



- f. The kingdom and princes were polluted (Lamentations 2:2).
 - g. The horn of Israel was cut off (Lamentations 2:3).
 - (1) By the Lord
 - (2) In His fierce anger
 - h. Jacob had been devoured (Lamentations 2:3).
 - (1) By the Lord
 - (2) When He drew back His right hand from before the enemy
 - (3) As he burned against Jacob like a flaming fire
2. The manner of His destruction (Lamentations 2:4-5)
- a. He hath bent His bow like an enemy (Lamentations 2:4).
 - b. He stood with His right hand as an adversary, and slew all that were pleasant to the eye in the tabernacle of the daughter of Zion (Lamentations 2:4).
 - c. He poured out His fury like fire (Lamentations 2:4).
 - d. He hath swallowed up Israel, He hath swallowed up her palaces (Lamentations 2:5).
 - e. He hath destroyed His strong holds (Lamentations 2:5).
 - f. He hath increased in the daughter of Judah mourning and lamentation (Lamentations 2:5).
- B. His Destruction of the Sacred (Lamentations 2:6-9)
1. The worship (Lamentations 2:6-7)
- a. The LORD hath violently taken away His tabernacle, as if it were of a garden (Lamentations 2:6).
 - b. The LORD hath destroyed His places of assembly (Lamentations 2:6).
 - c. The LORD hath caused the solemn feasts and sabbaths to be forgotten in Zion (Lamentations 2:6).
 - d. The LORD hath despised the king and the priest (Lamentations 2:6).
 - e. The Lord hath cast off His altar (Lamentations 2:7).
 - f. The Lord hath abhorred His sanctuary (Lamentations 2:7).
 - g. The Lord hath given up into the hand of the enemy the walls of her palaces (Lamentations 2:7).
 - h. They have made a noise in the house of the LORD, as in the day of a solemn feast (Lamentations 2:7).
2. The hope (Lamentations 2:8-9)
- a. The LORD hath purposed to destroy the wall of the daughter of Zion (Lamentations 2:8).
 - b. The LORD hath stretched out a line, He hath not withdrawn His hand from destroying (Lamentations 2:8).
 - c. The LORD made the rampart and wall to lament (Lamentations 2:8).
 - d. The gates are sunk into the ground (Lamentations 2:9).
 - e. The LORD hath destroyed and broken her bars (Lamentations 2:9).
 - f. Her king and princes are among the Gentiles (Lamentations 2:9).
 - g. The law is no more; her prophets also find no vision from the LORD (Lamentations 2:9).



II. THE JUDGED (Lamentations 2:10-17)

A. Their Conditions (Lamentations 2:10-12)

1. The elders (Lamentations 2:10)
 - a. They sit upon the ground (see Job 2:11-13).
 - b. They keep silence (see Jeremiah 8:14).
 - c. They cast up dust upon their heads (see Joshua 7:6).
 - d. They girded themselves with sackcloth (Genesis 37:34; Psalm 30:11; Jeremiah 6:26).
2. The virgins—they hang down their heads to the ground (Lamentations 2:10).
3. The prophet (Lamentations 2:11)
 - a. Mine eyes do fail with tears (see Lamentations 1:16; Lamentations 3:48-51).
 - b. My bowels are troubled (see Lamentations 1:20; Jeremiah 4:19).
 - c. My liver is poured upon the earth. Note: Among the Jewish people, the heart was regarded as the seat of intellect and the liver was regarded as the seat of emotion. Thus, the idea conveyed is that the prophet had succumbed to his emotions and there was no holding back as he viewed the condition of his people and homeland.
4. The children (Lamentations 2:11-12)
 - a. The children and sucklings swoon in the streets of the city (Lamentations 2:11).
 - (1) The children = children who were weaned
 - (2) The sucklings = children who were not weaned
 - b. They ask of the corn and wine (Lamentations 2:12; see Lamentations 2:19-20; Lamentations 4:3-4).
 - c. They swooned as the wounded in the streets of the city (Lamentations 2:12).
 - d. Their soul was poured out into their mothers' bosom (Lamentations 2:12). Note: The departing of the soul is one of the scriptural indicators of death. Thus, the point of the passage is that children were dying in the arms of their mothers and begging food till their expiring breath.
 - e. Note: Man's greatest sympathies often go out to the children. That being said, when children are neglected, it shows man at his lowest state. At least, that is what one might think. Unfortunately, there is a lower state at which the nation found itself (Deuteronomy 28:45-63; Lamentations 4:9-10).
5. The misconception
 - a. The Jews were living as though God was dead.
 - b. Their form of religion was indeed dead, but God was not dead.
 - c. The sad truth was that the only connection the people had to God involved the form of their religion and once the form of religion died, so did their god.

**B. The Concern of the Prophet (Lamentations 2:13-17)**

1. His concern in ministry (Lamentations 2:13)
 - a. The questions stated
 - (1) What thing shall I take to witness for thee?
 - (2) What thing shall I liken to thee?
 - (3) What shall I equal to thee?
 - (4) Who can heal thee?
 - b. The comparison stated—"thy breach is great like the sea."
 - c. The hope stated
 - (1) That I may comfort thee
 - (2) Who can heal thee?
2. His concern about ministers (Lamentations 2:14)
 - a. False hope
 - (1) The prophets had seen vain and foolish things for the people.
 - (2) How difficult it was when a prophet told the truth about what the people should expect.
 - b. Compromise
 - (1) The prophets did not discover the iniquity of the people.
 - (2) How difficult it would be for Jeremiah to point out their sins.
 - c. False messages
 - (1) They had seen false burdens and causes of banishment.
 - (2) How difficult it would be to express God's message.
3. His concern about outsiders (Lamentations 2:15-16)
 - a. Those that pass by (Lamentations 2:15)
 - (1) They clapped their hands at the people.
 - (2) They hissed and wagged their heads at the daughter of Jerusalem.
 - (3) They questioned Israel's place.
 - a) Is this the city men call the perfection of beauty? (Psalm 50:2).
 - b) Is this the city men call the joy of the whole earth? (Psalm 48:2).
 - b. Their declared enemies (Lamentations 2:16)
 - (1) They opened their mouth against Israel.
 - (2) They hissed and gnashed the teeth.
 - (3) They declared victory.
 - a) Saying, we have swallowed her up.
 - b) Saying, this is the day that we looked for.
 - c) Saying, we have found, we have seen it.
4. His concern about the LORD (Lamentations 2:17)
 - a. The LORD hath done that which He had devised.
 - b. The LORD fulfilled His word commanded in the days of old.
 - c. The LORD hath thrown down, and hath not pitied.
 - d. The LORD caused the enemy to rejoice over Israel.
 - e. The LORD set up the horn of Israel's adversaries.