

- *Lamentations* begins with Hebrew word EKAH—dismay



Lamentations meant to provide comfort

- No mention of Babylon, Nebuchadnezzar, only God as the one dealing with Israel's sins
- Though God brought misery and suffering to Israel, His unrelenting compassion, faithfulness, mercy abounds
- **Key point: God loves what he is obliged to smite, and is obliged to smite what he loves**



God, Lamentations and Israel—an insight into how He deals with man's fall

“and I will ...bring you back to the place from where I sent you into exile.”

--Jeremiah 29:5-7, 14

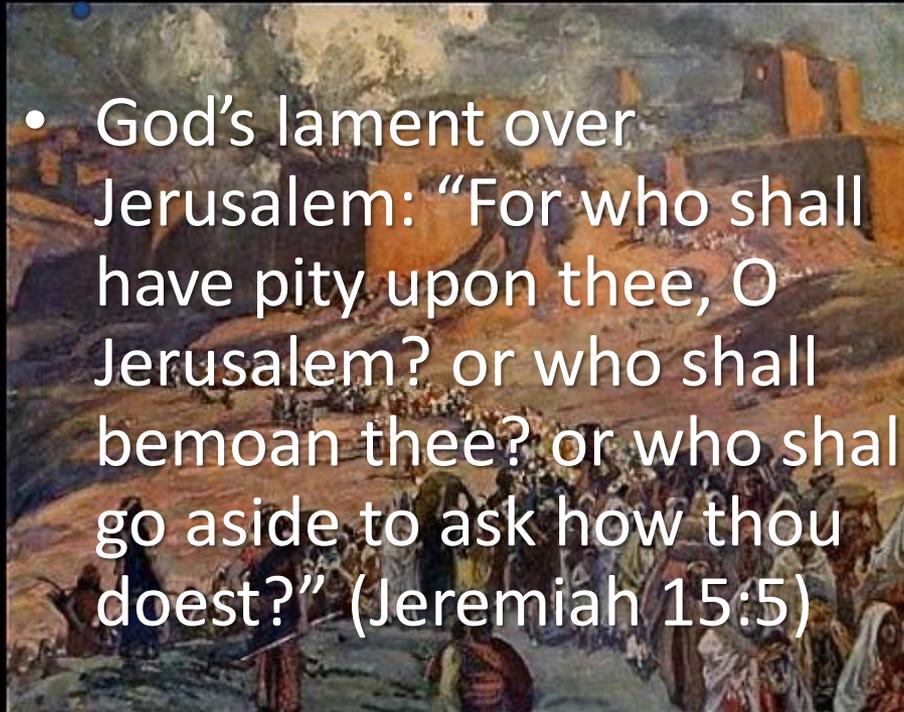


“And the ransomed of the
LORD shall return, and
come to Zion with songs
and everlasting joy upon
their heads: they shall
obtain joy and gladness,
and sorrow and sighing
shall flee away.”

--Isaiah 35:10



God shows compassion on Israel even though they are cut off from Him



- God's lament over Jerusalem: "For who shall have pity upon thee, O Jerusalem? or who shall bemoan thee? or who shall go aside to ask how thou doest?" (Jeremiah 15:5)

Jesus wept over Jerusalem

- **O Jerusalem, Jerusalem,** thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not! (Matthew 23:37)

Psalms 8:4-5 (Rotherham) -- God's care for man despite disobedience



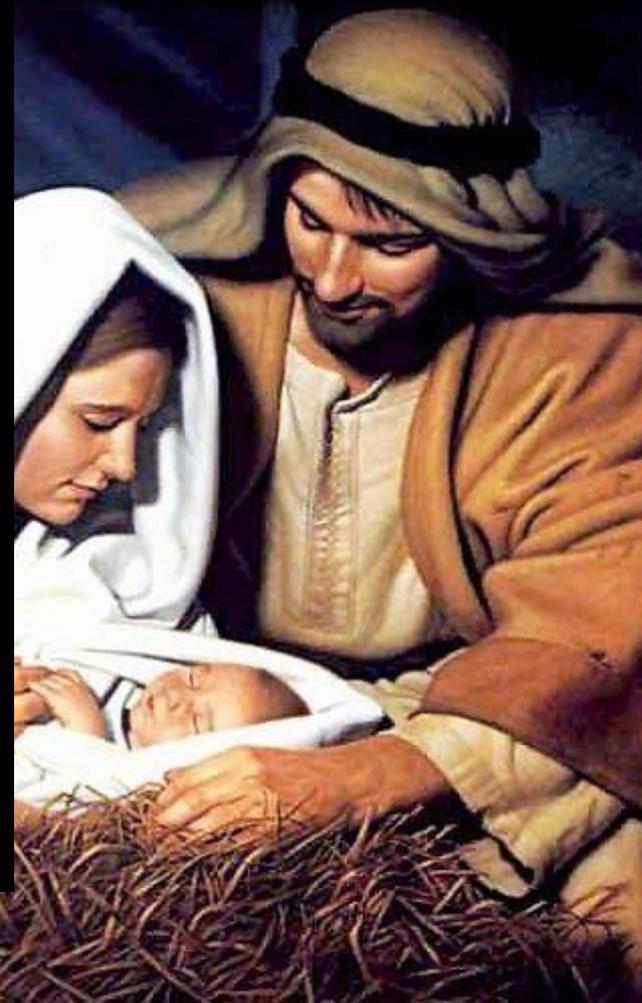
"What is man, that thou rememberest him;
Or man's son, that thou visitest him?
Thou madest him less some little than
messengers:with glory and honor thou
crownedst him, and didst appoint him over
the works of thy hands."

