

LAMENTATIONS

¹ How sitteth alone the city (*that once was so*) full of people? the lady of folks is made as a widow; the princess of provinces is made under tribute. (*How the city now sitteth alone, (or empty), that once was so full of people! the lady of nations is made like a widow; the princess of provinces is put under tribute or is made to suffer forced labour.*)

² It* weeping wept in the night, and the tears thereof *be* in the cheeks thereof (*or and its tears be on its cheeks*); there is none of all the dearworthy thereof, that comforteth it; all the friends thereof forsook it, and be made enemies to it.

³ Judah passed from torment and multitude of servage, it dwelled among heathen men, and found no rest; all the pursuers thereof took it among anguishes. (*Judah went into the torment of captivity and a multitude of servitude, or of slavery, it lived among the heathen, and found no rest; all of its pursuers brought it much anguish.*)

⁴ The ways of Zion mourn, for no men come to the solemnity; all the gates thereof be destroyed, the priests thereof wail; the virgins thereof be defouled, and it is oppressed with bitterness. (*The ways of Zion mourn, for no people come to its*

* **CHAPTER 1:2** Throughout Chapter 1, where the “Later Version” uses the impersonal ‘it’ and ‘thereof’, the “Early Version” and most other translations use ‘she’ and ‘her’.

solemn feasts; all its gates be destroyed, its priests wail; its virgins be defiled, and it is oppressed with bitterness.)

⁵ The enemies thereof be made in the head, and the enemies thereof be made rich, for the Lord spake on it. For the multitude of wickednesses thereof the little children thereof be led into captivity, before the face of the troubler. *(Its enemies be put at its head, that is, they rule over it, and they be made rich, for the Lord spoke against it. For the multitude of its wickednesses its little children be led into captivity, by the enemy.)*

⁶ And all the fairness of the daughter of Zion went out from the daughter of Zion; the princes thereof be made as rams not finding pastures; and went forth without strength before the face of the follower. *(And all the beauty of the daughter of Zion went away from the daughter of Zion; its princes be made like rams not finding pasture; and they went forth without strength before their pursuer.)*

⁷ And Jerusalem bethought on the days of her affliction and of trespassing, and on all her desirable things which it had from *[the]* old days; when the people thereof fell down in the hand of enemies, and none helper was; *[the]* enemies saw it, and scorned the sabbaths thereof. *(And Jerusalem remembered the days of its affliction and of its trespassing, and on all the desirable things which it had in the old days; when its people fell into the hands of its enemies, and there was no one to help them; its enemies saw it, and mocked its Sabbaths.)*

⁸ Jerusalem sinned a sin, therefore it was made unsteadfast; all that glorified it forsook it, for they saw the shame thereof, *(or all who honoured it, deserted it, for they saw its shame)*; forsooth it wailed, and was turned aback.

⁹ The filths thereof *be* in the feet thereof, and it had no mind of her end; it was put down greatly, and had no comforter; Lord, see thou my torment, for the enemy is raised *[up]*. *(Its filths be upon its feet, and it had no thought of its end; it was greatly put down, and it had no comforter; it said, Lord, see thou my torment, for the enemy is raised up against me.)*

¹⁰ The enemy put his hand to all the desirable things thereof; for it saw heathen men entered into thy saintuary, of which thou haddest commanded, that they should not enter into thy church. *(The enemy put his hands onto all its desirable things; and it saw the heathen go into thy Temple, of whom thou haddest commanded, that they should never enter into thy congregation.)*

¹¹ All the people thereof was wailing and seeking bread, they gave all precious things for meat, to strengthen the soul; *(and the city saith)*, See thou, Lord, and behold, for I am made vile. *(All its people were wailing and seeking bread, they gave all precious things for food, to strengthen, or to feed, themselves; and the city saith, See thou, Lord, and behold, for I am made vile.)*

¹² A! all ye that pass by the way, perceive, and see, if any sorrow is as my sorrow; for he gathered away *(my)* grapes from me, as the

Lord spake in the day of wrath of his strong vengeance. (*O all ye who go on the way! look, and see, if there is any sorrow like my sorrow; for he hath afflicted me, like the Lord said that he would, on the day of the wrath of his strong vengeance.*)

¹³ From on high he sent fire in(to) my bones, and taught me; he spreaded abroad a net to my feet, he turned me aback; he setted me desolate, meddled together all day with mourning, (*or he left me desolate, mixed together with mourning, all day long*).

