

# **Be Repentant**

## ***Lamentations***



**Dr. Rick Griffith • Crossroads International Church Singapore**  
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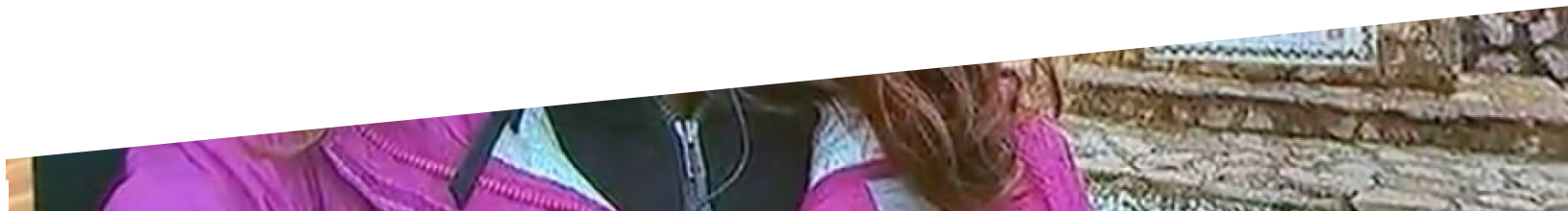
By HANK BERRIEN

August 16, 2018

👁 1.4m views

**...You watch the news and you read the papers and you're led to believe that the world is a big, scary place. People, the narrative goes, are not to be trusted. People are bad. People are evil. People are axe murderers and monsters and worse. I don't buy it. Evil is a make-believe concept we've invented to deal with the complexities of fellow humans holding values and beliefs and perspectives different than our own—it's easier to dismiss an opinion as abhorrent than strive to understand it. Badness exists, sure, but even that's quite rare. By and large, humans are kind. Self-interested sometimes, myopic sometimes, but kind. Generous and wonderful and kind. No greater revelation has come from our journey than this.**

**—June 2017 Jay Austin blog entry in Morocco**



# American Couple Believing 'Evil Is A Make-Believe Concept' Bike Through Territory Near Afghan Border. ISIS Stabs Them To Death.



By HANK BERRIEN

August 16, 2018

1.4m views

Does  
evil  
exist?





Turn  
From

Turn  
To



Sin  
Satan  
Death

**REPENTANCE?**

Salvation  
God  
Life

# Repent Means to Change Your Mind

Going from this...  
(unbelief)



to this...  
(belief)



# How should you **repent**?



How should  
you change  
your mind  
about evil,  
Jesus, and your  
sin?

# Jeremiah's Two Glimpses of Jerusalem's Fall

**Book of  
Jeremiah**

---

*Looking  
Ahead  
(Warning)*



**Fall of  
Jerusalem**

**Book of  
Lamentations**

---

*Looking  
Back  
(Mourning)*

# LAMENTATIONS



# Historical Background

- **Directly after Jerusalem's destruction in 586 BC**
- **Davidic King – the Lord's anointed – deposed and exiled**
- **All but poorest exiled**
- **Temple desecrated and burned**
- **Perspective needed**



# Genre

## Kings

- Concrete details
- Facts

## Lamentations

- vivid sensory imagery
- dates and names lacking
- no sequential ordering
- verse not prose
- no names for the slain
- no private grief shown



# Name and Place

## Hebrew Title

- Heb: "eka"
- Eng: *"How terrible! Alas!"*

## Five Scrolls

1. Lamentations
2. Ruth
3. Ecclesiastes
4. Song of Songs
5. Esther

## Feast Read:

- 9<sup>th</sup> of Ab  
Pentecost  
Tabernacles  
Passover  
Purim

494  
427



LAMENTA  
THE TALLES SCHOLARY

# Acrostic Structure

1

2

3

4

5

495

*Note: The  
Hebrew  
alphabet has  
22 consonants*

A  
B  
C

A  
B  
C

AAA  
BBB  
CCC  
DDD  
EEE  
FFF  
GGG  
HHH  
III

A  
B  
C

Verses

22

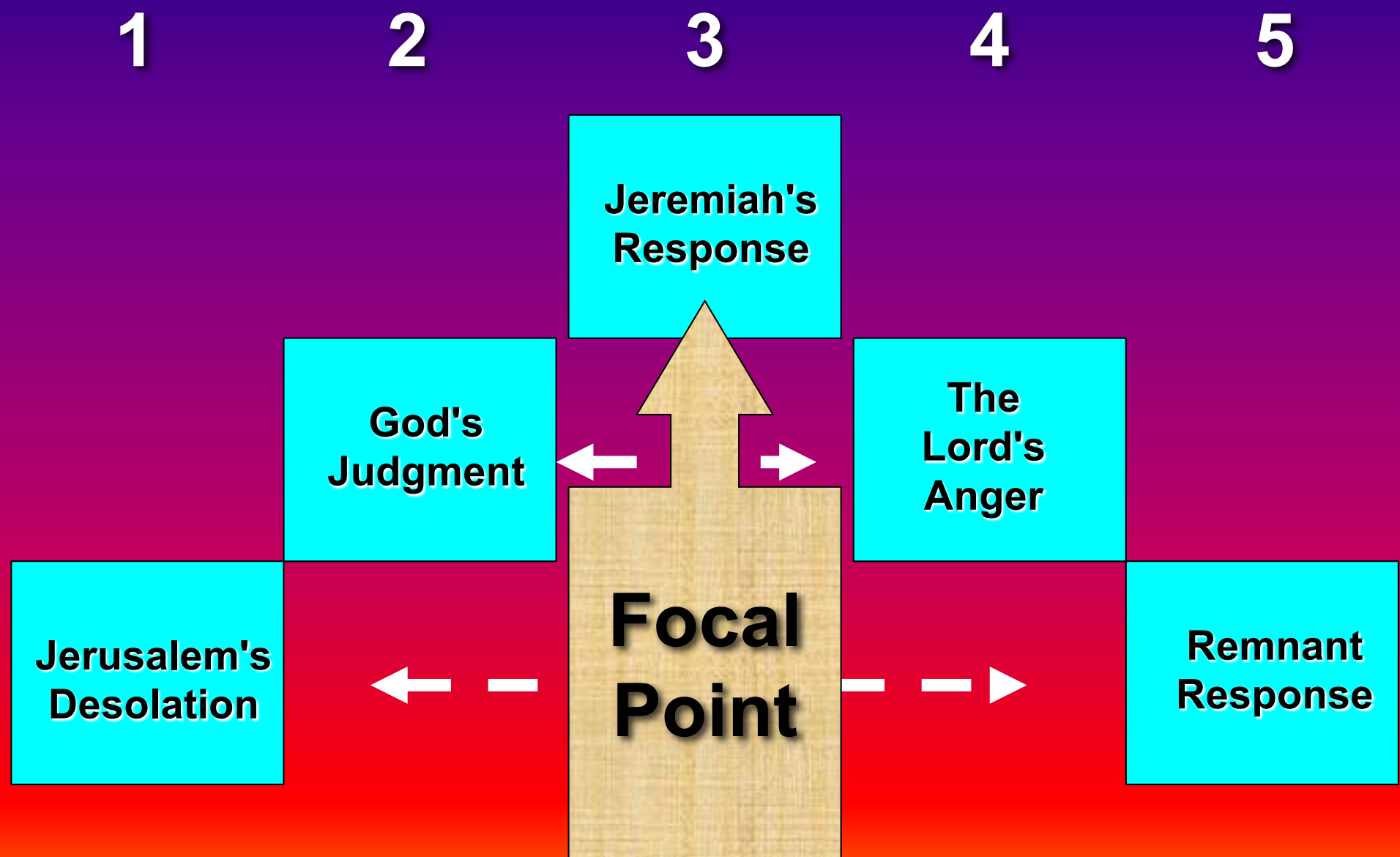
22

66

22

22

# Chiastic Structure



Five  
ways to  
repent...

# Lamentations

493

## Emotions of and Reasons for the Fall

Fall Described		Judgment Acknowledged	Jeremiah's Feelings	Trusting Leaders	Prayer
Chapter 1		Chapter 2	Chapter 3	Chapter 4	Chapter 5
The Suffering		The Cause	The Hope	The Reason	The Lament
3 Line Acrostic (22 verses)		3 Line Acrostic (22 verses)	1 Line Acrostic (66 verses)	2 Line Acrostic (22 verses)	1 Line Not Acrostic (22 verses)
People		God	Prophet	God	People
Third Person Singular ("she") 1:1-11	First Person Singular ("I") 1:12-22	Third Person Singular ("she") 2:1-10	First Person Singular ("I") 2:11–4:22		First Person Plural ("us/our") 5:1-22

Jerusalem (586 BC)

# Lamentations 1

# Lamentations

493

Five  
ways to  
repent...

## Emotions of and Reasons for the Fall

Fall  
Described

Judgment  
Acknowledged

Jeremiah's  
Feelings

Trusting  
Leaders

Prayer

Chapter 1

Chapter 2

Chapter 3

Chapter 4

Chapter 5

The  
Suffering

The  
Cause

The  
Hope

The  
Reason

The  
Lament

Admit  
your  
need

3 Line  
Acrostic  
(22 verses)

1 Line  
Acrostic  
(66 verses)

2 Line  
Acrostic  
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1 Line  
Not Acrostic  
(22 verses)

People

God

Prophet

God

People

Third  
Person  
Singular  
("she")  
1:1-11

First  
Person  
Singular  
("I")  
1:12-22

Third  
Person  
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First  
Person  
Singular  
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2:11–4:22

First  
Person  
Plural  
("us/our")  
5:1-22

Jerusalem (586 BC)

# Lamentations 1 Hebrew Acrostic

אֵיכָּה | יֵשְׁבָה בְּדָר הָעִיר רַבָּתִי עִם <sup>= "A"</sup> Lam. 1:1  
הִיְתָה כְּאַלְמָנָה רַבָּתִי בַגּוֹיִם שָׁרָתִי בַמְּדִינֹת  
הִיְתָה לָמָס: ט <sup>= "B"</sup> 2 בָּבו תִּבְכֶּה בַּלַּיְלָה וְדִמְעָתָהּ  
עַל לַחֲיָהּ אֵין-לָהּ מְנַחֵם מִכָּל-אַהֲבָיָה  
כָּל-רַעֲיָהּ בָּגְדוּ בָּהּ הָיוּ לָהּ לְאִיבִים: ס <sup>3</sup>  
אֵיכָּה יְהוּדָה מֵעַנִי וּמִרְבַּ עֲבֹדָה הִיא יֵשְׁבָה <sup>= "C"</sup> 4  
בַּגּוֹיִם לֹא מָצְאָה מְנוּחַ כָּל-רֹדְפֶיהָ הַשִּׁגּוּהָ  
בֵּין הַמְּצָרִים: ט <sup>= "D"</sup> 4 וְרַכִּי צִיּוֹן אֲבֵלוֹת מִבְּלִי

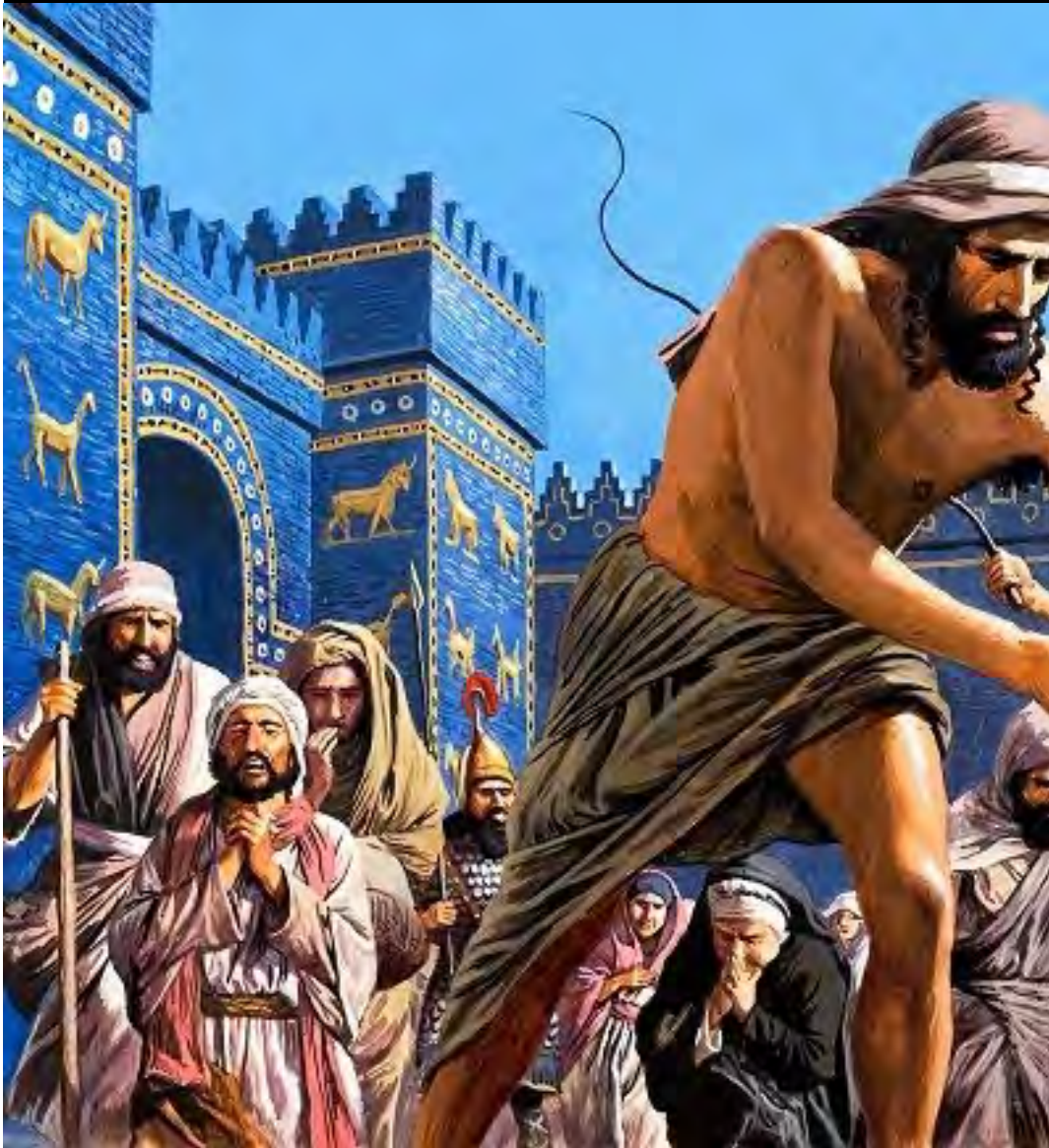
**"[A]las!] How deserted lies the city,  
once so full of people!  
How like a widow is she,  
who once was great among the nations!  
She who was queen among the provinces  
has now become a slave.**

**"[B]itterly she weeps at night,  
tears are upon her cheeks.  
Among all her lovers there is none to comfort her.  
All her friends have betrayed her;  
they have become her enemies.**

**<sup>3</sup>[C]oming] after affliction and harsh labor,  
Judah has gone into exile.  
She dwells among the nations;  
she finds no resting place.  
All who pursue her have overtaken her  
in the midst of her distress"  
(Lamentations 1:1-3 NIV adapted).**



**"The roads to  
Jerusalem are in  
mourning,  
for crowds no longer  
come to celebrate the  
festivals.  
The city gates are  
silent,  
her priests groan,  
her young women are  
crying—  
how bitter is her fate!"  
(Lam 1:4 NLT).**



**"Her oppressors  
have become her  
masters,  
and her enemies  
prosper,  
for the LORD has  
punished Jerusalem  
for her many sins.  
Her children  
have been captured  
and taken away to  
distant lands"  
(Lam 1:5 NLT).**

**"All the majesty of beautiful Jerusalem  
has been stripped away.  
Her princes are like starving deer  
searching for pasture.  
They are too weak to run  
from the pursuing enemy"  
(Lam 1:6 NLT).**



# Parallels between Lamentations and Deuteronomy

496

Lamentations		Deuteronomy	
1:3	She dwells among the nations; she finds no resting place.	28:65	Among those nations you will find no repose, no resting place for the sole of your foot.
1:5	Her foes have become her masters.	28:44	He will be the head, but you will be the tail.
1:5	Her children have gone into exile, captive before the foe.	28:32	Your sons and daughters will be given to another nation.
1:6	In weakness they have fled before the pursuer.	28:25	The LORD will cause you to be defeated before your enemies. You will come at them from one direction but flee from them in seven.
1:18	My young men and maidens have gone into exile.	28:41	You will have sons and daughters but you will not keep them, because they will go into captivity.
<i>Bible Knowledge Commentary, 1:1209</i>			

**"He has sent fire from heaven that burns in my bones. He has placed a trap in my path and turned me back. He has left me devastated, racked with sickness all day long" (Lam 1:12 NLT).**



# Lamentations

493

Five  
ways to  
repent...

## Emotions of and Reasons for the Fall

Fall  
Described

Judgment  
Acknowledged

Jeremiah's  
Feelings

Trusting  
Leaders

Prayer

Chapter 1

Chapter 2

Chapter 3

Chapter 4

Chapter 5

The  
Suffering

The  
Cause

The  
Hope

The  
Reason

The  
Lament

Admit  
your  
**need**

3 Line  
Acrostic  
(22 verses)

1 Line  
Acrostic  
(66 verses)

2 Line  
Acrostic  
(22 verses)

1 Line  
Not Acrostic  
(22 verses)

Do you confess that your sin has put you  
into a sad state?

P

God

People

Third  
Person  
Singular  
("she")  
1:1-11

First  
Person  
Singular  
("I")  
1:12-22

Third  
Person  
Singular  
("she")  
2:1-10

First  
Person  
Singular  
("I")  
2:11-4:22

First  
Person  
Plural  
("us/our")  
5:1-22

Jerusalem (586 BC)

# Lamentations 2

# Lamentations

493

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5:1-22

Jerusalem (586 BC)

**"The Lord in his anger  
has cast a dark shadow over beautiful  
Jerusalem.**

**The fairest of Israel's cities lies in the dust,  
thrown down from the heights of heaven.**

**In his day of great anger,  
the Lord has shown no mercy even to his  
Temple" (Lam 2:1 NLT).**

**"Without mercy the Lord has destroyed  
every home in Israel.**

**In his anger he has broken down  
the fortress walls of beautiful Jerusalem.**

**He has brought them to the ground,  
dishonoring the kingdom and its rulers"  
(Lam 2:2 NLT).**

**"All the strength of Israel  
vanishes beneath his fierce anger.  
The Lord has withdrawn his protection  
as the enemy attacks.  
He consumes the whole land of Israel  
like a raging fire"  
(Lam 2:3 NLT).**

# Parallels between Lamentations and Deuteronomy

496

Lamentations		Deuteronomy	
2:15	All who pass your way clap their hands at you; they scoff and shake their heads at the Daughter of Jerusalem.	28:37	You will become a thing of horror and an object of scorn and ridicule to all the nations where the LORD will drive you.
2:20	Should women eat their offspring, the children they have cared for?	28:53	Because of the suffering that your enemy will inflict on you during the siege, you will eat the fruit of the womb, the flesh of the sons and daughters the LORD your God has given you.
2:21	Young and old lie together in the dust of the streets.	28:50	...a fierce-looking nation without respect for the old or pity for the young.
<i>Bible Knowledge Commentary, 1:1209</i>			

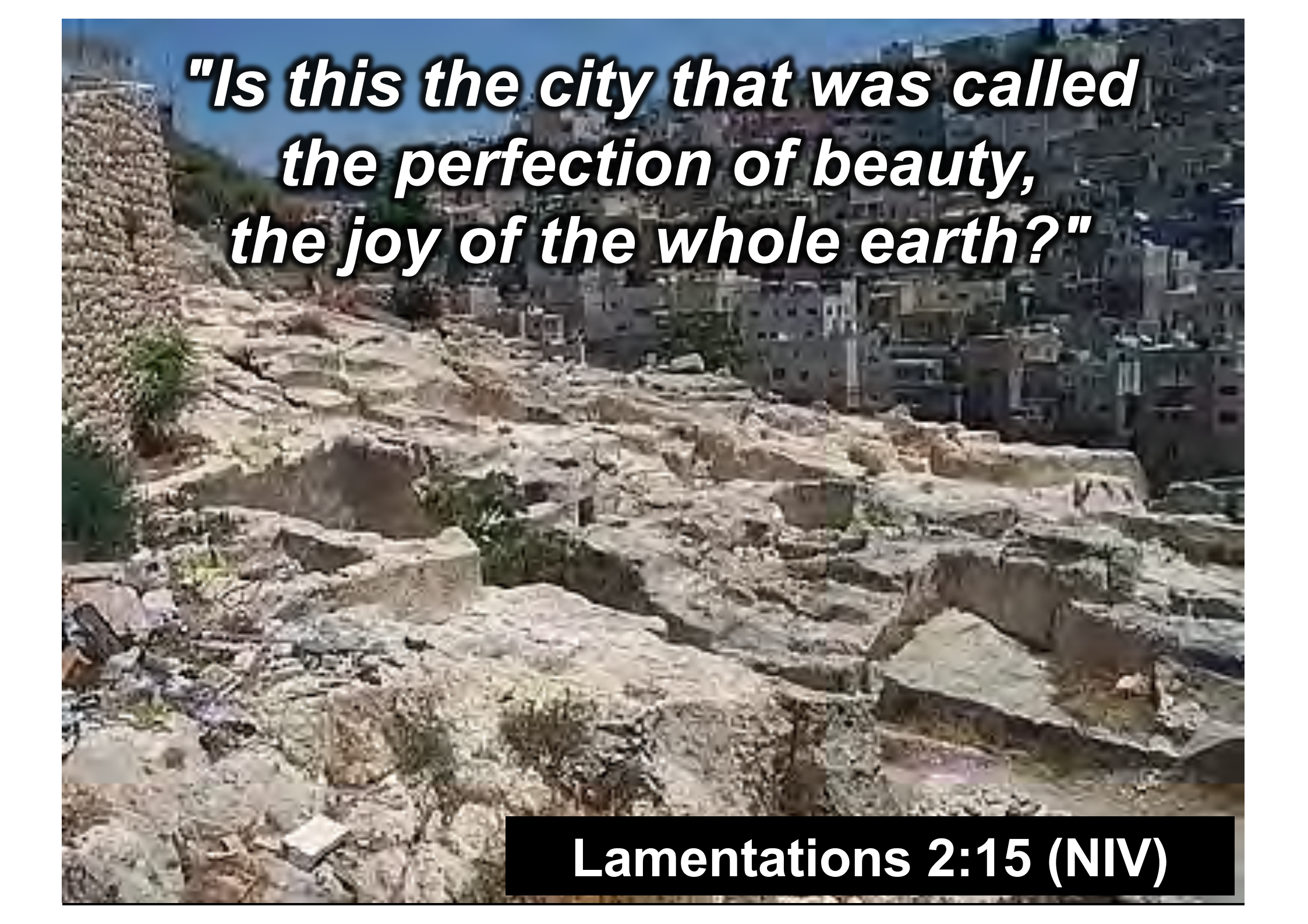
# Prophetic Curses



Why?

**Deut 28**

**Exile**



***"Is this the city that was called  
the perfection of beauty,  
the joy of the whole earth?"***

**Lamentations 2:15 (NIV)**

# Lamentations

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The  
Lament

Admit  
your  
**need**

Admit  
your  
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1 Line  
Acrostic  
(66 verses)

2 Line  
Acrostic  
(22 verses)

1 Line  
Not Acrostic  
(22 verses)

Do you say the same thing that God says  
about your sin?

P

God

People

Third  
Person  
Singular  
("she")  
1:1-11

First  
Person  
Singular  
("I")  
1:12-22

Third  
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Person  
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Jerusalem (586 BC)

# Lamentations 3

# Lamentations

493

Five  
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repent...

## Emotions of and Reasons for the Fall

Fall  
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Judgment  
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Jeremiah's  
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Lament

Admit  
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Hope  
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2 Line  
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God

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Jerusalem (586 BC)

# Chapter 3 is a Model of Confession



# Lamentations 1 Hebrew Acrostic

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הִיְתָה כְּאַלְמָנָה רַבָּתִי בַגּוֹיִם שָׁרָתִי בַמְּדִינֹת  
הִיְתָה לָמָס: ט <sup>= "B"</sup> 2 בָּבו תִּבְכֶּה בַּלַּיְלָה וְדִמְעָתָהּ  
עַל לַחֲיָהּ אֵין-לָהּ מְנַחֵם מִכָּל-אַהֲבָיָה  
כָּל-רַעֲיָהּ בָּגְדוּ בָּהּ הָיוּ לָהּ לְאִיבִים: ס <sup>3</sup>  
אֵיכָּה יְהוּדָה מֵעַנִי וּמִרְבַּ עֲבֹדָה הִיא יֵשְׁבָה <sup>= "C"</sup> 4  
בַּגּוֹיִם לֹא מָצְאָה מְנוּחַ כָּל-רֹדְפֶיהָ הַשִּׁגּוּהָ  
בֵּין הַמְצָרִים: ט <sup>= "D"</sup> 4 וְרַכִּי צִיּוֹן אֲבֵלוֹת מִבְּלִי

# Lamentations 3 Hebrew Acrostic

2 : אֲנִי הַגִּבֹּר רָאָה עָלַי בְּשֹׁבֹט עֲבָרְתִּי : 2  
אֲנִי נָהַג וַיִּלָּךְ תִּשְׁדָּךְ וְלֹא-אִוֹר : 3  
יִהְיֶה יָדוֹ כָּל-הַיּוֹם : 4  
שָׁבַר עֲצָמוֹתַי : 5  
וַתִּלָּאֶה : 6  
ס גִּידִר בַּעֲדַי וְלֹא אֵצֶא הַכְּבִיד נִחַשְׁתִּי : 8  
גַּם כִּי אֶזְעַק וְאֲשׁוּעַ שְׁתָּם תַּפְלִיתִי : 9  
דְּרָכַי בְּגִזִּית נִתְיַבְתִּי עֲוָה : 10

**"I am the one who has seen the afflictions  
that come from the rod of the LORD's anger.**

**<sup>2</sup> He has led me into darkness,  
shutting out all light.**

**<sup>3</sup> He has turned his hand against me  
again and again, all day long"  
(Lam 3:1-3 NLT).**

**"He has made my skin and flesh grow old.  
He has broken my bones.**

**<sup>5</sup> He has besieged and surrounded me  
with anguish and distress.**

**<sup>6</sup> He has buried me in a dark place,  
like those long dead"  
(Lam 3:4-6 NLT).**

**"He has walled me in, and I cannot escape.  
He has bound me in heavy chains.  
    <sup>8</sup> And though I cry and shout,  
        he has shut out my prayers.  
<sup>9</sup> He has blocked my way with a high stone  
        wall;  
        he has made my road crooked"  
        (Lam 3:7-9 NLT).**

**"I remember my affliction and my wandering,  
the bitterness and the gall.**

**<sup>20</sup>I well remember them,  
and my soul is downcast within me.**

**<sup>21</sup>Yet this I call to mind  
and therefore I have hope:**

**<sup>22</sup>Because of the LORD's great love  
we are not consumed,  
for his compassions never fail.**

**<sup>23</sup>They are new every morning;  
great is your faithfulness.**

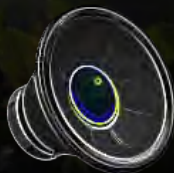
**<sup>24</sup>I say to myself, 'The LORD is my portion;  
therefore I will wait for him'"**


**(Lam 3:19-24 NLT).**

**"The LORD is good  
to those whose hope is in him,  
to the one who seeks him;  
<sup>26</sup>it is good to wait quietly  
for the salvation of the LORD.  
<sup>27</sup>It is good for a man to bear the yoke  
while he is young.  
<sup>28</sup>Let him sit alone in silence,  
for the LORD has laid it on him.  
<sup>29</sup>Let him bury his face in the dust—  
there may yet be hope."  
(Lam 3:25-29 NLT)**




**Great is Thy  
Faithfulness  
(Lamentations 3:22-23)**

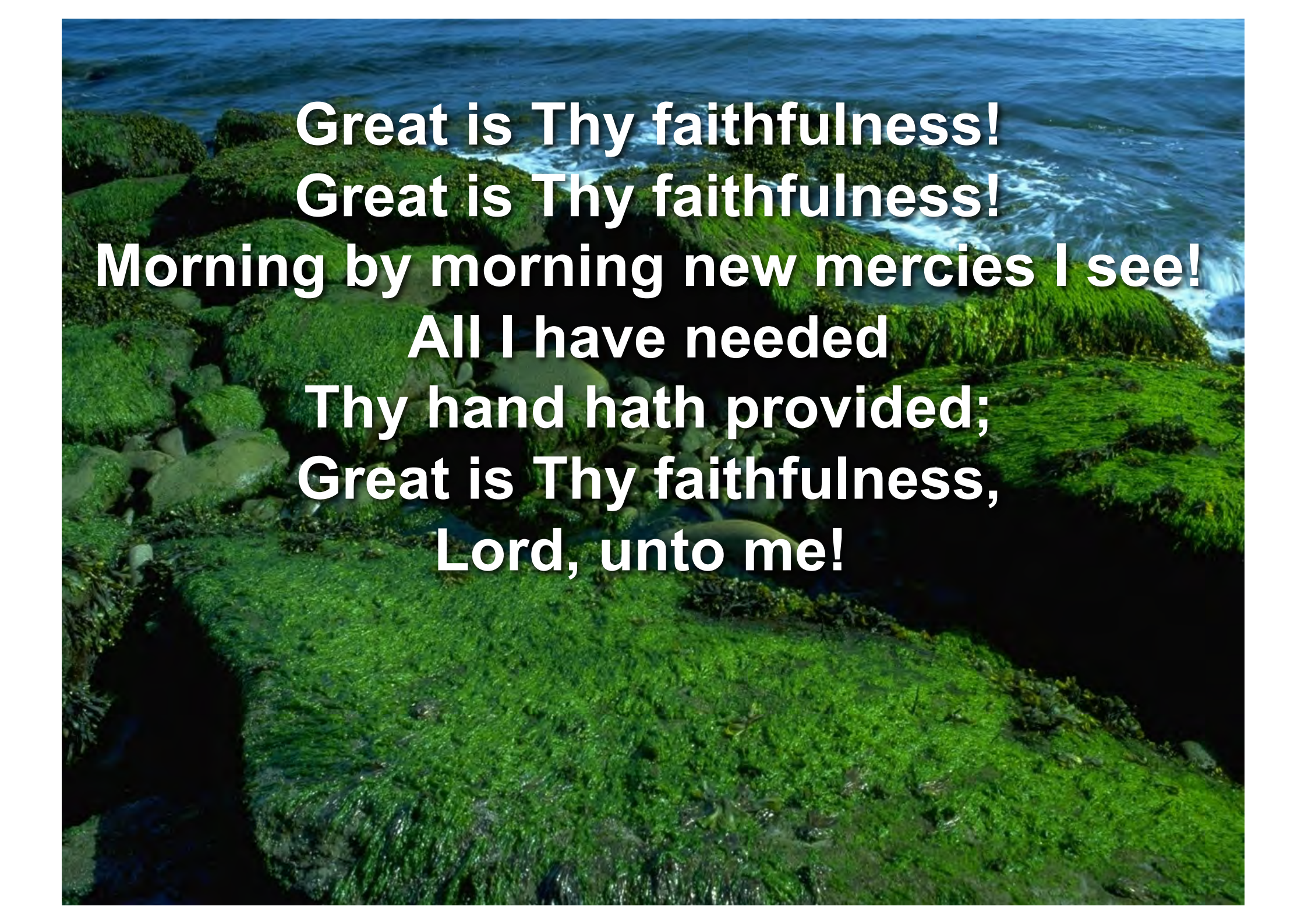




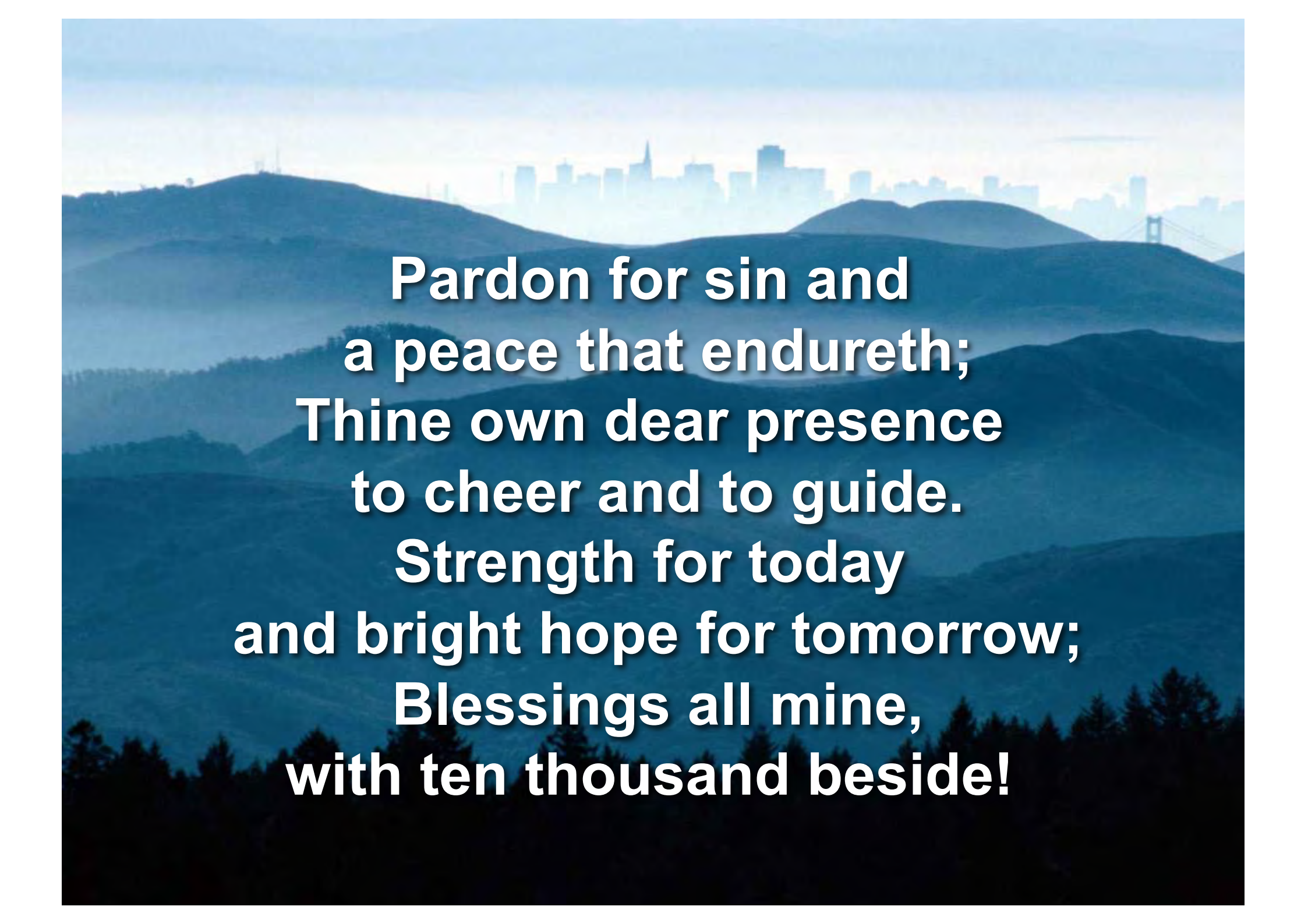
**Great is Thy faithfulness!  
Great is Thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see!  
All I have needed  
Thy hand hath provided;  
Great is Thy faithfulness,  
Lord, unto me!**




**Summer and winter  
and springtime and harvest,  
Sun, moon and stars  
in their courses above  
Join with all nature in manifold witness  
To Thy great faithfulness,  
mercy and love**

A photograph of a rocky coastline. The foreground and middle ground are dominated by large, dark rocks covered in a thick, vibrant green seaweed or algae. The ocean is a deep blue, with white foam from breaking waves visible in the upper right and middle right sections. The sky is not visible. The text is overlaid in white, bold, sans-serif font.

**Great is Thy faithfulness!  
Great is Thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see!  
All I have needed  
Thy hand hath provided;  
Great is Thy faithfulness,  
Lord, unto me!**



**Pardon for sin and  
a peace that endureth;  
Thine own dear presence  
to cheer and to guide.  
Strength for today  
and bright hope for tomorrow;  
Blessings all mine,  
with ten thousand beside!**



**Great is Thy faithfulness!  
Great is Thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see!  
All I have needed  
Thy hand hath provided;  
Great is Thy faithfulness,  
Lord, unto me!**

# Lamentations

493

Five  
ways to  
repent...

## Emotions of and Reasons for the Fall

Fall  
Described

Judgment  
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Jeremiah's  
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The  
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Hope  
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People

God

People

Third  
Person  
Singular  
("she")

1:12-22

1:1-11  
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First  
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Do you have misplaced hope—or is it in  
God alone?

Jerusalem (586 BC)

# Lamentations 4

# Lamentations

493

Five  
ways to  
repent...

## Emotions of and Reasons for the Fall

Fall  
Described

Judgment  
Acknowledged

Jeremiah's  
Feelings

Trusting  
Leaders

Prayer

Chapter 1

Chapter 2

Chapter 3

Chapter 4

Chapter 5

The  
Suffering

The  
Cause

The  
Hope

The  
Reason

The  
Lament

Admit  
your  
**need**

Admit  
your  
**fault**

Hope  
in  
**God**

Distrust  
your  
**leaders**

1 Line  
Not Acrostic  
(22 verses)

People

God

Prophet

God

People

Third  
Person  
Singular  
("she")  
1:1-11

First  
Person  
Singular  
("I")  
1:12-22

Third  
Person  
Singular  
("she")  
2:1-10

First  
Person  
Singular  
("I")  
2:11–4:22

First  
Person  
Plural  
("us/our")  
5:1-22

Jerusalem (586 BC)

**"How the gold has lost its luster!  
Even the finest gold has become dull.  
The sacred gemstones  
lie scattered in the streets!"  
(Lam 4:1 NLT).**

**"See how the precious children of Jerusalem,  
worth their weight in fine gold,  
are now treated like pots of clay  
made by a common potter"  
(Lam 4:2 NLT).**

**"Even the jackals feed their young,  
but not my people Israel.  
They ignore their children's cries,  
like ostriches in the desert"  
(Lam 4:3 NLT).**

**"Not a king in all the earth—  
no one in all the world—  
would have believed that an enemy  
could march through the gates of Jerusalem.  
<sup>13</sup> Yet it happened because of **the sins of her  
prophets and the sins of her priests,**  
who defiled the city  
by shedding innocent blood"  
(Lam 4:12-13 NLT).**

**"Our king—the LORD's anointed, the very life  
of our nation— was caught in their snares.  
We had thought that his shadow  
would protect us against any nation on earth!"  
(Lam 4:20 NLT).**



# Contrasts Between Edom & Israel in Lamentations 4:21-22



# Lamentations

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Plural  
("us/our")  
5:1-22

Do you put more trust in your pastor  
than in God?

Jerusalem (586 BC)

# Lamentations 5

# Lamentations

493

Five  
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## Emotions of and Reasons for the Fall

Fall Described		Judgment Acknowledged	Jeremiah's Feelings	Trusting Leaders	Prayer
Chapter 1		Chapter 2	Chapter 3	Chapter 4	Chapter 5
The Suffering		The Cause	The Hope	The Reason	The Lament
Admit your need		Admit your fault	Hope in God	Distrust your leaders	Keep looking forward
People		God	Prophet	God	People
Third Person Singular ("she") 1:1-11	First Person Singular ("I") 1:12-22	Third Person Singular ("she") 2:1-10	First Person Singular ("I") 2:11–4:22		First Person Plural ("us/our") 5:1-22

Jerusalem (586 BC)

**"LORD, remember what has happened to us.  
See how we have been disgraced!  
<sup>2</sup> Our inheritance has been turned over to  
strangers, our homes to foreigners.  
<sup>3</sup> We are orphaned and fatherless.  
Our mothers are widowed"  
(Lam 5:1-3 NLT).**

**"We have to pay for water to drink,  
and even firewood is expensive.**

**<sup>5</sup> Those who pursue us are at our heels;  
we are exhausted but are given no rest.**

**<sup>6</sup> We submitted to Egypt and Assyria  
to get enough food to survive.**

**<sup>7</sup> Our ancestors sinned, but they have died—  
and we are suffering the punishment they  
deserved!" (Lam 5:4-7 NLT).**

**"Slaves have now become our masters;  
there is no one left to rescue us.**

**<sup>9</sup> We hunt for food at the risk of our lives,  
for violence rules the countryside.**

**<sup>10</sup> The famine has blackened our skin  
as though baked in an oven"**

**(Lam 5:8-10 NLT).**

"Our enemies rape the **women** in Jerusalem and the young **girls** in all the towns of Judah.

<sup>12</sup> Our **princes** are being hanged by their thumbs, and our **elders** are treated with contempt.

<sup>13</sup> **Young men** are led away to work at millstones, and **boys** stagger under heavy loads of wood.

<sup>14</sup> The **elders** no longer sit in the city gates; the **young men** no longer dance and sing.

<sup>15</sup> Joy has left our hearts;  
our dancing has turned to mourning"  
(Lam 5:11-15 NLT).

**"The garlands have fallen from our heads.  
Weep for us because we have sinned.  
17 Our hearts are sick and weary,  
and our eyes grow dim with tears.  
18 For Jerusalem is empty and desolate,  
a place haunted by jackals"  
(Lam 5:16-18 NLT).**

**"But LORD, you remain the same forever!  
Your throne continues from generation to  
generation.**

**<sup>20</sup> Why do you continue to forget us?  
Why have you abandoned us for so long?**

**<sup>21</sup> Restore us,  
O LORD, and bring us back to you again!  
Give us back the joys we once had!**

**<sup>22</sup> Or have you utterly rejected us?  
Are you angry with us still?"**

**(Lam 5:19-22 NLT).**

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1:1-11

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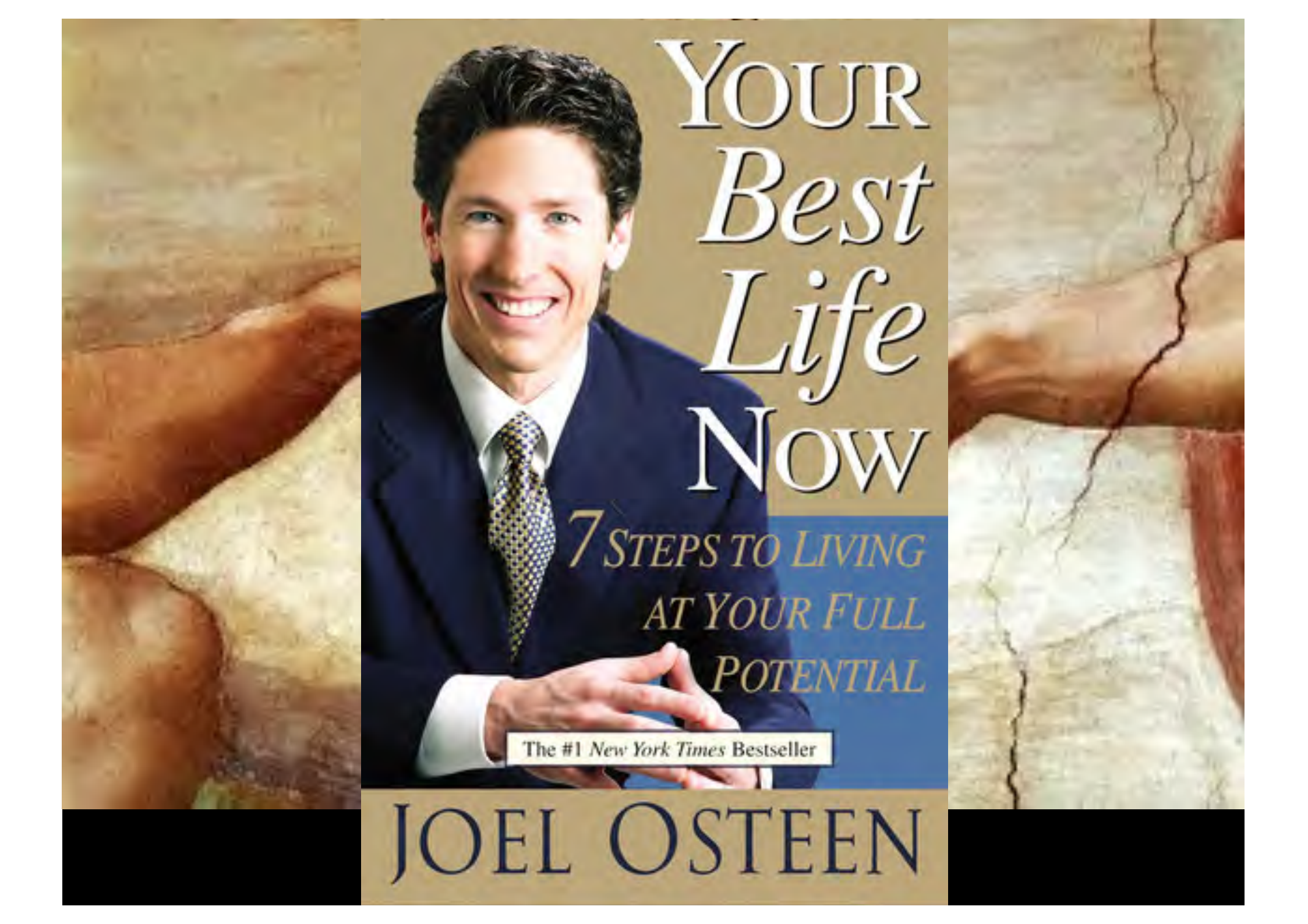
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Person  
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2:1-10

