

Lessons Learned the Hard Way

“Just because an air freshener smells good and says ‘non-toxic’ does not mean it tastes good.”

Lessons Learned the Hard Way


“Your tongue WILL stick to a metal pole when it is minus 10 degrees outside.”

Lessons Learned the Hard Way

“...when I was 6 or 7 my Mom’s brother told me to pee on an electric fence. I learned two lessons that day, don’t pee on electric fences and never trust Uncle Tim.”

Then beginning with Moses and with all the prophets, He explained to them the things concerning Himself in all the Scriptures. (Luke 24:27)



A painting depicting three men in a lush, green landscape. The man on the left is wearing a red shawl over a dark tunic and is walking away from the viewer. The man in the center is wearing a light-colored shawl and is gesturing upwards with his right hand. The man on the right is wearing a brown shawl and is looking towards the center. In the background, a city with domes and minarets is visible through the trees. The scene is set in a valley with rolling hills and a river in the distance.

You Reap What You Sow

Lamentations

The Book of Lamentations

- Heb: *eykoh* – “How!” or “Alas!” (1:1; 2:1; 4:1)
 - E.g. - “How have the mighty fallen!” (2 Sam. 1:19)
- LXX: *threnoi* – *dirges / laments*

Setting of *Lamentations*

- For years, Jeremiah warning Judah of God's coming judgment and called the people to repent
- They did not repent
- God brought Babylon to judge them, as He promised (Deut. 28:49-68)

Setting of *Lamentations*

- Jerusalem under siege for 2+ years
- Jeremiah watched as Deut. 28:15-68 played out, just as God said
- Jerusalem was razed
- The temple was destroyed
- Majority killed or exiled

Structure of *Lamentations*

DIRGE 1

DIRGE 2

DIRGE 3

DIRGE 4

DIRGE 5



Structure of *Lamentations*

	<i>DIRGE 1</i>	<i>DIRGE 2</i>	<i>DIRGE 3</i>	<i>DIRGE 4</i>	<i>DIRGE 5</i>
STANZAS	22	22	22	22	22



Structure of *Lamentations*

	<i>DIRGE 1</i>	<i>DIRGE 2</i>	<i>DIRGE 3</i>	<i>DIRGE 4</i>	<i>DIRGE 5</i>
STANZAS	22	22	22	22	22
LINES/ STANZA	3	3	3	2	1



Structure of *Lamentations*

	<i>DIRGE 1</i>	<i>DIRGE 2</i>	<i>DIRGE 3</i>	<i>DIRGE 4</i>	<i>DIRGE 5</i>
STANZAS	22	22	22	22	22
LINES/ STANZA	3	3	3	2	1
ACROSTIC	FIRST WORD EACH STANZA	FIRST WORD EACH STANZA	FIRST WORD EACH LINE	FIRST WORD EACH STANZA	N/A

Structure of *Lamentations*

1: DESOLATION

5: PRAYER

2: JUDGMENT

4: SIN / ANGER

NO HOPE
(3:18)

GOD'S
GOODNESS
(3:22-25)

HOPE!
(3:21)

Where is Jesus?

- No direct references in *Lamentations*
- Allusions & *types* (foreshadowing)
 - Must exercise caution: e.g. - 2:12
 - Jerusalem (personified) was calling for help from the other nations around her

Where is Jesus?

- Similarities: Jeremiah & Jesus
 - Tender, compassionate
 - Prayed for the people
 - Did not marry (Jer. 16:1)
 - Faithfully delivered God's message

Where is Jesus?

- Contrast: Judah's leadership & Jesus
 - Priests, prophets, rulers (kings) all failed (2:6, 9, 14; 4:13)
 - Jesus ultimately fulfills all three roles (Matt. 21:11; Heb. 4:14; Luke 1:33)

Philip Graham Ryken

- “At their best, the prophets, priests, and kings of the Old Testament foreshadowed Christ’s coming. At their worst, they showed why his coming was necessary.”

Jeremiah a *Type* of Jesus

- Rejection
 - God sent Jeremiah to call the people to repentance (Jer. 3:11-14)
 - Instead, the people listened to the false prophets preaching “Peace!” (Lam. 2:14; cf. Jer. 23; 29)

Jeremiah a *Type* of Jesus

- Rejection
 - The people abused Jeremiah
 - Betrayed by family (Jer. 12:6)
 - Beaten & put in stocks (Jer. 20:2)
 - Priests wanted to kill him (Jer. 26:7-15)

Jeremiah a *Type* of Jesus

- Rejection
 - Jesus: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” (Matt. 3:2)
 - Betrayed by family (Mark 3:21)
 - Mocked & beaten by Jews and Gentiles (Matt. 26 & 27)

Jeremiah a *Type* of Jesus

- Identification
 - Even though he was righteous, Jeremiah suffered along with everyone else
 - He identified with the people of Jerusalem (Lam. 3:1-20)

Jeremiah a *Type* of Jesus

- Identification
 - Jesus identified with the people He made (Heb. 2:9-18; cf. John 1:9-14)
 - Even though He was righteous, Jesus suffered for *our* sin (Isa. 53:6; Rom. 3:21-26; 1 John 2:1-2)

Jeremiah a *Type* of Jesus

- Lamenting over Jerusalem
 - Jeremiah warned the people of impending judgment
 - Then lamented over their deserved destruction

Jeremiah a *Type* of Jesus

- Jesus: “Jerusalem, Jerusalem, who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, the way a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were unwilling.” (Matt. 23:37)

So What?

- God is faithful to His word (2:17)
 - *You reap what you sow* (Gal. 6:7-8)
 - “Righteousness exalts a nation, But sin is a disgrace to any people.”
(Prov. 14:34)

So What?

- God is faithful to His word (5:19-22)
 - “Unless You have utterly rejected us” (Lam. 5:22a)
 - “...God has not rejected His people, has He? May it never be!” (Rom. 11:1a)

So What?

- God hates empty religion (Jer. 6:20; 7:21-26; 14:12; cf. Matt. 23)
 - “the righteous will live by his faith” (Hab. 2:4c)
- Watch out if the world is preaching “Peace and Safety!” (1 Thess. 5:1-11)