

Series “Route 66” “Lamentations” Book–25

Lamentations – The Hebrew title of the book comes from the first word in Chapter 1,2, and 4 the word **Ekah**, is “Ah,” “how” which is another word in Hebrew for “Lamentations” The Greek title “Dirges” or “Laments” the Latin title “Tears or Lamentations” was derived from this word.

In Jerome’s Latin Vulgate reads, “**The Lamentations of Jeremiah.**”

After 40 years of warning Jeremiah’s awful warning comes true.

The Author – Jeremiah

When Written – **586-585 B.C.** Before and after the fall of Jerusalem. **Jeremiah 39, 52** gives the setting. Jeremiah was probably still in Jerusalem before he was taken captive to Babylon. **Jeremiah 43:1-7**

Where it was Written – Jerusalem

Lamentations 1:20

Purpose – Five somber “dirge” or “funeral” poems express grief over the loss of the Jewish homeland and the destruction of Jerusalem. These poems, meditating on the tragedy and its causes, reflect a long literary tradition in the Middle East.

The number of verses in each poem is divisible by 22 because these are acrostic poems; each verse or set of verses begins with a different letter of the 22-consonant Hebrew alphabet.

1. The sorrow for the Jewish remnant to which Jeremiah was their spokesman.
2. The picture of the future messiah that would come and suffer and make the ultimate sacrifice for His people.
3. A future picture of the Jewish remnant that would suffer in the future.

Theme – “*Funeral Hymns*”

1. Mourning over Jerusalem’s holocaust.
2. The confession of sin to a holy God for rightfully judging the sin of Judah.
3. Hope for the future restoration of His people.

Key Words – Lamentations, Lament

Key Chapter – Lamentations 3

Lamentations 3:22-25

Key Passage – Lamentations 2:5-6

Lamentations 3:22-23

Outline

1. **Lamentations 1 The Deserted City:**

2. **Lamentations 2 The Rejected City:**
3. **Lamentations 3 A Call for Self-examination:**
4. **Lamentations 4 Past Glory Remembered:**
5. **Lamentations 5 Prayer for Restoration:**

1. Lamentations 1 The Deserted City: The author lamented the lost splendor of Jerusalem (1:1–22)

Lamentations 1:1–11 “Like a widow is she”

Lamentations 1:12–22 “My sins have been bound into a yoke”.

2. Lamentations 2 The Rejected City:

Lamentations 2:1–22 “The Lord is like an enemy” The author is right in adding “like” to his description. God had done to Jerusalem and Judah what an enemy might do.

3. Lamentations 3 A Call for Self-examination: Understanding this to be a consequence of sin, the author dared hope in God

Lamentations 3:5-18 Hope of Relief in God's Mercy:

Lamentations 3:34–66 “Why should any living man complain when punished for his sins?”

Lamentations 3:55-57 If un-confessed and un-repentent sin was the cause of our suffering, we can expect God to hear this prayer.

4. Lamentations 4 Past Glory Remembered: The punishment, though great, will end

5. Lamentations 5 Prayer for Restoration: A humbled Judah may be restored

Personal Application:

Suffering saints through the ages counsel us to wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord.