
Part 2 Sermon, April 7, 2024

Lamentations 2:1-22 – *A Cause for Lament*

Discussion Questions

1. Over and over in the Bible (Exodus, Numbers, Psalms, Joel, Nahum) God is said to be “slow to anger”, but this does not mean He will not judge sin. What other words does the author of Lamentations use to describe God’s righteous anger in v1-6? The Israelites often provoked the Lord, and the utter destruction of His people did not come without warning. How does Deuteronomy 4:24 describe God? What warnings might you need to heed before His fire falls on you? When/where have you been presuming upon His grace?
 2. Lamenting is a prayer in pain that leads to praise. Here in v11-19, there is both individual and corporate lament. The prophet cries out to the Lord as he sees the consequences of the Babylonian siege. The people have abandoned the covenant (see Deuteronomy 29) and have believed false, misleading, deceptive visions(v14). What did Jeremiah warn in Jeremiah 23:16? How does v15 help us stay on the narrow road? Do we think enough about how the watching world loves it when God’s people fall?
 3. Read v19. What example do we receive here? We also are being called to cry out in the night, pour out our hearts, lift our hands to Him. How sensitive are we to the sinfulness of sin? Can I read this account and think, “Is my sin so bad that it deserves destruction?” What does James say in chapter 1:7-16?
 4. “The Lord has done what He purposed; He has carried out His word, which He commanded long ago...”(17a) What hope can we have--“for your ruin is vast as the sea; who can heal you?”--when we have sinned against the Lord? When is the last time you truly, wholeheartedly repented before the Lord? What do Romans 5:8 & 8:32 remind us? How can we better remind one another to dwell on eternity, His steadfast love, His character and attributes?
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