

unfoldingWord® Translation Questions

v92

Lamentations

unfoldingWord® Translation Questions

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Lamentations

Lamentations 1

Lamentations 1:1

ULT	UST
How she sits alone, the city that was great with people! She has become like a widow who was great among the nations. The princess among the provinces has become a forced laborer. BETH	*Jerusalem, the city that was once so full of people, is now empty and deserted. It was once the greatest city among all the nations, but now it is like a widow—alone and without protection. It was once honored among the provinces like a princess, but now her people are forced to do slave labor. BETH*

What has the city become like even though she was once great among the nations?

The city has become like a widow, alone and without protection.

Lamentations 1:3

ULT	UST
Judah has gone into exile from affliction and from the greatness of forced labor. She herself has settled among the nations; she has not found a resting place. All her pursuers have overtaken her between the narrow passes. DALETH	*Enemies drove the people of Judah out to other countries, and made them suffer greatly as slaves. They live among foreign nations, where they find no peace or rest. Their enemies caught up with them; they were trapped and could not escape. DALETH*

What can Judah not find even though she lives among the nations?

Judah can find no rest even though she lives among the nations.

Lamentations 1:5

ULT	UST
Her adversaries have become the head; her enemies are prospering, for Yahweh has afflicted her over the greatness of her transgressions. Her children have gone away as captives before the adversary. WAW	*Jerusalem's enemies have become rulers over it; its adversaries are doing well. Yahweh has caused it to suffer greatly, because of all the ways its people sinned against him. Its children have been taken captive and marched away before the enemy. WAW*

Why has Yahweh afflicted Jerusalem?

Yahweh has afflicted Jerusalem because of her many transgressions.

Lamentations 1:6

ULT	UST
And from the daughter of Zion all her majesty has departed. Her princes have become like deer that have found no pasture. And they have walked without strength before the pursuer. ZAYIN	*All the glory and beauty that Zion once had has left it completely. Its leaders are like deer that are starving because they cannot find any grass to eat. They stumble along weakly with the enemy chasing them. ZAYIN*

What has left the daughter of Zion?

All of her majesty and beauty have left the daughter of Zion.

Lamentations 1:7

ULT	UST
Jerusalem remembered in the days of her affliction and of her wanderings, all her precious things that were from the days of old. When her people fell into the hand of the adversary and there was no helper for her, the adversaries saw her; they laughed over her collapse. HETH	*Now as Jerusalem suffers in exile and misery, its people remember all the good things that they had in former times. When the enemy conquered the people, no one came to help them. Some enemies watched and laughed contemptuously as others destroyed the city. HETH*

What did Jerusalem remember in the days of her affliction?

Jerusalem remembered all of her precious things that she had in former times.

Lamentations 1:8

ULT	UST
Jerusalem has grievously sinned; therefore she has become an abhorrence. All who honored her have despised her, because they have seen her nakedness. And she herself has groaned and turned backward. TETH	*Jerusalem's people sinned so greatly that the city became something everyone treated as filthy and defiling. All those who had honored it now despise it, because they have seen how shamefully disgraced it has become. Now its people moan and humbly hide. TETH*

Because Jerusalem sinned greatly, what is the result?

Jerusalem is now regarded as something abhorrent and defiled.

Lamentations 1:10

ULT	UST
The adversary has spread out his hand over all her precious things, for she has seen nations entering her sanctuary— those whom you commanded should not enter your assembly. KAPH	*The enemy took possession of all its precious treasures. Its people watched as foreign nations entered the temple— the nations that you, Yahweh, had commanded to stay out of your holy place. KAPH*

Who has Jerusalem seen enter her sanctuary even though Yahweh commanded that they must not enter?

Jerusalem has seen the nations enter her sanctuary.

Lamentations 1:11

ULT	UST
All her people are groaning, seeking bread. They have given their precious things for food to restore life. "See, Yahweh, and look, for I have become despised." LAMEDH	*All the people groan and search for food. They have traded their precious things just to get something to eat so that they can stay alive. They cried out, "Yahweh, look at us! See how people treat us contemptuously!" LAMEDH*

What do the people do as they search for bread?

The people groan as they search for bread.

Lamentations 1:13

ULT	UST
From on high he sent fire into my bones, and it ruled over them. He spread a net for my feet; he turned me back. He made me desolate, faint all the day. NUN	*He sent fire down from above that burned deep inside us. He set a trap that caught our feet and forced us to turn back. He left us devastated and abandoned, exhausted and miserable all day long. NUN*

What has Yahweh spread for the feet of Jerusalem?

Yahweh has spread a net for the feet of Jerusalem.

Lamentations 1:14

ULT	UST
The yoke of my transgressions was bound fast, they are intertwined by his hand; they have come up onto my neck. He has caused my strength to stumble; the Lord has given me into the hands of those I am not able to rise against. SAMEKH	*God tied our sins around our necks like a heavy yoke; they are twisted tightly together so that we cannot remove them. They are piled onto our necks and weigh us down, so that we have no strength left. The Lord handed us over to enemies we have no power to defeat. SAMEKH*

What is the result of the God placing the yoke of Jerusalem's transgressions on her neck?

The result is that Jerusalem's strength has stumbled and they are given into the hands of their enemies.

Lamentations 1:15

ULT	UST
The Lord has rejected all the mighty men in my midst. He has called an appointed time against me to crush my young men. The Lord has trodden the winepress for the virgin daughter of Judah. AYIN	*The Lord has despised and rejected all our warriors. He called our enemies together at the right time to destroy our young men. The Lord has crushed the people of Judah like someone treading on grapes in a winepress. AYIN*

What has the Lord done to the virgin daughter of Judah?

The Lord has crushed the people of Judah like someone treading on grapes in a winepress.

Lamentations 1:16

ULT	UST
Over these things I, I am weeping; my eye, my eye is running down with water, for a comforter who restores my life is far from me. My sons are desolate because the enemy has prevailed." PE	*These are the things we weep over, weeping without stopping; our eyes overflow with tears. There is no one near us to comfort us or to restore our strength. Our children have been left with nothing, because the enemy has overcome us." PE*

Why have Jerusalem's children become desolate?

Jerusalem's children have become desolate because the enemy has prevailed.

Lamentations 1:18

ULT	UST
“Yahweh is righteous, for I have rebelled against his mouth. Hear, please, all peoples, and see my pain. My young women and my young men have gone into captivity. QOPH	*Jerusalem’s people said, “Yahweh is righteous, because we disobeyed his commands. Listen, all you peoples of the world, and see what great pain we are in. Our young women and young men have been taken away as captives. QOPH*

Who has gone into captivity because Jerusalem rebelled against Yahweh’s commands?

Jerusalem’s young women and young men have gone into captivity.

Lamentations 1:19

ULT	UST
I called to those who love me; they, they deceived me. My priests and my elders expired in the city, when they were seeking food for themselves to restore their life. RESH	*We called to our allies for help, but they completely betrayed us. Our priests and our elders died in the city, while they were desperately searching for food just to stay alive. RESH*

Who died in the city while they sought food to restore their lives?

Jerusalem’s priests and elders died in the city.

Lamentations 1:20

ULT	UST
See, Yahweh, for I am in distress; my inward parts are churning; my heart has been overturned within me, for I have bitterly rebelled. Outside the sword bereaves; inside it is like death. SIN	*Yahweh, look at how much we are suffering! Our stomachs churn with anguish; our hearts are completely devastated within us, because we have deeply and truly rebelled against you. In the streets, the sword kills people; inside the city, people are dying like a plague. SIN*

What is the result of Jerusalem’s rebellion?

Jerusalem is in anguish and their hearts are completely devastated.

