



unfoldingWord® Literal Text

v90

Lamentations

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Lamentations

1 ALEPH

¹ 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

² She weeps bitterly in the night,
and her tears are on her
cheeks.
She has no comforter
from all those who love her.
All her companions have
betrayed her;
they have become enemies to
her.

GIMEL

³ 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

⁴ The roads of Zion are
mourning
because no one is coming to
the appointed feast.
All her gates are desolate;
her priests are groaning.
Her young women are grieving,
and it is bitter to her.

HE

⁵ 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

⁶ 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

⁷ 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

8 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

9 Her uncleanness is in her
skirts;
she did not remember her
end.
And she went down
astonishingly;
there is no comforter for her.
“See, Yahweh, my affliction,
for the enemy has magnified
himself.”

YODH

10 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

11 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

12 “Is it nothing to you,
all you who pass along the
way?
Look and see
if there is any pain like my
pain
that has been done to me,
which Yahweh has inflicted
on the day of his burning
anger.

MEM

13 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

14 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

15 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

16 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

17 Zion has spread out her
hands;

there is no comforter for her.

Yahweh has commanded against
Jacob

that his adversaries **should** be
around him.

Jerusalem has become

an abhorrence among them.

TSADHE

18 "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

19 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

20 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

21 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

²² 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.”

2 ALEPH

¹ How the Lord has covered with
a cloud the daughter of Zion in
his nose!
He has cast from heaven to
earth the splendor of Israel,
and he did not remember the
footstool of his feet on the day
of his nose.

BETH

² The Lord has swallowed up;
he did not spare all the
pastures of Jacob.
He has torn down in his wrath
the fortifications of the
daughter of Judah;
he has brought **them** to the
ground.
He has profaned the kingdom
and her princes.

GIMEL

³ He has cut off in the burning of
nose every horn of Israel.
He has turned back his right
hand from the face of the
enemy,
and he burned in Jacob like a
fire of flame consuming all
around.

DALETH

⁴ He has bent his bow like an
enemy;
his right hand is stationed like
an adversary,
and he has slain all the
delights of the eye.
In the tent of the daughter of
Zion,
he has poured out his anger
like fire.

HE

⁵ The Lord has become like an
enemy;
he has swallowed up Israel.
He has swallowed up all her
citadels;
he has destroyed his
fortifications,
and he has multiplied in the
daughter of Judah mourning
and groaning.

WAW

⁶ And he has done violence like
to his garden booth;
he has destroyed his
appointed place.
Yahweh has caused **people** in
Zion to forget appointed festival
and Sabbath,

and he has despised king and
priest in the indignation of his
nose.

ZAYIN

⁷ 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

⁸ Yahweh planned to destroy the
wall of the daughter of Zion.
He stretched out the measuring
line;
he did not turn back his hand
from swallowing up.
And he caused the rampart and
wall to mourn;
together they have
languished.

TETH

⁹ 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

¹⁰ 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

¹¹ My eyes have failed with
tears;
my inner parts churn.
My liver is poured out to the
ground
over the destruction of the
daughter of my people,
when child and infant faint in
the streets of the city.

LAMEDH

¹² To their mothers they say,
“Where is grain and wine?”
when they faint like the slain in
the streets of the city,
when their life is poured out
in the lap of their mothers.

MEM

¹³ What can I testify to you?
To what can I compare you, O
daughter of Jerusalem?
To what can I liken you,
that I may comfort you, O
virgin daughter of Zion?
For your brokenness is as great
as the sea;
who can heal you?

NUN

14 Your prophets have seen for you falsehood and worthlessness, and they did not expose your iniquity to restore your fortunes. But they have seen for you oracles of falsehood and enticement.

SAMEKH

15 All those passing along the road clap **their** hands at you. They hiss and shake their heads at the daughter of Jerusalem: "Is this the city that they called 'the perfection of beauty, the joy of all the earth'?"

AYIN

16 All your enemies have opened their mouths against you. They hiss and gnash **their** teeth; they say, "We have swallowed **her** up! Surely this is the day we waited for; we have found it, we have seen it!"

PE

17 Yahweh has done what he planned; he has fulfilled his word that he commanded from days of old. He has torn down and has not shown compassion, and he has made the enemy rejoice over you;

he has lifted up the horn of your adversaries.

