

unfoldingWord® Literal Text

v92

Lamentations

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Lamentations

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."
ALEPH
2 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.

ALEPH

3 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.

ALEPH

4 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 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?