¹⁴ The yoke of my wickednesses watched in the hand of him, those be folded together, and put on my neck; my strength is made feeble; the Lord gave me in(to) the hand, from which I shall not be able to rise. (*He watched my wickednesses, and he folded them together like a yoke, and put them about my neck; my strength is made feeble, or weak; the Lord gave me into their hands, from whom I shall not be able to escape.*)

¹⁵ The Lord took away all my worshipful men from the midst of me; he called time against me, that he should all-foul my chosen men; the Lord stamped a presser to the virgin, the daughter of Judah. (*The Lord took away all my honourable men from my midst; he called out time against me, so that he could defile all my chosen people; the Lord stamped the virgin, the daughter of Judah, like grapes in a winepress.*)

¹⁶ Therefore I *am* weeping, and mine eye is leading down water; for a comforter, converting my soul, is made far from me; my sons be made lost, for the enemy had the mastery. (*And so I am*

weeping, and my eyes be leading down water; for a comforter, to refresh my soul, is made far from me; my sons and daughters be made lost, or left desolate, for the enemy had the mastery.)

¹⁷ Zion spread abroad his hands, none is that comforteth it; the Lord sent against Jacob enemies thereof, in the compass thereof; Jerusalem is made as defouled with unclean blood among them. *(Zion spread abroad its hands, there is no one to comfort it; the Lord sent against Jacob its enemies, all around it; Jerusalem is defiled with unclean blood among them.)*

¹⁸ *(And the city saith),* The Lord is just *(or The Lord is in the right)*, for I stirred his mouth to wrathfulness; all peoples, I beseech, hear ye, and see my sorrow; my virgins and my young men went forth into captivity.

¹⁹ I called my friends, and they deceived me; my priests and mine eld men in the city be wasted; for they sought meat to themselves, to comfort their life/to strengthen their life, *(or for they sought food for themselves, to refresh their souls).*

²⁰ See thou, Lord, for I am troubled, my womb is troubled; mine heart is destroyed in myself, for I am full of bitterness; *[the] sword slayeth withoutforth, and like death is at home, (or the sword killeth people outside, and there is death at home).*

²¹ They heard, that I make inward wailing, and none is that comforteth me; all mine enemies heard *(of)* mine evil, they be glad, for thou hast done *(it)*; thou hast brought a day of comfort, and

they shall be made like me, *(or but thou shalt bring the day that thou hast promised, and then they shall be made like me).*

²² All the evil of them enter before thee, and gather thou grapes away from them, as thou hast gathered grapes away from me, for my wickednesses; for my wailings *be many*, and mine heart is mourning. *(Let all their evil enter before thee, and take away the grapes from them, as thou hast taken away the grapes from me, for my wickednesses; for my wailings be many, and my heart is in mourning.)*

CHAPTER 2

¹ How hath the Lord covered the daughter of Zion with darkness in his strong vengeance? he hath cast down from heaven into earth the noble city of Israel; and bethought not on the stool of his feet, in the day of his strong vengeance. *(How the Lord hath covered the daughter of Zion with darkness in his strong vengeance! he hath thrown down the glory of Israel from heaven to the earth; and thought not about the stool of his feet, on the day of his strong vengeance.)*

² The Lord casted down, and spared not, all the fair things of Jacob; he destroyed in his strong vengeance the strongholds of the virgin of Judah, and casted down into *[the]* earth; he defouled the realm, and the princes thereof. *(The Lord threw down, and spared not, all the beautiful things of Jacob; he destroyed in his strong vengeance the strongholds of the virgin of Judah, and threw them*

down to the ground; he defiled the kingdom, and its leaders.)

