



Lamentations

The book of Lamentations is a collection of five poems lamenting the destruction of Judah and Jerusalem by the Babylonians at the time of the exile. They are written in a mix of third person (he/she/it/they) and first person (I/we) and recognize that their current disaster was directly connected to their past disobedience to God. The poems plead with God to see their disaster and to act to save them.



How long will it take?

R : 20 mins
S : Just read 1.1-22; 5.1-22



Genre

Poetry



Anything tricky?

The assumption that suffering happens because of a punishment by God. It is important to recognize that this link is particular to the exile, but not necessarily to all suffering.



Inspiring quotes

How lonely sits the city that once was full of people! How like a widow she has become, she that was great among the nations! She that was a princess among the provinces has become a vassal.

(Lamentations 1.1)

Is it nothing to you, all you who pass by? Look and see if there is any sorrow like my sorrow, which was brought upon me, which the Lord inflicted on the day of his fierce anger.

(Lamentations 1.12)

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end.

(Lamentations 3.22)