Volume 1, Page 175

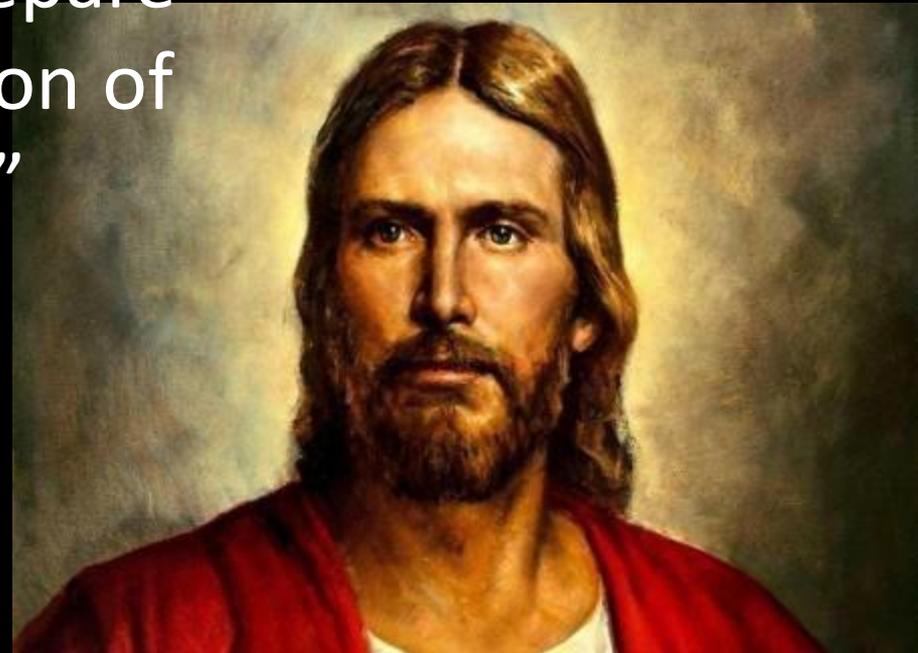
“David, in the psalm, refers to man in his original estate, and prophetically intimates that God has not abandoned his original plan to have man in his own image and the king of earth, and that he will remember him, redeem him and restore him to the same again. . .



. . .The Apostle (Hebrews 2:7) calls attention to the same fact--that God's original purpose has not been abandoned; that man, originally grand and perfect, the king of earth, is to be remembered, and visited, and restored. He then adds, We see not this promised restitution yet, but we do see the first step God is taking toward its accomplishment. . .



. . .We see Jesus crowned with this glory and honor of perfect manhood, that he, as a fitting ransom or substitute might by God's favor taste death for every man, and thus prepare the way for the restitution of man to all that was lost.”



Five Chapters of Lamentations show Five Principles of Permission of Evil

1. Disobedience brings punishment
2. God rejects what is His own creation in order to bring them back
3. God's representative (Jeremiah/Jesus) bears the deep grief of what was brought upon Jerusalem
4. The cup of God's wrath passes upon those who rejoiced in the evil upon His people
5. God's favor to be renewed in His own time

Five Chapters show Five Principles of Permission of Evil

1. Disobedience brings punishment
2. God rejects what is His own creation in order to bring them back
3. God's representative (Jeremiah) bears the deep grief of what was brought upon Jerusalem
4. The cup of God's wrath passes upon those who rejoiced in the evil upon His people
5. God's favor to be renewed in His own time

Jerusalem says, "You who pass by on the road don't seem to care. Come, look at me and see: Is there any pain like mine? Is there any pain like that he has caused me? The Lord has punished me on the day of his great anger (Lamentations 1:12).

- Unsurpassed beauty of the Temple is gone.
- Command over the land is taken away as swept into Babylon



Adam's disobedience cost him Paradise



And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast ...eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life... Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee...till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.

-Genesis 3:17-19

Adam's disobedience cost mankind Paradise— beauty of his world was gone



And unto Adam he said,
Because thou hast ...eaten
of the tree, of which I
commanded thee, saying,
Thou shalt not eat of it:
cursed is the ground for thy
sake; in sorrow shalt thou
eat of it all the days of thy
life... Thorns also and
thistles shall it bring forth to
thee...till thou return unto
the ground; for out of it
wast thou taken: for dust
thou art, and unto dust
shalt thou return.

-Genesis 3:17-19

Earth is largely uninhabitable

Oceans cover **71%** of the Earth's surface



- Of roughly one-fourth of world that is land mass, half of that, or 1/8 total land mass-- is uninhabitable and unsuitable for agriculture*

(Source: American Farmland Trust)



Development of Paradise is part of man's future

For thus saith the LORD that
created the heavens; God
himself that formed the
earth and made it; he hath
established it, he created it
not in vain, he formed it to
be inhabited: I am the LORD;
and there is none else.

--Isaiah 45:18



Resurrected billions
will have land to live
and plenty of land to
develop, but also....

“And the ransomed of the
LORD shall return, and
come to Zion with joy
and gladness, and
sorrow and sighing shall
flee away.”

