Revive us Again – Lam. 5:21

**Focal Truth: The repentance of godly sorrow restores & revives**

Do you think God disciplines His people when they sin?

Does He discipline His church when they sin?

Do you have sadness over your sin?

Why are you sad when you sin?

**Lamentations describes the sadness from sin & godly sorrow for sin which leads to repentance &a restored relationship with God**

Jeremiah the prophets witnesses the judgment of God on Jerusalem for their sinfulness

The people cry in sorrow in their sin but the prophet repents in godly sorrow for their sins

**Observations**

1. The people lived in sorrowful regret for their sinfulness 1:7-8, 20; 2:17

a. They remembered God’s blessings in the “days of old” – 1:7

*in the days of her affliction & homelessness Jerusalem remembers all her*

*precious things that were from days of old*

b. They remembered their sinfulness toward God – 1:8

*Jerusalem sinned greatly therefore she has become an unclean thing…*

c. They complained bitterly in their sinful condition – 1:20

*See, O Lord, for I am in distress, my spirit is greatly troubled, my heart is*

*overturned within me, for I have been very rebellious*

d. They remembered God’s promise of coming judgment in “days of old”

2:17 – *the Lord has done what He purposed He has accomplished His word*

*which He commanded from days of old. He has thrown down without sparing*

*He has caused the enemy to rejoice over you, He has exalted the might of*

*your adversaries*

2. The prophet cried in godly sorrow to God for his & the peoples sin 3:1,19 - 23

a. He admitted that God was disciplining him – 3:1

*I am a man who has seen affliction because of the rod of His wrath. He has*

*driven me and made me walk in darkness and not in light*

b. He asks God to remember him in his afflictions – 3:19

*Remember my affliction and my wandering, the wormwood and bitterness.*

*Surely my soul remembers and is bowed down within me*

c. He remembers God’s faithful love & hopes in God – 3:21

*This I recall to mind, therefore I have hope*

d. He remembers God’s eternal compassion – 3:22

*the Lord’s lovingkindnesses indeed never cease, for His compassions never*

*fail*

e. He praises God for His eternal faithfulness – 3:23

*they are new every morning great is Your faithfulness*

f. He examines His ways & desires to return to God – 3:0

*let us examine our &probe our ways, and let us return to the Lord*

3. The prophet prays for God to restore & renew God’s people’s relationship to God

5:16, 19, 21

a. He confesses their sin – 5:16

*woe to us we have sinned*

b. He praises God’s eternal sovereignty – 5:19

*You, O Lord, rule forever, your throne is from generation to generation*

c. He asks God to restore &renew their relationship – 5:21

*Restore us to You, that we may be restore, renew our days as of old*

d. He asks God to do the work of restoring – turning them back to Him

*restore us – turn us to you O Lord*

e. He is confident in God’s power to restore them

*that we may be restored*

f. He asks God to renew His powerful work among them like in the past

*renew our days as of old*

1. In days of old God saved them

2. In days of old God protected them

3. In days of old God provided for them

4. In days of old God was patient & forgave them

5. In days of old God was with them

**Oh God renew our days as of old!**

Prayers for revival & restoration with God

Ps. 80:3 – O God restore us and cause your face to shine on us & we will be saved

Ps. 85:4 – Restore us O God of our salvation, & cause your indignation toward us

to cease

Ps 51:12 – Restore to me the joy of your salvation

Hab. 3:1 – Revive your work in the midst of the years

Lam. 5:21 – restore us to you O Lord, that we may be restored, renew our days as of old

**Things to Remember**

1. Sadness for sin is not repentance for sin

2. Pain from God’s discipline is for our good

3. Sorrow for sin has a memory of sin

4. God never stops restoring those who are repenting

5. A holy heart mourns over sin

6. God renews the repentant like the first days of salvation

**Daily Use**

1. Examine your sorrow is it godly sorrow for sin

2. Examine your ways – do the deeds you did when you first were saved – Rev. 2:5

3. Trust God’s faithful love to restore you when you repent of your sin

*Restore us to You, O Lord, that we may be restored, renew our days as of old…*