



# Lamentations

## *Background*

- Contains five laments in response to the fall of Jerusalem in 586 BC.
- Though he is never named as the author, Jewish tradition attributes authorship to Jeremiah.
- Chapters 1-4 are written in an acrostic format. Each verse of chapters 1, 2, and 4 begins with a different letter of the Hebrew alphabet (22 letters). Chapter 3 gives three verses to each letter and is the poetic climax of the book.
- A lament is a formal expression of grief. It is a vehicle for processing emotions and protesting pain.

## *Roadmap*

1. **Lament 1:** The City Weeps (1)
2. **Lament 2:** The Enemy Identified (2)
3. **Lament 3:** The Prophet Suffers (3)
4. **Lament 4:** The Siege Relived (4)
5. **Lament 5:** The Survivors Pray (5)

## *Landmark*

The theme of Lamentations is "The Funeral of a Nation." It is a sorrowful song about the consequences of sin. It also provides a pattern for coping with grief and a surefire way to find hope in the darkest times.

## *Must See*

Jeremiah is a picture of Christ (Matt. 16:13-14)

- A man of sorrows and acquainted with grief.
- Patient with the shortcomings of his people.
- He was rejected by His own nation.
- Suffered for their salvation.

## *Takeaway*

1. Sorrow and suffering are the companions of sin.
2. The faithfulness of God is the only sure foundation of your life.