First  
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First  
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Do you pray for restoration?

Jerusalem (586 BC)



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# JOEL OSTEEN



# How should you **repent**?



How should  
you change  
your mind  
about evil,  
Jesus, and your  
sin?

## **Main Idea**

**Be repentant over your sin by  
changing your mind to view  
sin as God does.**

**Lamentations**

# Lamentations

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Jerusalem (586 BC)

# American Couple Believing 'Evil Is A Make-Believe Concept' Bike Through Territory Near Afghan Border. ISIS Stabs Them To Death.



By HANK BERRIEN

August 16, 2018

👁 1.4m views

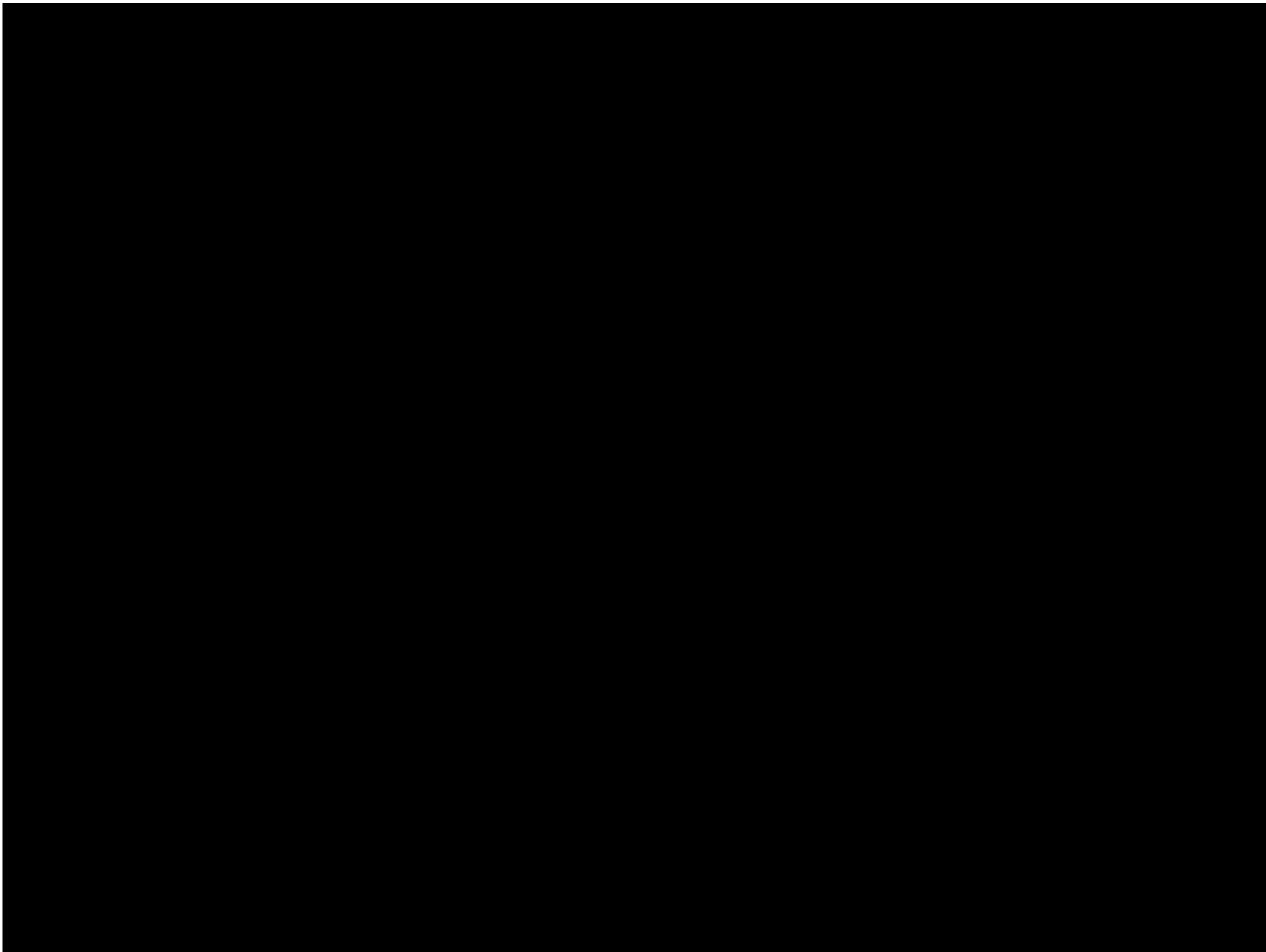
# Application

***Beware lest you think you stand and begin to take God's grace for granted.***

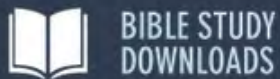
***When we are punished by God, our only hope lies in turning to our "Enemy"***  
***(Huang Sabin)***

**Just trust me.**

**—God**



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