--Isaiah 35:10



Volume 1, page 296

“When mankind reaches perfection at the close of the Millennial age...they will be admitted into membership in the Kingdom of God and given the entire control of earth as at first designed--each man a sovereign, a king. This is clearly shown in the symbolic prophecy of John (Revelation 21:24-26); for in vision he not only saw the people walk in the light of it, but he saw the **kings** enter it in glory;

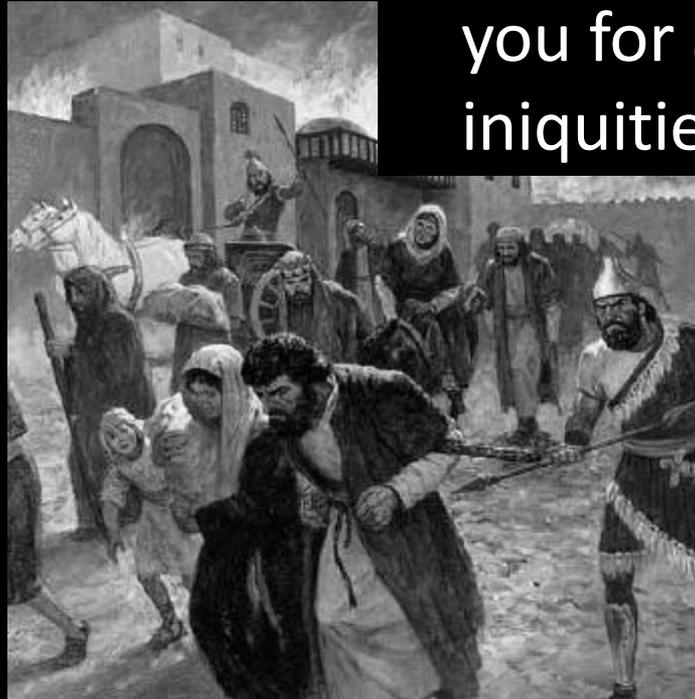
. . .yet none could enter who would defile it. None can become identified with that city (kingdom) who has not first been thoroughly tested; none who would work, or love to work, deceit and unrighteousness; only those whom the Lamb will write as worthy of life everlasting, and to whom he will say, "Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you."



Five Chapters show Five Principles of Permission of Evil

1. Disobedience brings punishment
2. God rejects what is His own creation in order to bring them back
3. God's representative (Jeremiah) bears the deep grief of what was brought upon Jerusalem
4. The cup of God's wrath passes upon those who rejoiced in the evil upon His people
5. God's favor to be renewed in His own time

“My eyes have no more tears, and I am sick to my stomach. I feel empty inside, because my people have been destroyed. Children and babies are fainting in the streets of the city”
(Lamentations 2:11)



- Israel’s priesthood led the people astray because of disbelief
- Amos 3:2 “You only have I known of all the families of the earth: therefore I will punish you for all your iniquities”

Israel suffered significantly for its
disobedience

Second Temple, built by Ezra and Nehemiah when returned from Babylon, destroyed by Romans in 70 AD, commencing Jewish exile from Israel. According to the Talmud (written interpretation of Rabbis), destruction began on Ninth of Av and burning continued throughout the Tenth of Av.





Coin from the Bar Kochba period

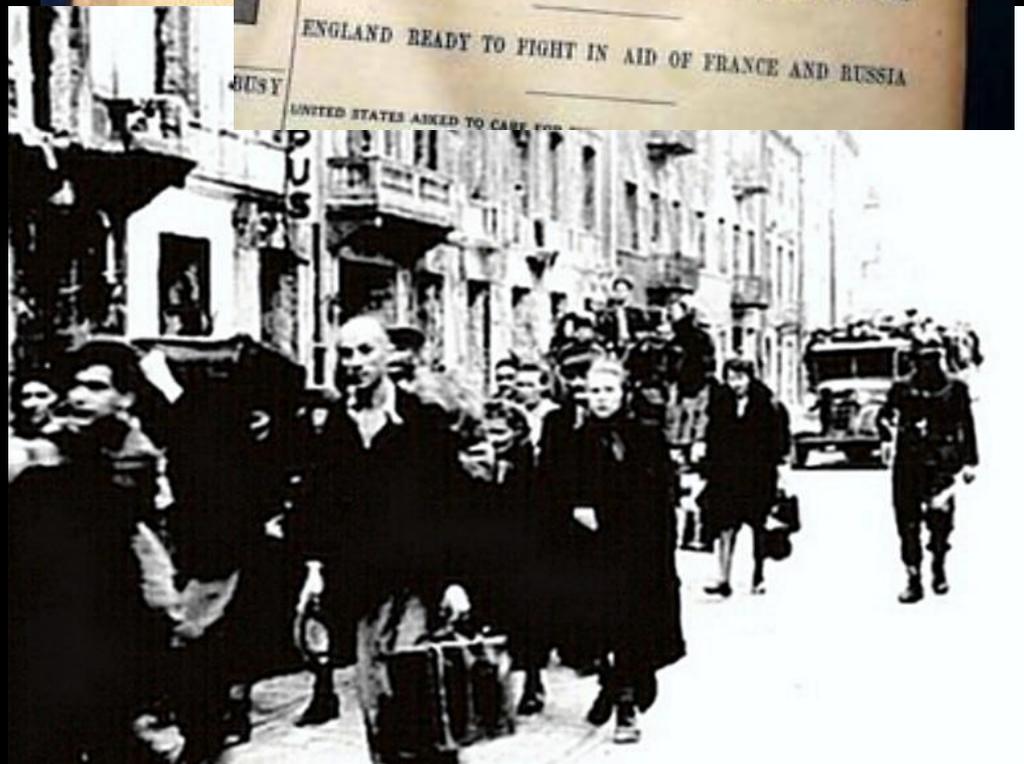
Romans crushed Bar
Kokhba's revolt and
destroyed the city of
Betar, killing over
100,000 Jews, on July 8,
132 AD –the 9th of Av

Following the Bar Kokhba
revolt, Roman
commander Turnus
Rufus plowed the site of
the Temple and the
surrounding area, in 133
AD, purportedly the 9th
of Av