³ He brake in the ire of his strong vengeance all the horn of Israel; he turned aback his right hand from the face of the enemy; and he kindled in Jacob, as fire of flame devouring in compass, (or and he kindled against Jacob, like a fire of devouring flame all around it).

⁴ He as an enemy bent his bow, he as an adversary made steadfast his right hand; and he killed all thing that was fair in sight in the tabernacle of the daughter of Zion; he shedded out his indignation as fire. *(He bent his bow like an enemy, he made steadfast, or firm, his right hand like an adversary; and he killed everything that was beautiful in sight in the tent of the daughter of Zion; he poured out his anger like fire.)*

⁵ The Lord is made as an enemy; he casted down Israel, he casted down all the walls thereof; he destroyed the strongholds thereof, and filled in the daughter of Judah a man made low, and a woman made low. *(The Lord is made like an enemy; he threw down Israel, he threw down all its walls; he destroyed its strongholds, and filled the daughter of Judah full of men and women who were humbled, or were made low.)*

⁶ And he scattered his tent as a garden *(or And he plowed under his tent like a garden)*, (yea), he destroyed his tabernacle; the Lord gave to forgetting in Zion a feast day, and *(the)* sabbath; and *(put)* the king and *(the)* priest into shame, and into the indignation of his strong vengeance.

⁷ The Lord putted away his altar, he cursed his hallowing; he betook into the hands of the enemy the walls of the towers thereof; they gave voice in the house of the Lord, as in a solemn day. (*The Lord destroyed his altar, he cursed his sanctuary; he gave into the hands of the enemy the walls of its towers; and the enemy gave his voice in the House of the Lord, like on a feast day.*)

⁸ The Lord thought to destroy the wall of the daughter of Zion; he stretched forth his cord, and turned not away his hand from perdition; the forewall, *either the outer ward*, mourned, and the wall was destroyed together (*with it*).

⁹ The gates thereof be pitched in the earth, he lost and all-brake the bars thereof; the king thereof and the princes thereof (*be*) among heathen men; the law is not, and the prophets thereof found not of the Lord a vision, *either revelation*. (*Its gates be thrown onto the ground, he destroyed and broke up all its bars, or all its locks; its king and its leaders be put among the heathen; the Law is not, and its prophets cannot find a vision, that is, a revelation, from the Lord.*)

¹⁰ They sat in [*the*] earth, the eld men of the daughter of Zion were still; they besprinkled their heads with ashes, the elder men of Judah be girt with hair-shirts; the virgins of Judah casted down to the earth their heads. (*They sat on the ground, the old men of the daughter of Zion were silent; they sprinkled their heads with ashes, the elders of Judah be girded with hair-shirts; the virgins of Judah cast down their heads to the ground.*)

11 Mine eyes failed for tears, mine entrails were troubled; my maw was shed out in *[the]* earth upon the sorrow of the daughter of my people *(or my bile was poured out on the ground over the sorrow of the daughter of my people)*; when a little child and *[the]* sucking *(one)* failed in the streets of the city.

12 They said to their mothers, Where is wheat, and wine? when they failed as wounded men in the streets of the city, *(or They asked their mothers, Where is some corn, and some wine? then they died, wounded in the streets of the city)*; yea, when they sent out their souls in(*to*) the bosom of their mothers.