TSADHE

18 Their heart cried out to the Lord. O wall of the daughter of Zion, let tears flow down like a river day and night! Do not give yourself relief; do not let the daughter of your eye rest.

QOPH

19 Arise, cry out in the night, at the beginning of the night watches! Pour out your heart like water before the face of the Lord. Lift up your hands to him for the life of your children, who are fainting with hunger at the head of every street.

RESH

20 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

21 Young and old lie down on the ground in the streets. My young women and my young men have fallen by the sword.

You have slain on the day of your
anger;
you have slaughtered;
you have not shown
compassion.

TAW

22 You have summoned, as on a
day of an appointed festival, my
terrors from all around,
and there was not on the day of
the anger of Yahweh an escapee
or a survivor.
Those whom I carried and
multiplied, my enemy has
consumed them.

3 ALEPH

1 I **am** the man seeing affliction
by the rod of his wrath.
2 He drove me and made **me**
walk
in darkness and not light.
3 Surely against me he turns;
he turns his hand all the day.

BETH

4 He wore out my flesh and my
skin;
he shattered my bones.
5 He built against me
and surrounded **me with**
poison and hardship.
6 In dark places he made me
dwell,
like the dead of long ago.

GIMEL

7 He walled me in, and I cannot
go out;
he made my chains heavy.
8 Even when I cry out and call
for help,
he shuts out my prayer.
9 He walled up my ways with
hewn stone;
my paths he has made
crooked.

DALETH

10 He **is** a bear lying in ambush
to me,
a lion in hiding places.
11 He turned aside my ways
and tore me apart;
he made me desolate.
12 He bent his bow
and set me up like a target for
the arrow.

HE

13 He caused to enter into my
kidneys
the sons of his quiver.
14 I became a laughingstock to
all my people,
their mocking song all the
day.
15 He filled me with bitter herbs;
he saturated me **with**
wormwood.

WAW

16 And he made my teeth grind
on gravel;
he pressed me down in the
ashes.

17 And my soul was deprived of peace;
I have forgotten good.

18 And I said, "My endurance has perished,
and my hope from Yahweh."

ZAYIN

19 Remember my affliction and my wandering,
the wormwood and the poison.

20 Remembering, it remembers,
and my soul bows down upon me.

21 This I bring back to my heart;
therefore I will hope.

HETH

22 The covenant faithfulness of Yahweh—for we have not perished,
for his compassions have not come to an end.

23 **They** are new in the mornings;
great **is** your faithfulness.

24 "Yahweh **is** my portion," my soul said;
therefore I will hope in him.

TETH

25 Yahweh **is** good to the ones waiting for him,
to the soul **that** seeks him.

26 **It** is good to wait and **be** silent
for the salvation of Yahweh.

27 **It** is good for a man
that he bears a yoke in his youth.

YODH

28 Let him sit alone and be silent,
for he has laid **it** upon him.

29 Let him put his mouth in the dust;
perhaps there is hope.

30 Let him give **his** cheek to the one striking him;
let **people** fill him with reproach.

KAPH

31 For the Lord will not reject forever.

32 For though he causes grief,
he will have compassion according to the abundance of his covenant faithfulness.

33 For he does not afflict from his heart,
or grieve the sons of man.

LAMEDH

34 To crush under his feet
all the prisoners of **the** earth,

35 to turn aside the justice of a man

before the face of the Most High,

36 to pervert a man in his dispute—
the Lord does not see **it**.

MEM

- 37 Who **is** this **who** spoke and it came to be?
 Did the Lord not command **it**?
 38 From the mouth of the Most High
 do not the evil things and the good go forth?
 39 Why should a living man complain,
 a man about his sins?

NUN

- 40 Let us search our ways and examine **them**,
 and let us return to Yahweh.
 41 Let us lift up our hearts with **our** hands
 to God in the heavens.
 42 We, we have transgressed and rebelled;
 you have not forgiven.

SAMEKH

- 43 You covered **yourself** in nose and pursued us;
 you killed; you did not show pity.
 44 You covered yourself in a cloud,
 from a prayer passing through.
 45 Offscouring and refuse you make us
 in the midst of the peoples.