Germany declares war on Russia August 1, 1914 (9th of Av), resulting in devastated Germany and Europe. Effects continue until eve of July 23, 1942 (9th of Av)



when the mass deportation begins of Jews from Warsaw Ghetto to Treblinka death camp and the Holocaust

Man has likewise suffered continuously because of Adam's disobedience

- Each year, 55.3 million people die – 1 of every 13 people in the world
 - 520,000 are murdered
- **INCURABLE, CHRONIC, AGONIZING AND DEBILITATING DISEASES**
 - Multiple Sclerosis (MS) *2.5 million worldwide*
 - Osteoarthritis *1.5 billion worldwide, 1/3 disabled*
 - Parkinson's Disease *7-10 million worldwide*
 - Alzheimer's and Dementia *35+million worldwide*
- *...but* statistics neglect the individual element of suffering

Ondine's Curse:

These people have to voluntarily breathe, and if they forget to breathe, they will die. Many infants who have the disease just die when they fall asleep.

Today, those with it use breathing machine continuously.



- **Fatal Familial Insomnia:**

A person is normal until they're 40 or 50, then this inherited disease starts showing up. The person cannot sleep, no matter what intervention. This can last for a year, and then the person dies. There is no treatment. The chance parents will pass it on to their kids is 50%.

When a person from an inherited parent is 20 they know they have a 50-50 chance they'll get this fatal disease in about 10-15 years.



And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.

(Revelation 21:4)



Five Chapters show Five Principles of Permission of Evil

1. Disobedience brings punishment
2. God rejects what is His own creation in order to bring them back
3. God's representative (Jeremiah) bears the deep grief of what was brought upon Jerusalem
4. The cup of God's wrath passes upon those who rejoiced in the evil upon His people
5. God's favor to be renewed in His own time

Jeremiah waits patiently in faith

The Lord's love never ends; his mercies never stop. They are new every morning; LORD, your loyalty is great. I say to myself, "The LORD is mine, so I hope in him." The Lord is good to those who hope in him, to those who seek him. It is good to wait quietly for the LORD to save" (Lamentations 3:22-26)



Waiting for God to accomplish his purpose is a challenge

- 37 scriptures discuss waiting on the Lord...



“But if we hope for what we see
not, then with patience we will
wait for it” *Romans 8:25*

“And the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God and into the patient waiting for Christ”

2 Thessalonians 3:5

“Be silent before the Lord
and wait patiently for
Him” *Psalm 37:7a*

“For since the beginning of
the world men have not
heard, nor perceived by
the ear, neither hath the
eye seen, O God, beside
thee, what he hath
prepared for him that
waiteth for him”

Isaiah 64:4

God promised He would bring relief when time was right

“For the Lord will not cast off for ever: But though he cause grief, yet will he have compassion according to the multitude of his mercies. For he doth not afflict willingly nor grieve the children of men.” (3:31-33)

If you can't come to town,
please telephone 4607

Lighting, Heating, Cooking, Refrigeration

CARL MARX
1 PRINCEBURY AVE., JERUSALEM

THE PALESTINE POST

JERUSALEM
SUNDAY, MAY 16, 1948

PRICE: 25 MILLS
VOL. XXIII, No. 614

STATE OF ISRAEL IS BORN

The first independent Jewish State in 19 centuries was born in Tel Aviv as the British Mandate over Palestine came to an end at midnight on Friday, and it was immediately subjected to the test of fire. As "Medinat Yisrael" (State of Israel) was proclaimed, the battle for Jerusalem raged, with most of the city falling to the Jews. At the same time, President Truman announced that the United States would accord recognition to the new State. A few hours later, Palestine was invaded by Moslem armies from the south, east and north, and Tel Aviv was raided from the air. On Friday the United Nations Special Assembly adjourned after adopting a resolution to appoint a mediator but without taking any action on the Partition Resolution of November 29.

Yesterday the battle for the Jerusalem-Tel Aviv road was still under way, and two Arab villages were taken. In the north, Acre town was captured, and the Jewish Army consolidated its positions in Western Galilee.

U.S. RECOGNIZES JEWISH STATE

WASHINGTON, Saturday.—Ten minutes after the announcement of the British Mandate on Friday, the White House issued a formal statement by President Truman that the U.S. Government intended to recognize the Provisional Jewish Government as the de facto authority in Palestine.

The U.S. is also considering lifting the arms embargo but it is not known whether to Palestine only or the entire Middle East, and the establishment of diplomatic relations with the Jewish Provisional Government.

The White House press secretary, Mr. Charles Ross, said respondents today that reaction as far as the recognition had been overwhelmingly favorable. He said this step had been discussed with Mr. Marshall and Mr. Llewellyn, and that they were in agreement.

Mr. Ross said that the Provisional Government, which was organized throughout the world after the Balfour Declaration of 1917, confirmed by the League of Nations, had grown against international opposition to the Jewish State.

Most Crowded Hours in Palestine's History

Between Thursday night and this morning Palestine went through what by all standards must be among the most crowded hours in its history.

For the Jewish population there was the anguish over the fate of the few hundred Hagahim men and women in the Kfar Etzion bloc of settlements near Hebron. Their surrender to a fully equipped superior foreign force desperately in need of a victory was a foregone conclusion. What could not be known, with no communications since Thursday morning, was whether and to what extent the Red Cross and the Truce Committee would secure civilized conditions for prisoners and wounded, and proper respect for the dead. Doubts on some of these anxious questions have now been resolved.