13 To whom shall I comparison thee? either to whom shall I liken thee, thou daughter of Jerusalem? to whom shall I make thee even, and shall I comfort thee, thou virgin, the daughter of Zion? for why thy sorrow *is(as)* great as the sea; who shall do medicine to thee? *(To whom shall I compare thee? or to whom shall I liken thee, O daughter of Jerusalem? to whom shall I make thee equal, so that I can comfort thee, O virgin, the daughter of Zion? for thy sorrow is as great as the sea; who shall give medicine to thee?)*

14 Thy prophets saw to thee false things, and fond; and *they* opened not thy wickedness, that they should stir thee to penance; but they saw to thee false takings, and castings out. *(Thy prophets saw false and foolish things for thee; and they told not about thy wickedness, so that they could stir thee to penance; but they saw for*

thee false burdens, and castings out, or causes of banishment.)

¹⁵ All men passing on the way clapped with hands on thee; they hissed, and moved their head on the daughter of Jerusalem; and said, This is the city of perfect fairness, the joy of all *(the)* earth. *(All those passing on the way clapped with their hands at thee; they hissed, and shook their heads over the daughter of Jerusalem; and said, Is this the city that once was so perfect in beauty, yea, the joy of all the earth?)*

¹⁶ All thine enemies opened their mouth on thee; they hissed, and gnashed with their teeth, and said, We shall devour; lo! this is the day which we abided, we found, we saw. *(All thy enemies opened their mouths against thee; they hissed, and gnashed with their teeth, and said, We shall devour thee; lo! this is the day which we have waited for; now it hath arrived, and we have seen it happen!)*

¹⁷ The Lord did those things which he thought, he *[ful]* filled his word which he had commanded from *[the]* eld days; he destroyed, and spared not; and made glad the enemy on thee *(or and let the enemy rejoice over thee)*; and enhanced the horn of thine enemies.

¹⁸ The heart of them cried to the Lord, on the walls of the daughter of Zion; lead thou forth tears as a strand, by day and night, *(or lead thou forth tears like a stream, both day and night)*; give thou not rest to thee, neither the apple of thine eye be still.

19 Rise thou together, praise thou in the night, in the beginning of wakings; shed out thine heart as water, before the sight of the Lord, (*or Rise thou up, praise thou in the night, at the beginning of every watch; pour out thy heart like water, before the Lord*); raise thine hands to him for the souls of thy little children, that failed for hunger in the head of all (*the*) meetings of (*the*) ways.

20 See thou, Lord, and behold, whom thou hast made so bare; therefore whether women shall eat their fruit, (*their*) little children at the measure of an hand? for a priest and prophet is slain in the saintuary of the Lord. (*See thou, Lord, and behold, they whom thou hast made so bare; and so shall women eat their own fruit, their own little children at the measure of an hand? shall a priest and a prophet be killed in the Lord's sanctuary?*)

21 A child and an eld man lie on the earth withoutforth; my virgins and my young men fell down by sword; thou hast slain them in the day of thy strong vengeance, thou smotest and didest no mercy. (*A child and an old man lie on the ground outside; my virgins and my young men fell down by the sword; thou hast killed them on the day of thy strong vengeance, thou struck them down, and showed no mercy.*)

22 Thou calledest, as to a solemn day, them that made me afearred of compass; and none was that escaped in the day of the strong vengeance of the Lord, and was left; mine enemy wasted them, which I fed, and nourished up. (*Thou hast called, like to a feast day, those all around me who made*

me afraid; and there was no one who escaped on the day of the strong vengeance of the Lord, and was left alive; my enemy destroyed all of them, whom I had fed, and nourished.)

CHAPTER 3

¹ I am a man seeing my poverty in the rod of his indignation. *(I am a man who seeth my poverty, I have felt the rod of his indignation, or of his anger.)*

² He drove me, and brought *(me)* into dark-nesses, and not into light.

³ Only he turned into me, and turned together his hand all day. *(He turned only against me, and he turned his hand against me all day long.)*

⁴ He made old my skin, and my flesh; he all-brake my bones. *(He made old, or wasted, my skin, and my flesh; he broke all my bones.)*

⁵ He builded in my compass, and he compassed me with gall and travail. *(He built all around me, yea, he surrounded me with gall and tribulation.)*

⁶ He setted me in dark places, as everlasting dead men. *(He put me in dark places, like the everlasting dead.)*

⁷ He builded about against me, *(so)* that I go not out; he aggrieved my gyves *(or he made my chains heavy)*.

