

Lamentations 5

Remember O Lord

Sermon Outline for March 25, 2012, the Fifth Sunday in Lent, by Pastor Dennis Tuuri

Intro – The Gospel in Lamentations; N.T. Wright's **Simply Christian** - Justice, Spirituality, Beauty, Community

Prayer That Is:

1. Insistent
2. Honest
3. Faith-ful
4. Appropriately Centered - Restore Us to Yourself, O Lord
5. Appropriately Comprehensive

I. Remember, O Lord - v. 1
Remember and Act - 3:55-58

II. Our Sufferings (Disgrace - 5:1a) - vv. 2-18
Inheritance - Israel is God's Inheritance - Ex. 34:9; Dt. 4:20 (v21 - land is Israel's Inheritance);
Orphaned - No Political (King), Biological or Spiritual Fathers, Hos. 11:1-4
Mother - Jerusalem

Gibeonites

Centrality of Rest

Looking for Love in All the Wrong Places - Egypt and Assyria
(1:2, 19; 4:17-20)

Sons Have Kept Sinning Like the Fathers (Dan. 9:16; Lam. 5:16)

When Servants Rule - Prov. 30:21,22

v. 12 - Honor and Beauty Gone

The Gate and Normal Human Activity

III. Restore Us to Yourself - vv. 19-22 (Jer. 31:18)
Faithful Confession of God's Sovereignty (and Justice) Comforts
Lam. 3:31,32
Jer. 6:19,30

Lamentations 5:1–22 (ESV)

¹Remember, O LORD, what has befallen us; look, and see our disgrace!

²Our inheritance has been turned over to strangers, our homes to foreigners.

³We have become orphans, fatherless; our mothers are like widows.

⁴We must pay for the water we drink; the wood we get must be bought.

⁵Our pursuers are at our necks; we are weary; we are given no rest.

⁶We have given the hand to Egypt, and to Assyria, to get bread enough.

⁷Our fathers sinned, and are no more; and we bear their iniquities.

⁸Slaves rule over us; there is none to deliver us from their hand.

⁹We get our bread at the peril of our lives, because of the sword in the wilderness.

¹⁰Our skin is hot as an oven with the burning heat of famine.

¹¹Women are raped in Zion, young women in the towns of Judah.

¹²Princes are hung up by their hands; no respect is shown to the elders.

¹³Young men are compelled to grind at the mill, and boys stagger under loads of wood.

¹⁴The old men have left the city gate, the young men their music.

¹⁵The joy of our hearts has ceased; our dancing has been turned to mourning.

¹⁶The crown has fallen from our head; woe to us, for we have sinned!

¹⁷For this our heart has become sick, for these things our eyes have grown dim,

¹⁸for Mount Zion which lies desolate; jackals prowl over it.

¹⁹But you, O LORD, reign forever; your throne endures to all generations.

²⁰Why do you forget us forever, why do you forsake us for so many days?

²¹Restore us to yourself, O LORD, that we may be restored! Renew our days as of old—

²²But [Even though] you have utterly rejected us, and you remain exceedingly angry with us.

Lam. 1:6 And from the daughter of **Zion** All her splendor has departed
The Fading Beauty of the Poetry of the Book of Lamentations (Dr. Kai Soltau, Robert Jones)

- A. Acrostic - Knox Translation, Holman Bible - Fades Away in Chapter 5
- B. Chiasm - Fades Away in Chapters 4 and 5
- C. Concatenation (Chains) - Fades Away in Chapter 3
- D.. 3-2 Chapters - Fading Away
- E. Verses - 66-66-66-44-22 (Judgment and Beauty)

Chapter 1 to Chapter 2 to Chapter 3 to Chapter 4 to Chapter 5 - The Big Picture (Comfort)

- 1:1 How lonely sits the city
- 2:1 How the Lord has covered the daughter of Zion With a cloud in His anger!
- 3.1 I am the man
- 4:1 How the gold has darkened
- 5:1 Remember o Lord

Chapter 5's Arc - Prayer - Woes - Prayer

The Book's Arc - From Isolation (1:1 and 5:18) to "Restore Us to Yourself"

Literary Structures of the Old Testament by David Dorsey

The Book of Lamentations

a she—Zion—is desolate and devastated (1:1—11)

- terrible reversal of Judah's fortunes
- prosperous days of old (y qedem) are over
- gates are desolate
- fate of princes
- desperation to acquire bread
- pursuers allow no rest; reason: she has sinned

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g CLIMAX: Yahweh's great love! (3:21—32)

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a' we—the people of Zion—are desolate and devastated (5:1—22)

- mitigating note poet's prayer "Restore us, so that we may return"
- terrible reversal of Judah's fortunes
- prosperous days of old (yene qedem) are over
- gates are desolate
- fate of princes
- desperation to acquire bread
- pursuers allow no rest; reason: we have sinned