

LESSONS THIS QUARTER

1) 04 Jun 2023.....	Jeremiah 01.....	Prepares
2) 11 Jun.....	Jeremiah 02-06.....	Judges
3) 18 Jun.....	Jeremiah 07-10.....	Personal
4) 25 Jun.....	Jeremiah 11-15.....	Exclusive
5) 02 Jul.....	Jeremiah 16-18.....	Shapes
6) 09 Jul.....	Jeremiah 19-25.....	Rules
7) 16 Jul.....	Jeremiah 26-29.....	Present
8) 23 Jul.....	Jeremiah 30-33.....	Redeems
9) 30 Jul.....	Jeremiah 34-35.....	Worthy
10) 06 Aug.....	Jeremiah 36-39.....	Speaks
11) 13 Aug.....	Jeremiah 40-45.....	Trustworthy
12) 20 Aug.....	Jeremiah 46-52.....	Just
13) 27 Aug.....	Lamentations 01-05.....	Good

INTRODUCTION

- Jeremiah is traditionally recognized as the author
- Lamentations is a collection of 5 poems in 5 chapters expressing grief over the fall of Jerusalem in 587 B.C. under the hands of the Chaldeans (aka Babylonians), and confessing at the same time that her calamities were the just consequence of her sins
- The poetic form is alphabetical (22 letters in the Hebrew alphabet), all except the 5th chapter, as some of David's psalms are; each verse begins with a letter in the order of the Hebrew alphabet; the first Aleph, the second Beth, etc; but the 3rd chapter is a triple alphabet, the first three beginning with Aleph, the next three with Beth, etc., which was a memory aid
- Lamentations was written in such a poetic fashion as to make it very easy to memorize for long term retention
- Why would God want His people to remember the bad things which happened to them in their past?
- Aren't we supposed to "forget those things which are behind and reach forward to those things which are ahead Phil 3:13
- Recall 'the heart of the wise is in the house of mourning' Eccl 7:4
- In other words, people often learn more from their failures

Passage	Comments
Lam 1:1-22	<p>No One Considers the Consequences of Their Sins</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> v5, 8, 18. The Lord caused Jerusalem's grief because of her 'MULTITUDE' of sins – Yet God is righteous v9a. Her uncleanness was in her skirts – IOW, she sinned sexually/immorally Nahum 3:5 "Behold, I am against you," says the LORD of hosts; "I will lift your skirts over your face, I will show the nations your nakedness..." v9b. "...she did not consider her future state" <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only the wise seem to consider the consequences of their actions. The wicked definitely do not – they are only concerned with getting the lust of their flesh satisfied Prov 5:6 "[the immoral woman] does not ponder the path of life; Her ways are unstable, and she does not even know it"
Note: Sexual sins are treated differently by God	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> God wiped out whole nations for their immoralities (Noah's contemporaries, Sodom & Gomorrah, the earlier inhabitants of the Promised Land) ...and God laid waste to Judah due to their sexual sins – they did worse than their neighbors..... Ezek 5:6 Flee immorality. Every other sin that a man commits is outside the body, but the immoral man sins against his own body. 1Cor 6:18
2:1-22	<p>God Did What He Said He Would Do</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> v2,7. God promised to destroy His temple. Jer 7:12-14 (aka, His footstool – 1Chron 28:2; Ps 99:5; Ps 132:7) v5, 14. God became Judah's enemy. The preachers failed to 'expose their sins' and restore them to health. v17. God accomplished His word which He commanded from days of old Exodus 15:26

Passage	Comments
3:1-66	<p>Great is Thy Faithfulness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> vv1-20 detail God's cruelty to the sinner – He caused my flesh and skin to waste away; He broke my bones and teeth; He walled me in; He failed to answer my prayers; He sent me down wrong paths; He made me desolate; Happiness is a thing of the past vv21-36 detail God's blessing to the repentant – He does not afflict willingly; He does not reject forever; His compassions are available every day; He is good to those who seek Him v38. God does send good and evil into the world to accomplish His will v40. Let us examine our ways, repent, and return v66. God will punish and destroy the unrepentant
4:1-22	<p>God's Grace is Greater than Our Sins</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> v3. Parents become cruel to their children v4. The tongue of the infant cleaves to the roof of its mouth because of thirst v6. Judah's sins were worse than Sodom's v10. Women boiled their own children for food v13. The preachers (prophets & priests) are to blame. The people are only as good or bad as their leaders. v22. A glimmer of hope is seen as Judah's punishment nears completion
5:1-22	<p>Lord, Send a Revival</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> v7. The younger generation pays for the sins of its parents. Is this occurring TODAY? HOW? vv11-14. The weak, young, and the old suffer the most v20. Why does God Forget & Forsake His people? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The answer is due to our sins Mark 15:34 v21. Restore us O Lord when your wrath is complete

CONCLUSION/APPLICATIONS

- Yes, we should move past our sins once we have dropped them at the Cross by turning away from our past sinful behavior and opting to live for Christ
- Repent early to receive more of His blessings and less of His wrath

NEXT WEEK: TBD. TBD