⁸ But and when I cry and pray, he hath excluded my prayer.

⁹ He closed together my ways with square stones; he destroyed my paths. *(He altogether enclosed my ways with square stones; he destroyed my paths.)*

10 He is made (*like*) a bear setting ambush to me, (*like*) a lion in hid places.

11 He destroyed my paths, and brake me; he setted me desolate (*or he left me desolate*).

12 He bent his bow, and setted me as a sign to an arrow. (*He bent his bow, and made me a target for his arrows.*)

13 He sent in(*to*) my reins the daughters of his arrow case.

14 I am made into scorn to all the people (*or I am mocked by everyone*), the song of them all day (*long*).

15 He filled me with bitternesses; he greatly filled me with wormwood.

16 He brake at number my teeth (*or He broke my teeth on gravel*); he fed me with ashes.

17 And my soul is put away; I have forgotten goods. (*And I have given up; I have forgotten the good things or I have forgotten whatever was good.*)

18 And I said, Mine end perished, and mine hope, from the Lord. (*And I said, My strength, and my hope in the Lord, have all perished.*)

19 Have thou mind on my poverty, and going over, and on wormwood and gall. (*Remember my poverty, and my goings about, yea, the wormwood and the gall.*)

20 By mind I shall be mindful; and my soul shall fail in me. (*Remember, O remember; even though my soul shall fail in me.*)

21 I bethink these things in mine heart, I shall hope in God.

22 The mercies of the Lord *be* many, for we be not wasted; for why his merciful doings failed not.

23 I knew in the morrowtide; thy faith is much [*or much is thy faith*]. (*They be new in the morning; great is thy faithfulness.*)

24 My soul said, The Lord is my part; therefore I shall abide him. (*My soul said, The Lord is my portion; and so I shall wait for him.*)

25 The Lord is good to them that hope into him, to a soul seeking him. (*The Lord is good to those who hope in him, to someone seeking him.*)

26 It is good to abide with stillness the health of God. (*It is good to silently wait for the salvation of God./It is good to patiently wait for the deliverance of God.*)

27 It is good to a man (*or It is good for a person*), when he hath borne the yoke of his youth.

28 He shall sit alone, and he shall be still; for he raised himself above himself. (*He shall sit alone, and he shall be silent or and he shall be patient; and he shall carry it by himself.*)

29 He shall set his mouth in (*the*) dust, if peradventure hope is. (*He shall put his face upon the ground, for perhaps there may still be hope.*)

30 He shall give the cheek to a man that smiteth him; he shall be filled with shames. (*He shall give his cheek to the one who striketh him; he shall be laden with abuse.*)

31 For the Lord shall not put away [*into*] without end. (*For the Lord shall not cast us away forever.*)

³² For if he casted away, and he shall do mercy after the multitude of his mercies. (*For even if he hath cast us away, he shall still do mercy after the multitude of his mercies.*)

³³ For he maked not low of his heart; and casted not away the sons of men. (*For he did not make his heart low; and did not cast away the sons and daughters of men forever.*)

³⁴ That he should all-foul under his feet all the bound men of [*the*] earth. (*So that he would all-foul all the bound, or all the imprisoned, on earth, under his feet.*)

³⁵ That he should bow down the doom of (*a*) man, in the sight of the cheer of the Highest. (*So that he would deny someone justice, before the very face of the Most High.*)

³⁶ That he should pervert a man in his doom, the Lord knew not. (*So that he would pervert a person in his judgement; no, the Lord desireth none of this.*)

³⁷ Who is this that said (*or Who is this who said*), that a thing should be done, when the Lord commandeth (*it*) not?