Lamentations 1:21

ULT	UST
They have heard that I am groaning; there is no comforter for me. All my enemies have heard of my calamity; they have rejoiced, because you have done it. You have brought the day you proclaimed, and let them be like me. TAW	*People have heard us groaning in misery, but no one has come to comfort us. All our enemies have heard about the disaster that came upon us; they are glad about it, because you are the one who brought it. Bring the day of punishment that you promised, when they will suffer as we have suffered! TAW*

What do the enemies of Jerusalem do when they hear of her calamity?

The enemies of Jerusalem rejoice.

Lamentations 1:22

ULT	UST
Let all their evil come before you, and deal with them as you have dealt with me over all my transgressions, for my groaning is many and my heart is faint."	*Let all the evil things they have done come to your attention, and punish them for what they have done. Treat them the way you treated us for all the ways we sinned against you. We are constantly sighing and groaning, and we grieve greatly."*

What does Jerusalem request that Yahweh do to her enemies?

Jerusalem asks that Yahweh would deal with her enemies just as Yahweh has dealt with her for all her transgressions.

Lamentations 2

Lamentations 2:1-2

How does the Lord express his anger because of Jeremiah's rebellion?

He has taken away the splendor of Israel and has humbled and brought down the cities of Judah.

Lamentations 2:3-4

How does his anger affect Israel and Zion?

The Lord removed all of Israel's power, refused to protect them from their enemies, and he allowed them to be destroyed.

Lamentations 2:5-6

How is the Lord's anger shown?

The Lord has become like an enemy; he destroyed the palaces and the temple and has rejected both the king and priest.

Lamentations 2:7

ULT	UST
The Lord has rejected his altar; he has abhorred his sanctuary. He has delivered up into the hand of the enemy the walls of her palaces. They raised a shout in the house of Yahweh as on the day of an appointed festival. HETH	*The Lord turned away from his own altar; he abandoned his own holy place. He let the enemies have power over the walls of Jerusalem's palaces. Those enemies shouted triumphantly inside Yahweh's temple, as if they were celebrating one of the sacred festivals. HETH*

Why does the enemy shout triumphantly?

They shout triumphantly because the Lord abandoned his own holy place and has given the walls of the palace over to them.

Lamentations 2:9

ULT	UST
Her gates have sunk into the ground; he has destroyed and shattered her bars. Her king and her princes are among the nations; there is no law. Also, her prophets do not find a vision from Yahweh. YODH	*Jerusalem's gates have sunk into the ground; Yahweh smashed the bars that held them shut. The enemy has taken the king and the officials away to foreign nations; no one teaches them God's instruction anymore. The prophets also no longer receive any messages from Yahweh. YODH*

What has happened to the gates and bars of Zion?

Her gates have come down, and Yahweh has destroyed and smashed the bars that held them shut.

Lamentations 2:10

ULT	UST
They sit on the ground; the elders of the daughter of Zion are silent. They have thrown up dust on their heads; they have put on sackcloth. The virgins of Jerusalem have bowed their heads to the ground. KAPH	*The old men of Jerusalem sit on the ground and say nothing. They have thrown dust on their heads and put on rough sackcloth to show how deeply they grieve. The young women of Jerusalem bow their faces all the way down to the ground. KAPH*

How do the elders and virgins show they are grieving?

The elders sit on the ground, sprinkle their heads with dust while dressed in sackcloth. The virgins bow their heads down to the ground.

Lamentations 2:11-12

Why is the writer weeping?

He weeps over the death and destruction of his people and because there is nothing for them to eat or drink.

Lamentations 2:15-16

What do the mockers do as they pass by the city?

They rejoice over the destruction by clapping their hands, hissing and shaking their heads with contempt, and grinding their teeth with hatred.

Lamentations 2:18-19

What does the writer encourage the people of Jerusalem to do?

He says they should cry out to the Lord and lift their hands to him continuously for the sake of their children.

Lamentations 2:20

ULT	UST
See, O Yahweh, and look! To whom have you dealt thus? Should women eat their fruit, children of their nursing? Should priest and prophet be slain in the sanctuary of the Lord? SIN	*Yahweh, look at what you have done and pay attention! Think about whom you have treated this way! Women should never have to eat their own children, the babies they lovingly cared for! No one should kill priests and prophets inside your own holy place! SIN*

Why are the people begging for Yahweh's mercy?

They are begging for God's mercy because they are extremely hungry and because their priests and prophets are being slaughtered.

Lamentations 2:21-22

How does the writer describe the day of Yahweh's wrath?

On the day of Yahweh's wrath, the enemy killed young and old, no one survived, and they showed no mercy.

Lamentations 3

Lamentations 3:3

ULT	UST
Surely against me he turns; he turns his hand all the day. BETH	*He keeps acting against me again and again, all day long. BETH*

What does the writer say that Yahweh has turned against him all the day?

Yahweh has turned his hand against the writer all day long.

Lamentations 3:7

ULT	UST
He walled me in, and I cannot go out; he made my chains heavy.	*He has completely trapped me so that I cannot escape.*

What does the writer say that Yahweh has built around him so that he cannot escape?

Yahweh has built a wall around him and trapped him.

Lamentations 3:10

ULT	UST
He is a bear lying in ambush to me, a lion in hiding places.	*He waited to attack me like a bear hiding to ambush its prey, like a lion crouching in a hidden place.*

To what animal does the writer compare Yahweh and say that it is waiting to ambush him?

The writer describes Yahweh as a bear that is waiting to ambush him.

Lamentations 3:14

ULT	UST
I became a laughingstock to all my people, their mocking song all the day.	*All my own people mock me constantly with their songs.*

What has the writer become to all his people?

The writer has become a laughingstock to all his people.

Lamentations 3:17

ULT	UST
And my soul was deprived of peace; I have forgotten good.	*God took away all my peace; I no longer remember what happiness feels like.*

What can the writer no longer remember since Yahweh has removed peace from his life?

The writer can no longer remember any happiness.

Lamentations 3:19-20

What is the writer's mood as he calls to mind his affliction?

The writer's mood is one of deep depression within himself as he calls to mind his affliction.

Lamentations 3:23

ULT	UST
They are new in the mornings; great is your faithfulness.	*Every morning he shows us mercy again; he is always faithful to us.*

What does the writer say occurs anew every morning?

The writer says that Yahweh's merciful actions occur again every morning.

Lamentations 3:25-26

What is Yahweh like toward the one who waits for him and to those who wait in silence for the salvation of Yahweh?

Yahweh is good to those who wait for him and wait quietly for Yahweh's salvation.

Lamentations 3:32

ULT	UST
For though he causes grief, he will have compassion according to the abundance of his covenant faithfulness.	*Even though he causes people to grieve, he will show them mercy because he always faithfully loves them.*

What does Yahweh show, even though he brings grief?

Yahweh shows compassion even though he brings grief.

Lamentations 3:33

ULT	UST
For he does not afflict from his heart, or grieve the sons of man. LAMEDH	*He does not enjoy causing people to suffer or making them grieve. LAMEDH*

From where does Yahweh not oppress or torment the sons of men?

Yahweh does not oppress from his heart or enjoy causing grief for the sons of men.

Lamentations 3:38

ULT	UST
From the mouth of the Most High do not the evil things and the good go forth?	*The Most High God is the one who decides both the bad things and the good things that happen.*

Who is the one who decides what happens—both the bad things and the good things?

The Most High God is the one who decides what will happen.

Lamentations 3:40-41

What should the people do as they search their hearts and examine their ways and turn back to Yahweh?

The people should lift up their hearts and their hands in prayer to God in the heavens.

Lamentations 3:42

ULT	UST
We, we have transgressed and rebelled; you have not forgiven. SAMEKH	*“We have sinned and rebelled against you, and you have not forgiven us. SAMEKH*

What should the people admit that they have done against Yahweh as they pray?

They should admit that they have sinned and rebelled against Yahweh.

