

#49 - Remember, O Lord (Lamentations 4-5)

• As we read Lamentations 4

- What has happened to Jerusalem?
- Who is responsible?
- What is the hope, if any?

I. Then and Now (4:1-11)

- How does the poet contrast past and present in Jerusalem?

Past  Present

- Why has this happened?
 - The _____ of the people is worse than the ____ of Sodom. (6)
 - God has accomplished His _____ upon Zion. (11)

II. Punishment of Iniquity (4:12-22)

- Even the _____ of the earth didn't believe Jerusalem could fall. (12)
- Who's responsible? The _____ & _____. How are they described?
- People were left helpless—other _____ and even God's _____ king could not protect them from the pursuing enemy. (17-20)
- Edom—chief rival of Israel—sees and rejoices, but Zion's exile will come to an _____, while Edom will be _____ and punished. (21-22)

- **As we read Lamentations 5**

- Can you feel the pain of the people?
- How should we interpret this final poem in light of the other four?

III. Look and See (5:1-18)

- The people call on God: _____! Look and see! (1)
- They have become outcasts, orphans, widows, slaves, and fugitives in their own land—bearing the burden of _____. (2-10)
- Everyone is suffering; all _____ and pride has been shattered. (11-16)
- They confess: We've _____! As a result, life is wasting away. (16-18)

IV. Why Do You Forget Us (5:19-22)

- A final plea:
 - Jehovah, you _____ forever. (19)
 - Why do you _____ and _____ us forever? (20)
 - _____ us to You! (21)
 - Unless you have _____ us completely. (22)