On Friday afternoon, from Tel Aviv Jewish sentiment in Arab areas, came the expected announcement of the Jewish State, and its official naming as both "Medinat Yisrael"—State of Israel, with the meaning as in the law of the Government. The proclamation of the State was made at midnight, coinciding with the ending from Haifa of Britain's last High Commissioner. Within the hour, President Truman announced in Washington that the Government of the United States had decided to give de facto recognition to the Jewish State, with

Jews Take Over Security Zones

The battle for Jerusalem, which began when the British forces withdrew on Friday morning, continued all day Friday and yesterday. The cracks of machine-gun fire and explosion of mortar shells were still being heard in the early hours of this morning as the battle entered its third day.

Repeated efforts on Friday evening and again on Saturday by the U.N. Truce Commission to bring about a "cease fire" were thought to be sought when the Arab representatives failed to agree within the specified time limit.

On Friday morning, Jewish forces captured the strategic Compound and Zone C to reoccupy the buildings previously held by Jews last year. This operation was "bloodless," but beyond the western edge of Zone C, the Jews in Jaffa and the Arabs were forced back and the Barzilai Bank was taken.

In other parts of the city fighting flared. Six Jews were slain and one Arab the day after the armistice, followed by the capture of the city on the night of the 15th.

Egyptian Air Force Spitfires Bomb Tel Aviv; One Shot Down

Kel Israel, the Tel Aviv manufacturing center, reported at 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon that Tel Aviv had been bombed three times in the previous evening, and reported that one plane had been shot down and the Egyptian pilot taken prisoner.

In the first raid, one plane attacked from a height of 300 feet. They dropped bombs, while the others strafed the city. Little damage was committed. In the second attack two hours later, the airport to the north of the city was bombed, and an air force plane parked there was damaged. The third raid was launched shortly before midnight, but the planes were driven off without causing any damage.

Two witnesses in the city said that the airplane had also been attacked from the air, the radio reported.

2 Columns Cross Southern Border

By WALTER COLLINS
AP Correspondent

Two columns of Arab forces crossed the southern border of the Jewish State yesterday.

Etzion Settlers Taken P.O.W.

Fighting in the Kfar Etzion bloc continued throughout Friday after British forces

Proclamation by Head of Government

The creation of "Medinat Yisrael," the State of Israel, was proclaimed at midnight on Friday by Mr. David Ben-Gurion, until then Chairman of the Jewish Agency Executive and now head of the State's Provisional Council of Government.

The first act of the Council of Government, as announced by its head, was to abolish the legislation of the High Commissioner, particularly the Ordinance and Orders relating to immigration and land acquisition.

In the declaration of independence, Mr. Ben-Gurion called on the Arabs of Palestine to restore peace, assuring them full civic rights and full representation in all governmental organs of the State.

Mr. Ben-Gurion proclaimed the declaration with a review of the historic connection of the Jewish people with the Land of Israel and of their efforts to restore, which were renewed throughout the generations of their dispersal, until the State became a reality.

The historic Declaration of 1917, confirmed by the League of Nations, had grown against international opposition to the Jewish State.

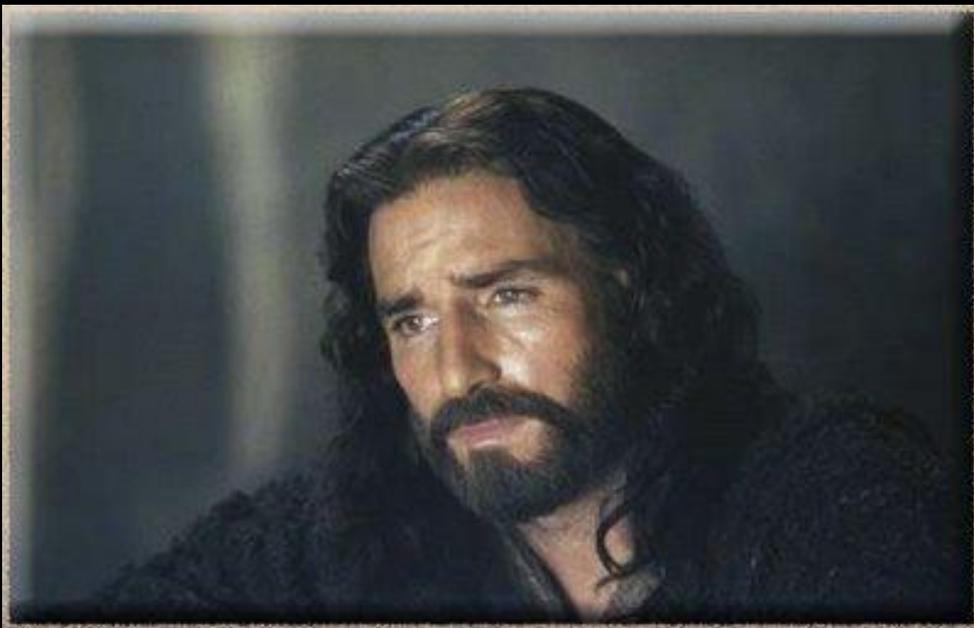
Special Assembly Adjourns

FLUORINE MEADOWS, the secretary of the Special U.N. Assembly, called today's session to a close at 11:30 p.m.

