
Our God is Faithful! ***(Lamentations 3:21-24)***

Jeremiah wrote the Book of Lamentation in 587 BC, shortly after Judah was conquered by and led captive to Babylon (2 Kings 25, Jeremiah 39,52; 2 Chro. 36). He had warned Judah of God's judgment but God's people wouldn't listen.

The sight and smell of devastation is before Jeremiah as he describes the great fall of Jerusalem (1:1:1-3,5,8,10-11; 2:9-12; 4:4-10).

It is in this context and in the midst of Jeremiah's lamentation that God reminds him of His faithfulness. Lamentations 3:21-24 describes how God showed His faithfulness to Jeremiah.

1. By _____ *Jeremiah of His* _____ (v.21)

The most comforting news Scripture has for those who are suffering is that where pain, grief, and hurt are, there is God. He is Immanuel – God with us. Jeremiah realized/remembered in verse 21 that even in this crisis, God was still here and because of this he found hope. He remembers the faithfulness of God. (ex. David in Psalm 103:1-2 reminds himself of God's faithfulness). God is faithful (Exodus 34:6; Deuteronomy 32:4; Psalm 89:2, 8).

2. By _____ *Jeremiah with His* _____ (vv.22-23)

Jeremiah recalls God's faithful character. God showed them His lovingkindnesses (steadfast love). This steadfast love of God is His covenant love for His people (Deut. 7:6-9). God's covenant love is described in plural form (lovingkindnesses) because His love could never be fully and adequately described. It is great (Eph. 2:4); it is inexhaustible (Eph. 3:18-19); it is sacrificial (John 3:16); it is eternal (Rom. 8:35-39).

3. By _____ *Jeremiah with* _____ (v.24)

Jeremiah believes that, "The Lord is his portion." Much like the Levites who did not have any (material) inheritance in Canaan, God was their portion (Numbers 18:20). Jeremiah understood that to have God as his portion is to have everything in life (Jer. 10:16; see also Psalm 16:5; Psalm 73:26; Psalm 119:57). God is our own sufficient and settled portion. He belongs to us and we belong to Him. This is Jeremiah's confidence and therefore he ends verse 24 in the same way he began verse 21, "Therefore, I hope in Him."

Like Jeremiah, in the midst of crisis, be convinced and be assured of one thing: God is faithful. His faithfulness is ultimately shown in the fact that He sent His Son to experience these same difficult circumstances on our behalf. May you find your rejoicing in Him.

*"Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not;
As Thou hast been, Thou forever will be.*