³⁸ Neither goods neither evils shall go out of the mouth of the Highest. (*Do not both good and evil go out from the mouth of the Most High?*)

³⁹ What grutched a man living, a man (*punished*) for his sins? (*Why grumble a living man, when he is punished for his sins?*)

⁴⁰ Search we our ways, and seek we, and turn we again to the Lord. (*Consider all that we do, and seek we the truth about it, and then turn we again to the Lord.*)

41 Raise we our hearts with hands, to the Lord into heavens. (*Raise we up our hearts with our hands, to the Lord in heaven.*)

42 We have done wickedly, and have stirred thee to wrath; therefore thou art not able to be prayed (*to*).

43 Thou coveredest in strong vengeance, and smitedest us (*or and hast struck us*); thou killedest (*us*), and sparedest (*us*) not.

44 Thou settedest a cloud to thee, that prayer pass not. (*Thou hast set a cloud before thee, that prayers cannot pass through.*)

45 Thou settedest me, drawing up by the root, and casting out, in the midst of [*the*] peoples. (*Thou hast made us, as if drawn up by the root, and cast out, in the midst of the peoples.*)

46 All [*the*] enemies opened their mouth on us. (*All the enemies have opened their mouths against us.*)

47 Inward dread and snare is made to us, prophecy and defouling. (*Inward fear and snare be made upon us, and prophecy and defiling.*)

48 Mine eyes led down partings of waters, for the defouling of the daughter of my people.

49 Mine eye was tormented, and was not still; for no rest was. (*My eyes were tormented, and were not still; for there was no rest.*)

50 Until the Lord beheld, and saw from heavens. (*until the Lord beheld, and saw from heaven.*)

51 Mine eye robbed my soul in all the daughters of my city. (*My heart is grieved at what befell all the daughters of my city.*)

52 Mine enemies took me without cause, by hunting *(me)* as a bird. *(My enemies had no reason to be against me, yet they hunted me down like a bird.)*

53 My life slid into a pit; and they putted a stone on me.

54 Waters flowed over mine head; I said, I perish.

55 Lord, I called to help thy name, from the last pit. *(Lord, I called thy name for help, from the deepest pit or from the bottom of the pit.)*

56 Thou heardest my voice; turn thou not away thine ear from my sobbing and cries.

57 Thou nighedest to me in the day, wherein I called thee to help; thou saidest, Dread thou not. *(Thou came to me on the day, when I called to thee for help; thou saidest, Fear thou not.)*

58 Lord, again-buyer of my life, thou deemedest the cause of my soul. *(Lord, the Redeemer of my life, thou hast pleaded the cause of my soul or thou hast pleaded my soul's case.)*

59 Lord, thou sawest the wickedness of them against me; deem thou my doom *(or judge thou my judgement or judge thou my justice)*.

60 Thou sawest all the strong vengeance, all the thoughts of them against me.

61 Lord, thou heardest the shames of them, *(or Lord, thou heardest their abuse)*; all the thoughts of them against me.

62 The lips of men rising against me, and the thoughts of them against me all day *(long)*.

63 See thou the sitting and (*the*) rising again of them; I am the psalm of them (*or I am their song of mocking*).

64 Lord, thou shalt yield while to them, by the works of their hands. (*Lord, thou shalt punish them, according to the works of their hands.*)

65 Thou shalt give to them the shield of heart, thy travail. (*Give thou them much sorrow of heart, and thy trials and tribulation.*)

66 Lord, thou shalt pursue them in thy strong vengeance, and thou shalt defoul them under heavens. (*Lord, pursue thou them in thy strong anger, and utterly defile, or destroy, thou them under the heavens.*)

CHAPTER 4

1 How is gold made dark, the best colour is changed? the stones of the saintuary be scattered in the head of all streets. (*How the gold is made dark, the best colour is changed! the stones from the sanctuary be scattered at the head, (or at the top), of every street.*)

2 The noble sons of Zion, and clothed with the best gold, how be they areckoned into earthen vessels, into the work of the hands of a potter? (*The noble sons of Zion, and clothed with the best gold, how they be reckoned like clay vessels, yea, the work of the hands of a potter!*)

3 But also lamias (*or lamiae*) made naked their teats, gave milk to their whelps; (*but*) the daughter of my people is cruel, as an ostrich in desert (*or like an ostrich in the wilderness*).