Lamentations 3:45

ULT	UST
Offscouring and refuse you make us in the midst of the peoples. AYIN	*You have made the other nations treat us as though we are nothing but garbage and filth. AYIN*

What does the writer say that Yahweh has made them to be among the peoples?

Yahweh has made them to be garbage and refuse among the peoples.

Lamentations 3:48-49

How does the writer describe the tears that flow from his eyes?

His tears are streams of water that flow out from his eyes.

Lamentations 3:52-54

What does the writer say as his enemies hunt him and silence his life in a pit and cast a stone against him?

He says that he has been cut off and will die.

Lamentations 3:55-57

What did Yahweh tell the writer when he called on Yahweh's name and asked Yahweh to hear his cry for help?

Yahweh told him not to fear.

Lamentations 3:59

ULT	UST
You have seen, Yahweh, my wrong; judge my case.	*Yahweh, you have seen how my enemies have wronged me; make things right for me!*

What does the writer ask Yahweh to do after seeing his wrong?

He asks Yahweh to judge his case.

Lamentations 3:63

ULT	UST
Look at their sitting and their rising; I am their mocking song. TAW	*Look at them! No matter what they are doing, they make fun of me in their songs. TAW*

What does the writer say he is to his enemies, whether they sit or rise?

He is the object of their mocking song.

Lamentations 3:64

ULT	UST
You will return to them recompense, Yahweh, according to the work of their hands.	*Yahweh, pay them back for what they have done!*

What does the writer ask Yahweh to do to his enemies?

He asks Yahweh to pay back to them as much harm as they have done.

Lamentations 3:66

ULT	UST
You will pursue in nose and destroy them from under the heavens of Yahweh.	*Because you are angry with them, chase them and destroy them so they no longer exist anywhere on earth.*

What does the writer ask Yahweh to do to his enemies?

He asks Yahweh to pursue his enemies in his anger and destroy them everywhere under the heavens.

Lamentations 4

Lamentations 4:1

ULT	UST
How the gold is tarnished; people have changed the good fine gold. The stones of holiness are poured out at the head of every street. BETH	*How terrible that the people of Jerusalem, who used to be so valuable, have now become completely worthless! The enemy has thrown out the precious young men at every street corner. BETH*

To what does the writer compare the people of Jerusalem?

The writer compares the people of Jerusalem to gold that has become tarnished and to holy stones that have been scattered at the corner of every street.

Lamentations 4:2

ULT	UST
The precious sons of Zion, weighed against fine gold, how they are regarded as jars of clay, the work of the hands of a potter! GIMEL	*People once considered the young men of Zion to be extremely valuable, but now everyone treats them as completely worthless, like ordinary clay pots that a potter makes. GIMEL*

What were the sons of Zion, and how are they now valued?

The sons of Zion were precious, weighed against fine gold, but now they are regarded as clay jars, the work of a potter’s hands.

Lamentations 4:3

ULT	UST
Even jackals offer the breast; they nurse their young. But the daughter of my people has become cruel, like ostriches in the wilderness. DALETH	*Even jackals nurse their young, but the women among my people have neglected their own children and have stopped caring for them. DALETH*

What does the writer compare the daughter of his people to?

He compares her to the ostriches in the wilderness, who are fierce and do not care for their young.

Lamentations 4:4

ULT	UST
The tongue of the nursing infant sticks to the roof of his mouth with thirst. Children ask for bread; there is no one breaking it for them. HE	*The babies are so thirsty that their tongues stick to the roofs of their mouths. The children beg for food, but no one gives them any. HE*

What happens to the tongue of the nursing baby, and what are the children asking for?

The tongue of the nursing baby sticks to the roof of his mouth with thirst, and the children ask for food, but there is nothing for them.

Lamentations 4:5

ULT	UST
The ones eating delicacies are desolate in the streets. The ones reared on scarlet embrace garbage heaps. WAW	*People who used to eat the finest food now starve in the streets. People whose parents raised them wearing expensive clothes now search through garbage heaps for something to eat. WAW*

What has happened to the ones who used to eat the finest food and used to wear scarlet clothing?