Jesus bore the grief for man's suffering

Though he were a Son, yet **learned he obedience** by the things which he suffered (Hebrews 5:8)

- “Our Lord, already fully obedient to the Father under favorable conditions, learned what it meant to be obedient under most adverse conditions. “
E120
- Jesus could now empathize with fallen man



God reverses course of sin when time is right

“For therefore we both
labour and suffer
reproach, because
we trust in the living
God, who is the
Saviour of all men,
specially of those
that believe. “

1 Timothy 4:10



- God's longsuffering is to assure a permanent and effective change.
- A world under sickness and trouble phased out as lesson is completed

Five Chapters show Five Principles of Permission of Evil

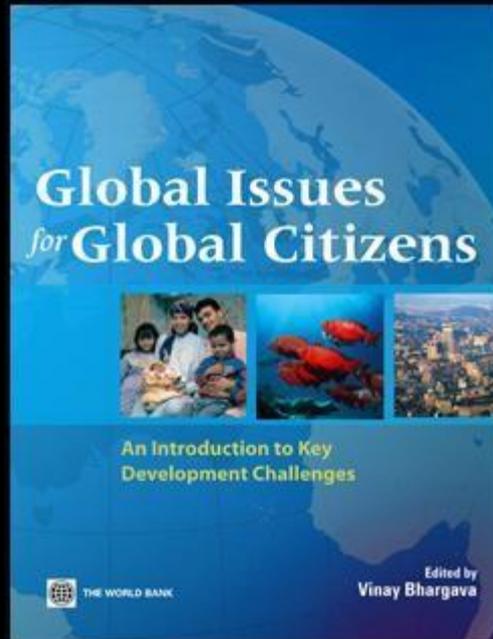
1. Disobedience brings punishment
2. God rejects what is His own creation in order to bring them back
3. God's representative (Jeremiah) bears the deep grief of what was brought upon Jerusalem
4. The cup of God's wrath passes upon those who rejoiced in the evil upon His people
5. God's favor to be renewed in His own time

“Those who were killed in the war were better off than those killed by hunger. They starve in pain and die, because there is no food from the field. With their own hands kind women cook their own children... The Lord turned loose all of his anger...burning it down to the foundations.
(Lamentations 4:9-11)



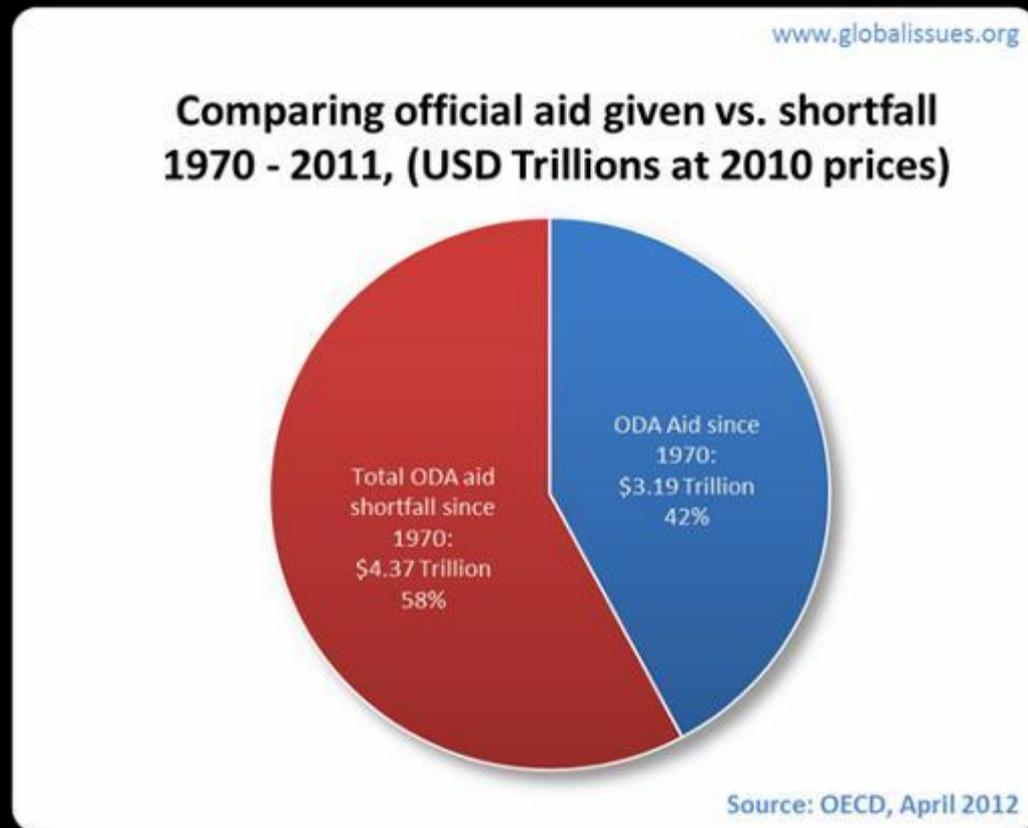
World today hasn't made progress in solving problems

- Long-term problems never go away and short term solutions only make matters worse



“No man putteth a piece of new cloth unto an **old garment**, for that which is put in to fill it up taketh from the garment, and the rent is made worse.”
--*Matthew 9:16*

- In 1970, the world's rich countries agreed to give 0.7% of their gross national income as official international development aid, annually.
- Through first part of 21st century, only 6 of 34 have met their promised target

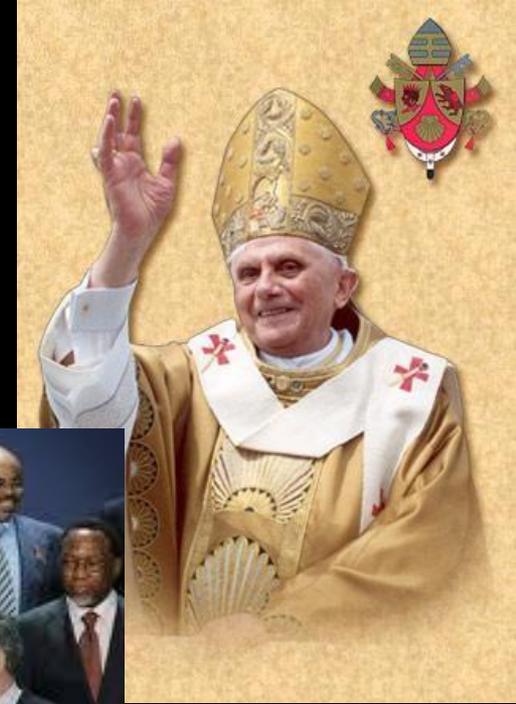


Foreign Aid Problems for individual recipients

- Most aid does not actually go to the poorest who would need it the most
- Large projects or massive grand strategies often fail to help the vulnerable; money often embezzled away.