⁴ The tongue of the sucking child cleaved to his palate in thirst; little children asked (*for*) bread, and none was that brake to them (*or but no one gave them any*).

⁵ They that ate lustfully, perished in ways; they that were nourished in cradles, embraced turds. (*They who ate lustfully, perished on the ways; they who were nourished in cradles, hung onto dung.*)

⁶ And the wickedness of the daughter of my people is made more than the sin of (*the*) men of Sodom, that was destroyed in a moment, and hands took not therein.

⁷ (*The*) Nazarites thereof were whiter than snow, shininger than milk; ruddier than eld ivory, fairer than sapphire, (*or redder than old ivory, more beautiful than sapphire*).

⁸ The face of them was made blacker than coals, and they were not known in (*the*) streets; the skin cleaved to their bones, it dried, and was made as a stick, (*or it dried up, and was made like a stick*).

⁹ It was better to men slain with sword, than to men slain with hunger; for these men waxed rotten, they were wasted of the barrenness of [*the*] earth. (*It was better for those who were killed with the sword, than for those killed by hunger; for these people slowly grew rotten, and they wasted away for the barrenness of the land.*)

¹⁰ The hands of merciful women seethed their children; they were made the meats of those women in the sorrow of the daughter of my people. (*The hands of merciful women boiled their own children; they were made the food for*

those women in the horror of the wounding of my people.)

¹¹ The Lord [*ful*] filled his strong vengeance, he shedded out the ire of his indignation (*or he poured out his anger*); and the Lord kindled a fire in Zion, and it devoured the foundations thereof.

¹² The kings of [*the*] earth, and all the dwellers of the world believed not (*or and all the inhabitants of the world could not believe it*), that an adversary and [*the*] enemy should enter in by the gates of Jerusalem.

¹³ For the sins of the prophets thereof, and for [*the*] wickednesses of priests thereof, that shedded out the blood of just men in the midst thereof. (*For the sins of its prophets, and for the wickednesses of its priests, who poured out the blood of the just in its midst.*)

¹⁴ Blind men erred in streets, they were defouled in blood, (*or They wandered about like the blind in the streets, they were defiled in blood*); and when they might not go, they held (*onto*) their hems.

¹⁵ They cried to them, Depart away, ye defouled men, depart ye, go ye away, do not ye touch; forsooth they chided, and were stirred; they said among heathen men (*or they said among the heathen*), God shall no more add to, that he dwell among them.

¹⁶ The face of the Lord parted them, he shall no more lay to, that he behold them; they were not ashamed of the faces of priests, neither they had mercy on eld men, (*or they were not ashamed*

before the priests, nor did they have any mercy for the elders).

17 The while we stood yet, our eyes failed to our vain help; when we beheld attentive to a folk, that might not save us. *(Yet while we stood, our eyes looked in vain for our help; we looked attentively for a nation, that could not save us.)*

18 Our steps were slidery in the way of our streets; our end nighed, our days were [ful] filled, for our end came.

19 Our pursuers were swifter than the eagles of heaven; they pursued us on [the] hills, they setted ambushments to us in desert. *(Our pursuers were swifter than the eagles of the heavens; they pursued us over the hills, they set ambush for us in the wilderness.)*

20 The spirit of our mouth, Christ the Lord, was taken in our sins; to whom we said, We shall live in thy shadow among heathen men. *(The very breath of our mouth, yea, the Lord's anointed king, was caught in their sins; he of whom we had said, We shall live under thy shadow, among the heathen.)*

21 Thou daughter of Edom, make joy, and be glad, that dwellest in the land of Uz; the cup shall come also to thee, thou shalt be made drunken, and shalt be made bare. *(O daughter of Edom, rejoice, and be happy, thou who livest in the land of Uz; the cup shall also come to thee, and thou shalt be made drunk, and shalt be made naked.)*

22 Thou daughter of Zion, thy wickedness is [ful] filled; he shall not add more, that he make thee to pass over *(again into captivity);* thou

daughter of Edom, he shall visit thy wickedness, he shall uncover thy sins, (*or O daughter of Edom, he shall punish thy wickedness, he shall uncover thy sins*).