AYIN

- 46 All our enemies
 opened their mouth against us.
 47 Terror and the pit have come to us,
 the desolation and the destruction.
 48 Streams of water go down **from** my eye,
 over the destruction of the daughter of my people.

PE

- 49 My eye pours out and does not cease,
 without stopping,
 50 until he looks down
 and Yahweh sees from the heavens.
 51 My eye brings grief to my soul
 because of all the daughters of my city.

TSADHE

- 52 Hunting, they hunted me like a bird,
 my enemies without cause.
 53 They silenced my life in the pit
 and cast a stone against me.
 54 Waters flowed over my head;
 I said, "I am cut off."

QOPH

- 55 I called on your name, Yahweh,
 from the pit of the depths.

- 56 You heard my voice;
do not hide your ear to my
relief, to my cry for help.
- 57 You drew near on the day I
called on you;
you said, "Do not fear."

RESH

- 58 Lord, you pleaded the cases
of my soul;
you redeemed my life.
- 59 You have seen, Yahweh, my
wrong;
judge my case.
- 60 You have seen all their
vengeance,
all their plans against me.

SIN

- 61 You have heard their
reproach, Yahweh,
all their plans against me,
- 62 the lips of those rising against
me and their muttering
against me all the day.
- 63 Look at their sitting and their
rising;
I **am** their mocking song.

TAW

- 64 You will return to them
recompense, Yahweh,
according to the work of their
hands.
- 65 You will give them a covering
of heart;
your curse **will** be on them.

- 66 You will pursue in nose and
destroy them
from under the heavens of
Yahweh.

4 ALEPH

- 1 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

- 2 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

- 3 Even jackals offer the breast;
they nurse their young.
But the daughter of my people
has become cruel,
like ostriches in the
wilderness.

DALETH

- 4 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

- 5** The ones eating delicacies
are desolate in the streets.
The ones reared on scarlet
embrace garbage heaps.

WAW

- 6** 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

- 7** Her Nazirites were purer than
snow;
they were whiter than milk.
Their bones were more ruddy
than corals;
their form **was** sapphire.

HETH

- 8** Their appearance is darker
than soot;
they are not recognized in the
streets.
Their skin has shriveled on their
bones;
it has become dry as wood.

TETH

- 9** 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

- 10** The hands of compassionate
women
boiled their children;
they became food for them
in the breaking of the
daughter of my people.

KAPH

- 11** 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

- 12** 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

- 13** 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

14 They wandered blind in the streets;
they were defiled with blood,
so that none were able
to touch their garments.

SAMEKH

15 “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

16 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

17 Our eyes still ended **looking** for
our help—a vapor.
In our watching, we watched for
a nation **that** does not save.

TSADHE

18 They hunted our steps
from walking in our open places.

Our end drew near;
our days are full,
for our end had come.

QOPH

19 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

20 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

21 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

22 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.

5 ¹ Remember, Yahweh, what
has happened to us;
look and see our reproach.

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

3 We have become orphans,
and there is no father;
our mothers **are** like widows.

4 Our water we drink for silver;
our wood comes at a price.

5 We are pursued on our necks;
we are weary, and rest is not
given to us.

6 We have given a hand to Egypt,
to Assyria, to be satisfied **with**
bread.

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

8 Servants rule over us;
there is no one tearing **us**
away from their hand.

9 At our lives we bring in our
bread,
from the face of the sword of
the wilderness.

10 Our skin grows hot like an
oven,
from the face of the burning
heat of famine.

11 They violate women in Zion,
virgins in the cities of Judah.

12 Princes are hung by their
hands;
the faces of elders are not
honored.

13 Young men carry a grinding
stone,
and boys stumble under wood.

14 Elders have ceased from the
gate,
young men from their music.

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

16 The crown of our head has
fallen.

Woe now to us, for we have
sinned!

17 On account of this, our heart
has become sick;
on account of these things,
our eyes have grown dim.

18 On account of Mount Zion,
which is desolate,
foxes walk on it.

19 You, Yahweh, sit forever;
your throne **is** to generation
and generation.

20 Why do you forget us forever,
why do you forsake us for the
length of days?

21 Return us to yourself,
Yahweh, and let us return;
renew our days as of old.

22 For have you rejecting,
rejected us?
Have you been angry against
us beyond measure?