**Lamentations**

**Lamenting the Judgment of God**

*Is it nothing to all of you who pass this way?*

*Look and see if there is any pain like my pain*

*Which was severely dealt out to me*

*Which the Lord inflicted on the day of His fierce anger* – 1:12

*You have forsaken Me, declares the Lord, you keep going backward*

*So I will stretch out My hand against you and destroy you - Jer. 15:6*

**The sins of unrepentant rebellious Israel – Jer. 5, 7 & 8**

1. They see but do not see – 5:21
2. They hear but they do not hear – 5:21
3. The do not fear God – 5:22
4. The heart is stubborn & rebellious – 5:23 -24
5. They refuse to repent of their sinfulness – 8:5
6. They worshipped idols in the Temple of God – 7:30
7. They sacrificed their children on idol altars – 7:31

**The judgment of God on unrepentant rebellious Israel – Jer. 7, 15 & 16**

*The days are coming, declares the LORD, when it will no longer be called Topheth…but the valley of Slaughter, for they will bury in Topheth because there is no other place. The dead bodies of this people will be food for the birds of the sky and for the beasts of the earth, and no will frighten them away. Then I will make to cease from the cities of Judah and from the streets of Jerusalem the voice of joy and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom and the voice of the bride, for the land will become a ruin* - Jer. 7:32 -34

Topheth = a location in Jerusalem Valley of Hinnom where worshippers engaged in passing a child through the fire – child sacrifice – to the false god Moloc

1. The Lord appoints doom on the rebellious

15:3

1. The Lord makes them an object of horror to others

15:4

1. The Lord will cause anguish and dismay

15:8

1. The Lord withdraws His peace and compassion

16:5

**The pain of God’s judgment on the unrepentant rebellious Israel**

*Is it nothing to all of you who pass this way? Look and see if there is any pain like my pain* – 1:12

1. The world ignores the pain of pains which comes from the judgment of God
2. The pain of pains is the judgment of God on the rebellious sinner
3. There is no pain like the judgment of God on the rebellious sinner

*When you tell these people all these words, they will say to you, for what reason has the LORD declared all this great calamity against us? And what is our iniquity or what is our sin which we have committed against the LORD our God? You will say, it is because your forefathers have forsaken Me, and have followed other gods and served them and bowed down to them, but Me they have forsaken and have not kept My law.*

*You too have done evil, even more than your forefathers, for behold you are each walking according to the stubbornness of his own heart, without listening to Me. So I will hurl you out of this land into the land which you have not known, neither you nor your fathers and you will serve other gods day & night for will grant you know favor* – Jer.16:10 - 13

**The severity of God’s judgment on the unrepentant rebellious Israel**

*Which was severely dealt out to me* – 1:12

*For I am in distress, My spirit is greatly troubled, my heart is overturned within me, for I have been very rebellious* – 1:20

1. God severely judges the unrepentant rebellious sinner

Jer. 7: 20 – *behold my anger & wrath will be poured out on this place…*

Jer. 7:23 – 27 – God’s description of the sinfulness of His people

Jer. 7:24 – *you shall say to them, this nation that did not obey the voice of the Lord their God or accept correction, truth has perished and has been cut off from their mouth*

1. God sends severe personal suffering on the unrepentant rebellious sinner

Distress comes on the unrepentant

Troubled spirit comes on the unrepentant

Emotional distress comes on the unrepentant

Ps. 32:3 -4 – *when I kept silent about my sin, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me, my vitality was drained away as with the fever heat of summer*

**The grace & mercy of God in the judgment of God on Israel – Jer.16:14 – 15**

*Behold the days are coming, declares the Lord, when it will no longer be said, as the LORD lives who brought up the sons of Israel out of Egypt, but As the LORD lives who brought up the sons of Israel from the land of the north and from all the countries where He had banished them. For I will restore them to their land which I gave to the fathers* - Jer.16:14 – 15

*Behold the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and He will reign as king and act wisely and do justice and righteousness in the land – Jer. 23:5*

**Things to Remember**

1. The anger of God is revealed against all unrighteousness – Rom 1:18
2. The anger of God leads to suffering in the unrepentant sinner
3. The unrepentant sinner under the anger of God will face final judgment from God

Rev. 20: 11 - 15

**To the praise of the glory of His grace! The Lord is near to the door! Come Lord Jesus!**