CHAPTER 5

¹ Lord, have thou mind what befell to us, (*or Lord, remember what hath happened to us*); see thou, and behold our shame.

² Our heritage is turned to aliens, our houses *be turned* to strangers. (*Our inheritance is turned, or given, over to foreigners, our houses be turned over to strangers.*)

³ We be made fatherless children without (*a*) father; our mothers *be* as widows (*or our mothers be like widows*).

⁴ We drank our water for money, we bought our wood for silver. (*We must buy with money our water to drink, and we must buy with silver our wood to burn.*)

⁵ We were driven by our heads, and rest was not given to faint men. (*The yoke is upon our necks, and rest is not given to the weary.*)

⁶ We gave (*the*) hand to Egypt, and to Assyrians, that we should be [*ful*] filled with bread. (*We put forth our hands to Egypt, and to Assyria, for food to eat.*)

⁷ Our fathers sinned, and be not, and we bare the wickednesses of them. (*Our forefathers sinned, and be not, and we carry their wickednesses.*)

⁸ Servants were lords of us, and none was, that again-bought from the hand of them. (*Servants*

be our lords, and there is no one who can rescue us from their hands.)

⁹ In our lives we brought bread to us, from the face of [*the*] sword in desert. (*Risking our lives, we brought in food for us, from the face of the sword in the wilderness.*)

¹⁰ Our skin is burnt as a furnace, of the face of tempests of hunger. (*Our skin is burned like from a furnace, from being buffeted by the tempests of hunger.*)

¹¹ They made low (*the*) women in Zion, and (*the*) virgins in the cities of Judah.

¹² Princes were hanged [*up*] by the hand; they were not ashamed of the faces of old men. (*Our leaders were hung up by their hands; no one showed any honour to the old men, or the elders.*)

¹³ They misused young waxing men unchastely, and children fell down in (*the*) tree. (*They used the young men unchastely, and children fell down under loads of wood.*)

¹⁴ Eld men failed from [*the*] gates; young men failed from the quire of singers. (*Old men no longer sit at the city gates; young men no longer sing in the choir.*)

¹⁵ The joy of our heart failed; our song is turned into mourning.

¹⁶ The crown of our head fell down (*or The crowns have fallen from off our heads*); woe to us! for we (*all have*) sinned.

¹⁷ Therefore our heart is made sorrowful, therefore our eyes be made dark.

18 For the hill of Zion, for it perished; foxes went in it. (*For Mount Zion, for it hath perished; and now foxes run all over it.*)

19 But thou, Lord, shalt dwell without end; thy seat *shall dwell* in generation and into generation. (*But thou, Lord, shalt live forever; thy throne shall remain for all generations.*)

20 Why shalt thou forget us [*into*] without end, shalt thou forsake us into [*the*] length of days? (*Why hast thou forgotten us for so long, shalt thou abandon us forever?*)

21 Lord, convert thou us to thee, and we shall be converted; make thou new our days, as at the beginning. (*Lord, turn thou us back to thee, and we shall come back to thee; renew thou our days, like at the beginning.*)

22 But thou casting away hast cast away us; thou art wroth against us greatly. (*But thou casting away hath cast us away; thou still hath great anger against us.*)

Wycliffe's Bible with Modern Spelling (Enhanced)

English: Wycliffe's Bible Modern Spelling (Enhanced) (with Deuterocanon)

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