

Biblical Review - Lamentations 07/02/2023

Biblical Series Review:

- a. Layers of Events
- b. Constant turning and rebellion
- c. Israel was set apart to point all people to God.
- d. God demonstrates his qualities of being Just and Merciful.

Lamentations: Author, action, perspective.

Author=Jeremiah (Older, but still a contemporary of Daniel, and Ezekiel)

Action=_____

Author's Perspective=Looking _____

Five Chapter Structure:

Alphabetic Acrostic, Chapters 1,2, 4 (22 verses each) Chapter 3 (66 verses)

Chapter 5 (22 verses but not acrostic)

Elaborate and organized structure of writing in contrast to the raw and passionate grief the words convey. (For memorization, to express the thoroughness of the emotions (A to Z), or for contract).

Poetic language uses 'limping meter' to convey the _____ of these funeral dirges.

Five Chapter Content:

Chapter	1	2 3 4	5
Focus	Destruction of Jerusalem	Anger of Jehovah Prayer for Mercy Siege of Jerusalem	Prayer for Restoration
Topic	The Grief	The Cause The Hope The Repentance	The Prayer

Three Main Embedded Themes:

1. Mourning the city laid waste because God's _____ has come. (Very brutal, very descriptive; Similar to a war documentary-hard to 'watch'). 1:1
2. Confession of Sin and recognition that God has the right to his righteous and holy judgment. (No excuses to and no 'first shaking' at God). 5:16

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3. Hope in God's future restoration of His people and His Mercy to fulfill His promises. 5:21

Audience: The Jewish People

Jewish Holiday of Tisha B'Av (Tish ah be av)

Reading from book of Eicha (eye a haah) = 'How' or 'Whoa'

It is a holiday where Jews remember the destruction of the 1st and 2nd temple and other historical collective tragedies the Jews have experienced.

Alternative perspectives on what the poems teach are good for us to ask, '*What is the lesson God wants us to take from the book and these events?*'

Some modern Jewish thoughts seem to point to 'one' main reason. For example, that the land hadn't been allowed to rest (2 Chron 36:21) OR that the cause was how badly they were treating one another. Jeremiah 7:5-11

Lamentations 1:5c says, 'For the Lord has caused her grief Because of the multitude of her transgressions...'

Applications:

1. 1st and 2nd Greatest Commandments (Mark 12:30-31)

a. Man's Person to Person Emphasis

- i. If I'm not hurting anyone, it's okay
- ii. 'Consenting individuals'
- iii. Leave ____ out of the equation

b. God's Man to God Emphasis

- i. God wants the best for people
- ii. God wants a relationship with people.

iii. God wants his people to be _____ to those far away from God.

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2. Heart of a Faithful Servant

Character of Jeremiah:

- a. During 40 years of prophesying, he _____ a heart like God (One with a desire for **justice** and **righteousness**) and he developed a heart for the lost. When judgment came, he did not react angrily toward God or the people.
- b. Jeremiah had learned that God's inherent nature is to be righteous, at the same time God **patiently desires** that 'all would come to repentance.' (2 Peter 3:9) Spent time in the Word of God, spent time in prayer seeking and listening to God. Took the time to _____.

How can we develop a heart like God's?

We have more access to even more of God's Word than Jeremiah did.

We have a more complete understanding of the foreshadowing of the temple sacrifices since we live on this side of Jesus' sacrifice on the cross.

We have a community of believers (He seems pretty alone), and

We have the Holy Spirit to direct and pray for us.

Like Jeremiah, ask God to help us to remember (Lamentations 3:21-25).

Our personal stories are worth telling. They are the stories where we are the antagonist and the captive, where Jesus is servant and the hero. They are our _____ stories.

Many people do not want to or can't see the destructive path they are on. What can I do? _____.

Notes:

Answer Key (in order): Mourning, back, melancholy, judgement, God, a light, developed, obey, redemption, Pray for them and share our redemption stories

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