The ones who used to eat the finest food are now starving in the streets, and the ones who used to wear scarlet clothing now search through piles of garbage looking for something to eat.

Lamentations 4:6

ULT	UST
And the iniquity of the daughter of my people is greater than the sin of Sodom, which was overthrown as in a moment, and hands did not tremble for her. ZAYIN	*God has punished my people more severely than he punished the people of Sodom. He destroyed Sodom in an instant, and nobody cried for it. ZAYIN*

How great is the guilt of the daughter of his people?

The guilt of the daughter of his people is greater than the sin of Sodom.

Lamentations 4:7-8

What were her Nazarites like before, and how are they now?

Her Nazarites were purer than snow, healthy, attractive, and vigorous. Now darkness has darkened their form, they are unrecognizable in the streets, and their skin has shriveled on their bones and become as dry as wood.

Lamentations 4:9

ULT	UST
Better were the slain of the sword than the slain of hunger, for they waste away, pierced for lack of the fruits of the field. YODH	*Those who died quickly in battle were better off than those who died slowly from starvation, because the starving people wasted away gradually since no food grew in the fields. YODH*

What does the writer say about those killed by hunger compared to those killed by the sword?

The writer says that those killed by the sword were better off than those who slowly wasted away from hunger.

Lamentations 4:10

ULT	UST
The hands of compassionate women boiled their children; they became food for them in the breaking of the daughter of my people. KAPH	*Women who were normally very compassionate cooked their own children. They ate them as food when the enemy destroyed Jerusalem. KAPH*

What did the compassionate women do with their children?

They boiled their own children and the children became their food.

Lamentations 4:11

ULT	UST
Yahweh brought to completion his wrath; he poured out the burning of his nose. And he kindled a fire in Zion, and it consumed her foundations. LAMEDH	*Yahweh expressed all of his anger against Jerusalem. He burned the city with fire and destroyed it down to its very foundations. LAMEDH*

How did Yahweh bring his wrath to completion?

Yahweh brought his wrath to completion by pouring out his fierce anger and kindling a fire in Zion that consumed her foundations.

Lamentations 4:12

ULT	UST
The kings of the earth did not believe, nor any of the dwellers of the world, that an adversary and an enemy would enter into the gates of Jerusalem. MEM	*No king anywhere on the earth, and no one else in the whole world, believed that an enemy could ever enter the city of Jerusalem. MEM*

What did the kings and the inhabitants of the world not believe could happen to Jerusalem?

They did not believe that an adversary and an enemy could enter the gates of Jerusalem.

Lamentations 4:13

ULT	UST
Because of the sins of her prophets, the iniquities of her priests, the ones pouring out the blood of the righteous in her midst. NUN	*But it happened because Jerusalem's prophets sinned and her priests did evil things. They killed innocent people right there in the city. NUN*

What did the prophets and priests do in the city?

The prophets sinned greatly and the priests did evil things, and they poured out the blood of the innocent people right in the city.

Lamentations 4:14

ULT	UST
They wandered blind in the streets; they were defiled with blood, so that none were able to touch their garments. SAMEKH	*Those prophets and priests wandered through the streets, confused and unable to find their way. The blood of the people they had killed made them so unclean that no one would touch even their clothes. SAMEKH*

What happened to those prophets and priests?

They stumbled about blind in the streets, defiled with blood, so that no one was able to touch their clothes.

Lamentations 4:15

ULT	UST
“Turn aside! Unclean!” they called to them. “Turn aside! Turn aside! Do not touch!” For they fled, and they also wandered. They said among the nations, “They shall not continue to sojourn.” AYIN	*People shouted at them, “Go away! You are unclean! Do not touch us!” So those priests and prophets fled and wandered from place to place, but even the people in other nations said, “They cannot stay here.” AYIN*

What did people shout at the defiled prophets and priests?

People shouted at them to go away, calling them unclean and telling others not to touch them.

Where did the prophets and the priests go?

