

Lamentations

Outline

... a book of 4 acrostic poems + epilogue (Heb. Title 'How?')

- Jerusalem's Misery and Destruction (1:1-18, 2:19-22).
- Yahweh's Wrath against His People (2:1-8, 3:40-48).
- The Innocent Poet (Jeremiah/Jesus) suffers God's Wrath, along with His people (3:1-20).
- The Righteous will accept the chastisement of The Lord, unlike the wicked (1:18, 3:21-33).
- The Siege described (4:6-10).
- Judah's appeal for God's forgiveness, restoration & vindication (5:1-6, 19-22, 4:21-22).

Key Themes

1. Judah allowed the present to distract from God's greater purpose for them.
 - 'She did not consider her future' (1:9).
2. God's Comfort[er], in His Chastisement (1:9, 16, 21, 2:13, 4:20).
3. The anguish of God's people surpassed by the Anguish of their deliverer (3:49-66).
4. The demise of God's people (+ Messiah) involved Betrayal by brethren (4:16).
5. The 'little foxes' – the abject failure of self-appointed leadership (5:18).
 - The people preferred the words of the false prophets 'little foxes' to The Word of the Lord through Jeremiah (2:14, 3:37, 4:13).