

✠ Unsheathing the SWORD ✠



LAMENTATIONS

MEMORIZATION – Lamentations 3:22-23 – “Because of the Lord’s great love we are not consumed, for His compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness.”

Chapter 1

1. Chapter one is an acrostic poem with each verse beginning with the successive letter of the Hebrew alphabet. The equivalent in English would be a poem of 26 verses with the first verse beginning with an “A,” the second verse beginning with a “B,” etc. As you read this chapter, think of the fact that the author wrote in a very difficult style.

2. The city lies _____.

3. Where is Judah?

4. Why did the destruction occur?

Chapter 2

Extra credit: Chapter two is another acrostic poem with each verse beginning with the successive letter of the Hebrew alphabet. How many verses are in this chapter? Consequently, how many letters must be in the Hebrew alphabet?

1. In verse seven: “The Lord has rejected His _____ and abandoned His _____.” With the fall of Jerusalem came the loss of temple worship and sacrifice. Think of the impact this would have on the Jewish religion.

2. Where are the king and princes?

3. True or false: The prophets no longer find vision from the Lord.
4. Carefully read verse 14. What did the false prophets fail to do?
5. "...let your tears flow like a river day and night..." Has there been a time in your life when the tears wouldn't stop?
6. "..._____ like water in the presence of the Lord."

Chapter 3

1. The third chapter, like chapters one and two, is also written as an acrostic poem. But this time it's the stanza (rather than the verse) which switches to each successive Hebrew letter. And every verse in each stanza begins with that same letter. This is amazing literature.
2. The whole lament is heart breaking. However, right in the middle of the book of Lamentations the author says he remembers his affliction and bitterness, and his soul is downcast..."Yet this I call to mind and therefore I have hope:" Write out verses 22 and 23 and think about every phrase.

Chapter 4

1. Chapter four is another 22 verse chapter of acrostic poetry.
2. This is disgusting. We've read of it subtly before, but now it is written of clearly. During the siege there was desperation. According to verse ten, what was eaten as food?

Extra credit: Are we surprised? Read Deuteronomy 28:53-57 where Moses lays out what will happen to the children of Israel "...if you do not obey the Lord your God and do not carefully follow all His commands and decrees I am giving you today...."

3. “But it happened because of the _____ of her _____ and the _____ of her _____, who shed within her the blood of the _____.”

Chapter 5

1. “Joy is gone from our hearts; our dancing has turned to _____. The _____ has _____ from our head. Woe to us, for _____ _____!”

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