the Lord to do to her enemies (1:20-22)?

Digging Deeper

1. Why is Jeremiah called the “weeping prophet” (Jer. 8:18 – 9:2; 13:17; 14:17-18; see Lamentations 1:16; 2:11; 3:48-51 and 2 Chron. 35:25)?

2. What personification is used for Jerusalem in Lamentation 1:1-2 (note the 3rd person “she” and “her” in this section)?

3. Who is speaking in Lamentations 1:12-22 (note the 1st person “I”, “me”, and “my” in this section)?

4. Why do chapters 1, 2, and 4 of this book contain 22 verses each and chapter 3 contains 66 verses? What is chapter 5?

Applications for Today

1. The way of the transgressor is hard (1:1-22; Prov. 13:15).
2. It is ok to express your intense grief over an important loss (1:1-22; Mt. 5:4).
3. Unrepentant transgression, sin, and rebellion bring divine punishment and judgment (1:5, 8-9, 18, 20, 22; Mt. 25:46; 2 Thess. 1:9; Heb. 10:29; 2 Pet. 2:9; Jude 7).
4. It must always be remembered that the Lord is righteous and his punishments are always just and fair (1:18; Rev. 15:3-4; 16:7).