They fled and wandered among the nations, but the nations said they could not stay.

Lamentations 4:16

ULT	UST
The face of Yahweh divided them; he will not continue to look at them. The face of the priests they did not lift up, and the elders they did not show grace. PE	*Yahweh himself scattered them and no longer watches over them. People in those nations do not respect our priests and do not show any kindness to our elders. PE*

What did Yahweh do to the scattered prophets and priests?

Yahweh scattered them and will no longer watch over them.

How are the priests received and how are the elders received?

The priests are not respected anymore and the elders are not shown any concern.

Lamentations 4:17

ULT	UST
Our eyes still ended looking for our help—a vapor. In our watching, we watched for a nation that does not save. TSADHE	*We kept watching and waiting for a nation to come and help us, but no help ever came. The nation we hoped would rescue us could not save us. TSADHE*

What happened when the people watched and waited for help from the nations?

They watched in vain, and the nation they hoped would rescue them was not able to save them.

Lamentations 4:18

ULT	UST
They hunted our steps from walking in our open places. Our end drew near; our days are full, for our end had come. QOPH	*Our enemies tracked us so closely that we could not even walk through our own city squares. The time for our destruction was near, and our final days had come. QOPH*

What did the enemy do to the people?

The enemy tracked their every step so that they could not walk freely through their own streets.

What did the people say about their end?

They said their end was near and the time for their destruction had come.

Lamentations 4:19

ULT	UST
Our pursuers were swifter than the eagles of the heavens. On the mountains they chased us; in the wilderness they lay in wait for us. RESH	*Those who chased us were extremely fast. They pursued us over the mountains and ambushed us in the desert. RESH*

How does the writer describe the pursuers, and what did they do?

The writer describes the pursuers as swifter than the eagles of heaven; the pursuers set upon them on the mountains and lay in wait for them in the wilderness.

Lamentations 4:20

ULT	UST
The breath of our nostrils, the anointed of Yahweh, was captured in their pits, of whom we said, “In his shadow we will live among the nations.” SIN	*Our enemies captured the king whom Yahweh had chosen to lead us, the one who kept us alive. We had said about him, “He will protect us even if we have to live among other nations.” SIN*

What happened to Yahweh’s anointed, our king?

Yahweh’s anointed was captured in the enemy’s pits.

Lamentations 4:21

ULT	UST
Rejoice and be glad, daughter of Edom, dweller in the land of Uz. Also to you the cup will pass; you will become drunk and will make yourself naked. TAW	*The people of Edom who live in the land of Uz may be happy now about what has happened to Jerusalem, but Yahweh will punish them too. He will cause them to suffer greatly and be completely humiliated. TAW*

Why is the daughter of Edom told to rejoice and be glad?

She is told to rejoice and be glad, but the cup of judgment will also pass to her, and Yahweh will punish and humiliate her, too.

Lamentations 4:22

ULT	UST
Your iniquity is complete, daughter of Zion; he will not continue to exile you. He will visit your iniquity, daughter of Edom; he will uncover your sins.	*Yahweh will finish punishing the people of Jerusalem, and he will not keep them in exile any longer. However, he will punish the people of Edom and expose all the evil things they have done.*

What is the daughter of Zion told?

She is told her guilt is ended and Yahweh will no longer keep her in exile.

What is the daughter of Edom told?

The daughter of Edom is told Yahweh will punish her guilt and will uncover her sins.

Lamentations 5

Lamentations 5:1

ULT	UST
Remember, Yahweh, what has happened to us; look and see our reproach.	*Yahweh, think about what has happened to us. Pay attention and see how people have disgraced us.*

What does the writer ask Yahweh to do?

The writer asks Yahweh to remember what has happened to them and to see their disgrace.

Lamentations 5:2

ULT	UST
Our inheritance has been turned over to strangers, our houses to foreigners.	*Our enemies have taken our property and given it to people we do not know; they have seized our homes and given them to people who are not Israelites.*

What does the writer tell Yahweh has happened to their inheritance?

