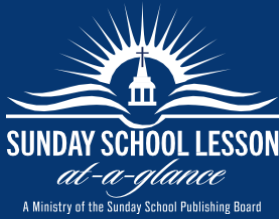


LESSON 8—April 25, 2021

Spring Quarter 2021 Theme:
Prophets Faithful to God's Covenant
Unit II: Prophets of Restoration

Lesson Titles:
**Overcoming Losses
and Brokenness**
(Faith Pathway Bible Studies)
A Plea for Restoration
(Townsend Press Sunday School
Commentary)

Devotional Reading:
Lamentations 3:22-33

Background Scriptures:
Lamentations 5

Print Passages:
Lamentations 5:1-22

Key Verse(s):

Turn thou us unto thee, O LORD,
and we shall be turned;
renew our days as of old.
(Lamentations 5:21, KJV)

.....

Restore us to yourself, LORD,
that we may return;
renew our days as of old.
(Lamentations 5:21, NIV)

► Questions to Consider:

1. What was the prophet Jeremiah weeping and lamenting over in this week's lesson?
2. What were the people of Judah experiencing because of their disobedience and sin?
3. What was Jeremiah petitioning God to do?

► Lesson Context:

- For nearly forty years, Jeremiah preached, and **no one** heeded his message.
- The Lord told the prophet that He was going to remove Israel from the land.
- Jerusalem was destroyed by Babylon and her people killed, tortured, or taken captive. The Temple was destroyed.
- Jeremiah **wept** for the suffering and humiliation of the people and because God had rejected the people for their **rebellious** ways.

► Lesson Aims:

As a result of experiencing this lesson, the participants should be able to do these things:

- Understand why the writer of Lamentations pleaded with God for the restoration of Israel.
- Sense the writer's feelings over the oppression of his nation.
- Pray for and engage in the restoration of broken relationships with God.

► Lesson Outlines/Key Points:

I. Pleading for God's Mercy (Lamentations 5:1-10)

Key Point 1: Jeremiah petitioned God to move with compassion on the people's great sorrow.

Key Point 2: The suffering and horror they were forced to endure were the result of their deliberate disobedience and refusal to abandon their idolatrous ways.

II. The Wages of Sin (Lamentations 5:11-18)

Key Point 1: No one in Judah was spared of the consequences and horrors of God's judgment.

Key Point 2: Jeremiah describes the devastating consequences of Judah's sin.

III. Pleading for Divine Restoration (Lamentations 5:19-22)

Key Point 1: Jeremiah closed his prayer with a focus on God's divine character.

Key Point 2: Jeremiah is making a request asking for God to remember and fulfill His covenant promise.

► **Lesson Summary:**

- There are consequences to repeated and unconfessed sin. Judah suffered loss and brokenness because of deliberate disobedience.
- However, there is hope and comfort in God's Word despite the current condition we may be facing.
- His Word tells us that if we genuinely confess our sins, then He is faithful and just to forgive them and will cleanse us from unrighteousness (see 1 John 1:9).

What Do You Think? (These questions are found in this week's Faith Pathway student book.)

1. How do you feel about the possibility of suffering because of the sins of others?

2. Many believers find themselves drifting into sin and becoming complacent and nonchalant. Explain why consistent obedience to God is so necessary.

3. When have you known adversity to lead you (or someone else) to a deeper relationship with God?

As a result of this lesson, I will do the following:
