

# LAMENTATIONS 2 vs 1

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Since what Solomon says, though contrary to the common opinion, is certainly true, that sorrow is better than laughter, and it is better to go to the house of mourning than to the house of feasting; and, to do this, we must compose ourselves and resolve to weep with those who weep. Though Jeremiah's country had been very unkind to him, and though the ruin of it... had been both a proof that he was a true prophet, and a punishment of them for falsely prosecuting him; which might have tempted him to rejoice in it, yet he sadly lamented it – Matthew Henry.



This lament over JERUSALEM serves as warning to all capital cities: DC, LONDON, PARIS, BRUSSELS, ROME, BEIJING, TOKYO, RIYADH... and all the others. Ancient scholars agree, prophet Jeremiah wrote this lament; each chapter is divided into 22 verses following the Hebrew alphabet; the principal question repeatedly asked in this grand death dirge is:

**How long!** Moses already answered that: until destroyed are all the places where the nations served their gods, on the high mountains, on the hills, and under every green tree; until altars are torn down, pillars are dashed in pieces, and their name is destroyed out of that place – Deuteronomy 12; they had an assignment, so did these blessed people, chosen by God do it? Let us find out...

The Destruction of Jerusalem,

**<sup>1</sup> How the LORD covered the daughter of Zion with a cloud in His anger, and threw down from heaven to the earth the beauty of Israel, and did not remember His footstool in the day of His anger! / or this could read: the beauty of the one ruled by God but they ignored God, and did not seek to learn His word and His ways.**

The LORD Has Destroyed Without Pity,

**<sup>2</sup> With no mercy The LORD swallowed up all the residents of Jacob. In His wrath, He demolished the fortified cities of Daughter Judah; He brought them to the ground: and ruined the kingdom and its princes / treating it all as common.**

**<sup>3</sup> In His fierce anger, He cut off every horn of Israel: He withdrew His right hand in the presence of the enemy, and blazed against Jacob like a flaming fire consuming everything.**

**<sup>4</sup> He bent His bow like an enemy: His right hand positioned like an adversary, and killed everyone who was a delight to the eye, pouring out His wrath like fire on the tent of Daughter Zion.**

**<sup>5</sup> The LORD is like an enemy; He swallowed up Israel. He swallowed up all its palaces and destroyed its fortified cities. He multiplied mourning and lamenting in Daughter Judah.**

**<sup>6</sup> He violently wrecked His Tent as if it was a garden shed; destroying His place of assembly:**

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**and the LORD caused the solemn feasts and sabbaths to be forgotten in Zion / the 3 last days** are still forgotten in the assembly, among those who claim they are **ruled by God**,

**and in His fierce anger, He despised both king and priest** / the civil and religious leaders in this capital city were loathsome... they are persona non-grata; they are not welcomed.

**7 The LORD rejected His altar, He disowned His sanctuary, He handed the walls of her palaces to the enemy. They raised a shout in the house of the LORD as on the day of a solemn feast** / knowing without sacrifice, there is no forgiveness of sin; and the enemy shouted in triumph,

**8 The LORD determined to destroy the wall of Daughter Zion: He stretched out a measuring line, He did not** restrain His hand from destroying. He made the ramparts and walls grieve; together they waste away.

**9 Her gates have sunk to the ground; He destroyed and broke the bars on her gates; her king and her leaders live among the nations: instruction in law is no more. Her prophets receive no** vision from the LORD / they could not secure her; which means lawlessness abounds – not a surprise.

**10 The elders of Daughter Zion sit on the ground in silence: they throw dust on their heads; they dress in sackcloth** / the citizens are humiliated: the virgins of Jerusalem bow their heads to the ground.

The Author's lament,

**11 My eyes are tired with tears, my guts are troubled. My heart is poured out on the earth, because the destruction of the city of my people; children and infants faint in its streets.**

**12 They ask their mothers, Where is grain and wine? As they faint like the wounded in the streets of the city, as their life pours in the arms of their mother** / the littlest ask, is there something to eat or drink? We have a friend from another country, who grew up with a mom who often said to her kids, we might not have food today, but maybe tomorrow. We in the West might think, How terrible, and it is; but all this has been going on for so long, with the help of the last global govt smashing and destroying, paid for by our tax payer dollars; while we in the West argue over things like proper toilets; while children run around their bombed out buildings to crap. **The West better wake up.**

**13 How can I speak for you? To what can I compare you to, O Daughter Jerusalem? that I can console you, Virgin Daughter Zion? for your ruin is as vast as the sea: who can heal you?** / these people had more attention from God than any other nation; what can be said to you?

**14 Your prophets** / not God's... those not in the search of truth, but seeking to gratify their appetites... **have seen vain and foolish visions for you: they do not** expose your iniquity / they have not revealed your crime; your injustice, so to turn away your captivity; but for you, they saw false and misleading declarations.

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**15 All who pass by scornfully clap their hands at you. They hiss and shake their heads at Daughter Jerusalem, saying, Is this the city that was called: **The perfection of beauty,****

**The joy of the whole earth?** / in other words, they give this trash hole the same silly and meaningless accolades as you hear in Los Angeles, New York, London, Paris or Rome and all the other disease infected, trash-collecting corners of mankind that they all want to flock to.

**16 All your enemies opened their mouths wide against you: they hiss and gnash their teeth. They say, We have swallowed her up. This is the day we waited for! Look we lived to see it /** like roaring wild beasts; it's the day they longed for, and dreamed of and waited for; the day arrived.

**17 The LORD did what He planned; He fulfilled what He instructed from the days of old. He threw down without mercy: and caused your enemy to rejoice over you, elevating them.**

**18 Their heart** cried out to the LORD, **O wall** of Daughter Zion / O defense of the heart of **Judah**... let your tears run down like a river day and night: give yourself **no** rest; and your eyes **no** relief / commenting on such verses, C.S. Lewis asked: after all the crying, then what?

**19 Arise, cry out in the night: from the first watch of the night; pour out your heart like water before the presence of the LORD. Lift up your empty hands to Him for the life of you little ones, who faint from hunger at the head of every street.**

**20 O LORD, look and reconsider; to whom You have done this? Should the women eat their children, the infants who were born healthy? Should priests and the prophets be killed in the sanctuary of the LORD?** / rhetorical questions that should need no answer: yet the very evil and sick pedovoures of the 21<sup>st</sup> century promote global policies involving thousands of missing children...

**21 Both you and old are lying on the ground in the streets: my young women and young men have fallen by the sword. You killed them in the day of Your anger; You killed without mercy.**

**22 You summon those who terrorized me on every side, as if for an appointed festival day; on the day of the LORD's anger no one escaped, no one survived. Those whom I nurtured and reared, my enemy destroyed.**

And did you notice, in this second lament, there was only a lengthy list of all the things the Lord God did – or at least permitted, yet there wasn't even the smallest phrase from a contrite or broken heart to be heard in Jerusalem. Isaiah said: [Call on the Lord while He can still be found](#) – **Isaiah 55**. And it makes you wonder... when this day comes, will there be time to say anything more than, rocks fall on me?