The writer tells Yahweh that their inheritance has been turned over to strangers and their houses to foreigners.

Lamentations 5:5-6

How does the writer describe what is happening to them?

He says that their enemies run after them, that they are weary, and they have reached out to the Egyptians and Assyrians for food.

Lamentations 5:7

ULT	UST
Our fathers sinned; they are no more, and we, we bear their iniquities.	*Our ancestors sinned and then they died, but we are the ones suffering for what they did wrong.*

What are the people saying about their suffering?

They are saying that their fathers sinned and then died, and they are suffering for what their fathers did wrong.

Lamentations 5:8

ULT	UST
Servants rule over us; there is no one tearing us away from their hand.	*People who used to be slaves now rule over us, and no one can rescue us from their power.*

What are the people saying about the slaves?

The people are saying that slaves rule over them and there is no one to rescue them.

Lamentations 5:9

ULT	UST
At our lives we bring in our bread, from the face of the sword of the wilderness.	*We risk our lives when we go out to get food, because violent people in the wilderness will kill us.*

How do they describe themselves when they go out to get bread?

They risk their lives to get bread outside the city because violent people in the wilderness will try to kill them.

Lamentations 5:10

ULT	UST
Our skin grows hot like an oven, from the face of the burning heat of famine.	*Our skin burns with fever because we are starving so badly.*

How do they describe their skin?

Their skin grows hot as an oven from the fever of hunger.

Lamentations 5:11

ULT	UST
They violate women in Zion, virgins in the cities of Judah.	*Our enemies raped women in Zion and young women in the towns of Judah.*

What happened to the women and virgins in Zion and Judah?

Women are raped in Zion and virgins in the cities of Judah.

Lamentations 5:12

ULT	UST
Princes are hung by their hands; the faces of elders are not honored.	*Our enemies hung our leaders by their hands; they did not respect our elders.*

What happened to the princes and the elders?

Princes are hung by their hands and the elders are shown no honor.

Lamentations 5:13

ULT	UST
Young men carry a grinding stone, and boys stumble under wood.	*They forced our young men to grind flour with millstones, and boys staggered under heavy loads of firewood.*

What happened to the young men and boys?

The young men grind with millstones, and the boys stagger under heavy loads of wood.

Lamentations 5:14

ULT	UST
Elders have ceased from the gate, young men from their music.	*Our elders no longer gather to make decisions, and our young men no longer play music.*

What happened to the elders and the young men?

The elders ceased from the gate and the young men from their songs.

Lamentations 5:15-16

How do they describe the joy of their heart, their dances, and their honor?

Their joy has ceased, their dances have changed into mourning, and they have lost the honor they once had.

Lamentations 5:17

ULT	UST
On account of this, our heart has become sick; on account of these things, our eyes have grown dim.	*Because of all this, we feel sick inside; because of these things, we cannot stop crying.*

What do they say about their hearts and eyes?

Their hearts have become sick, and their eyes have grown dim because of their tears.

Lamentations 5:18

ULT	UST
On account of Mount Zion, which is desolate, foxes walk on it.	*We are sad because Mount Zion lies empty with no one living there; foxes roam through it.*

What does the writer say has happened to Mount Zion?

Mount Zion is desolate and foxes roam over it.

Lamentations 5:19

ULT	UST
You, Yahweh, sit forever; your throne is to generation and generation.	*But you, Yahweh, rule forever! You have authority over every generation.*

What do they say about Yahweh's reign and throne?

Yahweh reigns forever and his throne is from generation to generation.

Lamentations 5:20-21

What do they ask Yahweh?

They ask Yahweh whether he is forgetting them for so long, and if he will turn them back to himself.

Lamentations 5:22

ULT	UST
For have you rejecting, rejected us? Have you been angry against us beyond measure?	*Please do not completely reject us or stay extremely angry with us forever!*

What does the writer fear Yahweh may have done?

He fears Yahweh may have utterly rejected them and may be angry with them beyond measure.