

September 3, 2023



FLORENCE BOULEVARD CHURCH OF CHRIST

Lessons from Lamentations

Do you have a favorite sad song? Whether I'm feeling down or completely fine, I love jamming to a good sad song. There is something about them that comforts me. The Book of Lamentations is the ultimate sad song. Jeremiah pours his heart out as he reflects on the destruction of Judah. Jeremiah prophesied to Judah about the consequences of their sinful actions. The people did not listen, and God's judgment came down on Judah. Jeremiah is left to mourn the state of his beloved nation. Even in this book full of sadness, I find comfort in the words it provides. Through Jeremiah's sorrow, we can learn how to see God in tough times.

The first thing I see from Lamentations is Jeremiah's care for God's people. Jeremiah saw what had happened to Jerusalem and God's people, and it affected him greatly. Do we have the same love for God's people today? When a brother or sister is in pain, are we in pain? Romans 12:15 tells us to "weep with those who weep." What about our brethren who have fallen away? Do we long for them to return? One of the greatest blessings God has given us is a church family who cares for us.

One of the things that amazes me about Jeremiah is his ability to praise God even in the midst of heartache. In Chapter 3, Jeremiah says "The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end, they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. The Lord is my portion says my soul. Therefore I will hope in him." Jeremiah's hope was always in the Lord. We all go through tough times in this life. When these times come, we can turn away from God, or we can run towards Him. Jeremiah chose to trust in the mercy of God.

The book of Lamentations ends with a plea to God. Jeremiah asks God to remember and restore them. While the book does give an answer to this plea, we know that Judah returned from exile. The Lord did not forget his people. God will not forget us. We should not forget him either. When we are in the midst of pain or sorrow, God hears us. We need to go to him as Jeremiah did. The Bible is full of other examples of people going through various hardships. The consistent theme throughout them all is that God does not abandon his people if they remain faithful to him.

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Worship: Sunday 9:00 am & 5:00 pm; Bible Class 10:15 am; Wednesday: 6:30 pm