Thus saith the LORD of
hosts, Hearken not unto
the words of the
prophets that prophesy
unto you: they make
you vain: they speak a
vision of their own
heart, and not out of
the mouth of the
LORD. (*Jeremiah 23:16*)



Five Chapters show Five Principles of Permission of Evil

1. Disobedience brings punishment
2. God rejects what is His own creation in order to bring them back
3. God's representative (Jeremiah) bears the deep grief of what was brought upon Jerusalem
4. The cup of God's wrath passes upon those who rejoiced in the evil upon His people
5. God's favor to be renewed in His own time

“But you rule forever,
Lord.
You will be King from
now on...Bring us
back to you,
LORD...Make our days
as they were
before...Are you so
angry with us?”
(Lamentations 5:19-
22)

- Weeping over
destruction comes
before a plea for help



At inauguration of Kingdom, Israel receives its Kingdom position with tears

And I will pour upon the
house of David, and
upon the inhabitants of
Jerusalem, the spirit of
grace and of
supplications: and they
shall look upon me
whom they have
pierced,

and they shall mourn for
him, as one mourneth
for his only son, and
shall be in bitterness for
him, as one that is in
bitterness for his
firstborn.

--Zechariah 12:10

As nation, Israel was blind to special opportunity of high calling

- In 70 A.D., were scattered to four corners of earth
- For 2,000 years, has appeared that God abandoned them completely
- Never was God's plan

“Hath God cast away his people? God forbid.”

Romans 11:1



Throughout scattered condition, maintained separateness

- No historical precedent for return to land

“I will plant them upon their land, and they shall no more be pulled up out of their land which I have given them, saith the LORD thy God.”

Amos 9:15



Petah Tikvah 1878

A Return to Jerusalem

Rabbi Mendel Weinbach

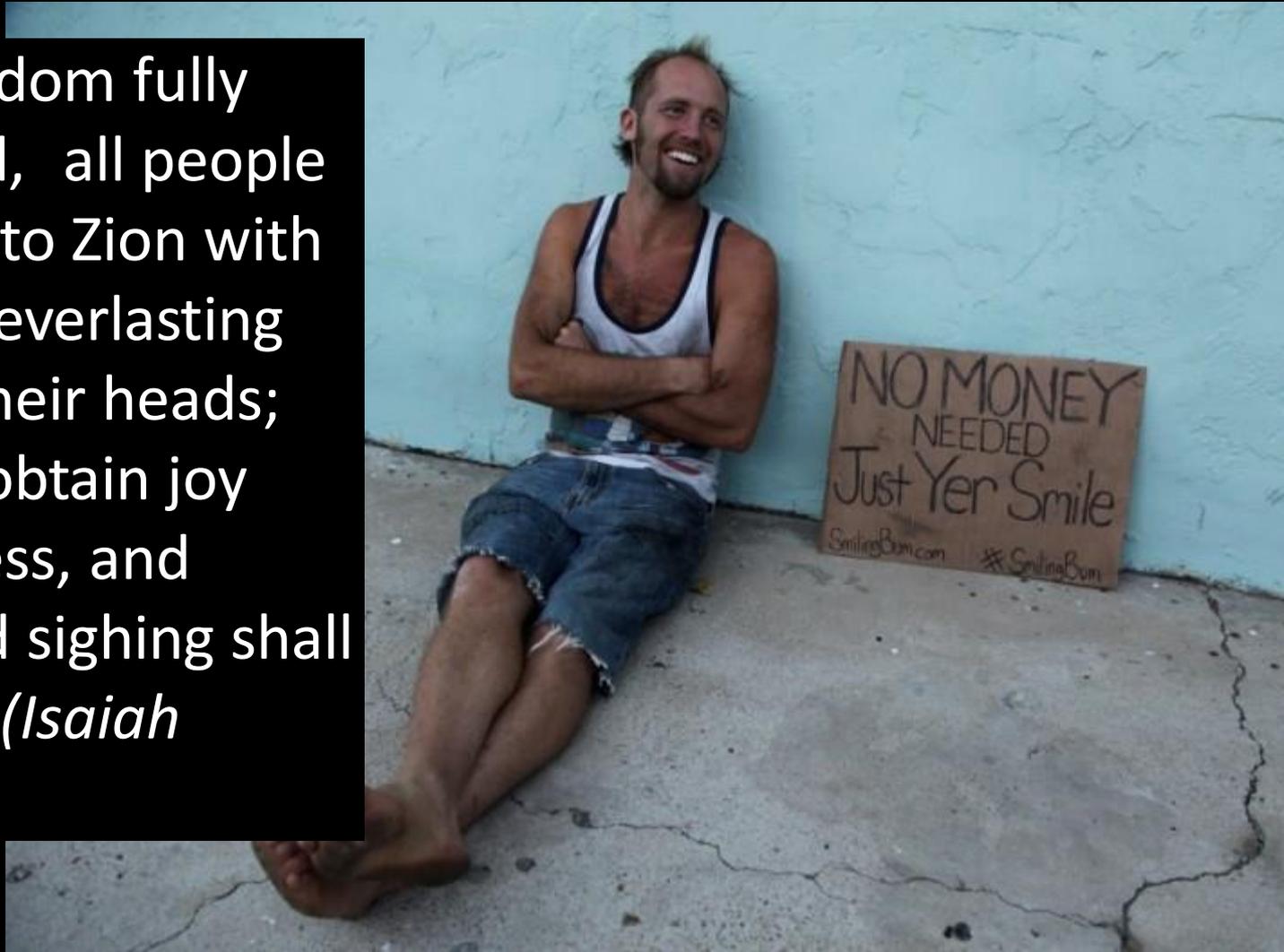
- God may punish, not to be vindictive, but for purpose
- Has not preserved Jews for 3,500 years, brought them back to land, to do nothing with them!

“And so all Israel will be saved; as it is written, The Deliverer will come from Zion, he will banish ungodliness from Jacob; and this will be my covenant with **them** when I take away their sins...”

Romans 11:26-28 RSV

God has preserved world this long for purpose

- When kingdom fully established, all people will “come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.” (*Isaiah 35:10*)

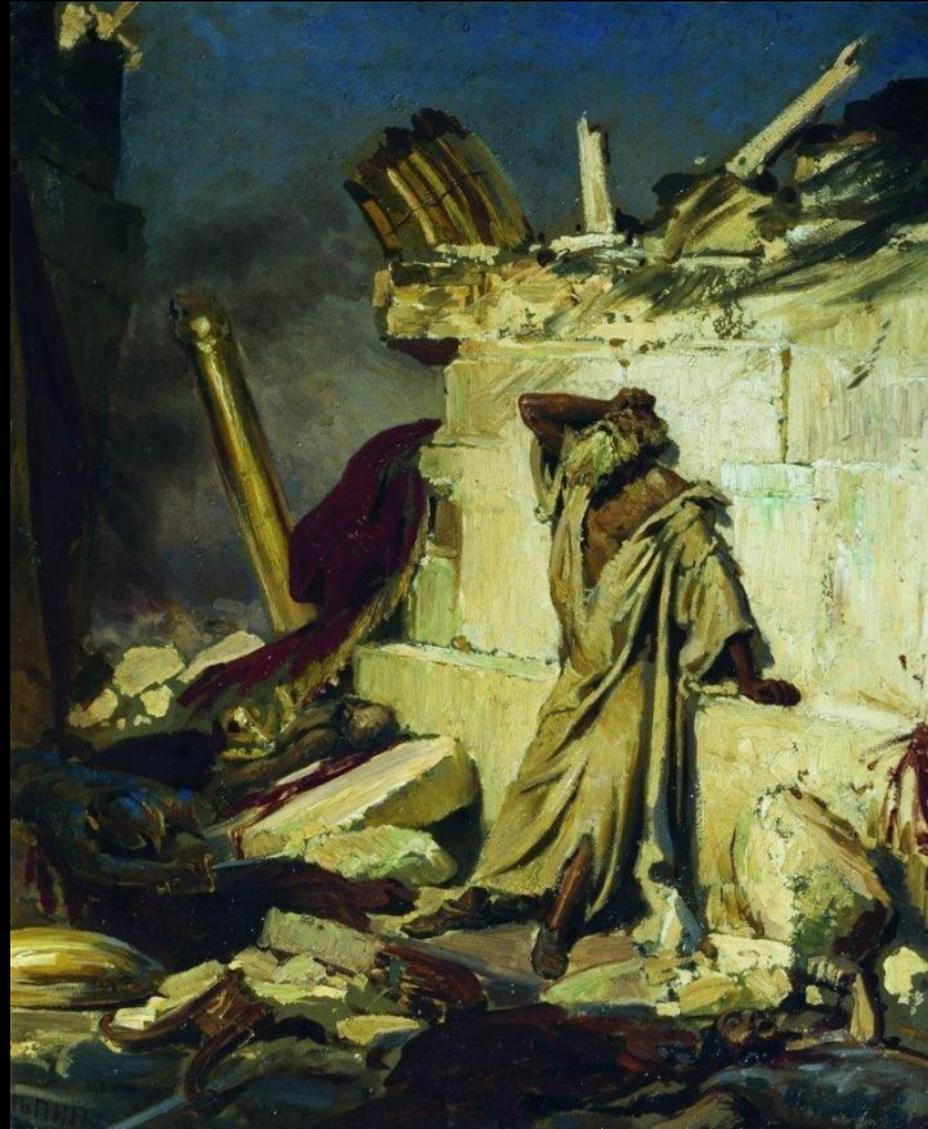


Lesson of Lamentations

Emphasis is on waiting for God to accomplish
purpose because it seems long in coming



- Jeremiah learned God's dealing with Israel was lesson in disobedience consequences
 - Promised mercies would return, but misery and pain had to come first
 - Deep trust despite trouble all around



We must emulate Jeremiah—wait and keep the faith

- God waits until right time to act
 - Israel never wanted to wait for God's blessings
 - Man has always looked for a quick fix to everything
- Silence and waiting is unappealing to most
 - Prayer is an exercise in patience
 - Must wait for the answer—no preconceived conclusion
 - God will act in His own time—the very best time!
- Evil is not forever

“that the creation itself also will be set free from its slavery to corruption into the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²² For we know that the whole creation groans and suffers the pains of childbirth together until now. ²³ And not only this, but also we ourselves, having the first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting eagerly for *our* adoption as sons, the redemption of our body.” (*Romans 8:21-23*)

Great is the road we climb
But the crown offered
By an easier effort
Is not worth the gathering.

To God Be the Glory, for ever and ever

