

**It Is Finished**  
**“From the Depths” Series**  
**Lamentations 4**  
**May 17, 2020**  
**Pastor Casey Ehlers**

**Introduction**

In this passage God teaches us that, for the Christian, suffering is temporary.

**The Text: Lamentations 4**

- 1) A brief orientation to Lamentations 4.
  
- 2) Lament is never permanent, it finds hope in seeing God’s full story, that all suffering for the Christian is temporary. (v. 22a)
  - a. **Lamentations 2:** The first step of lament is turning toward God, including him in the equation.
  - b. **Lamentations 3:** The second step of lament is trusting God’s character and embracing his mercy.
  - c. **Lamentations 4:** The third step of lament is seeing God’s full story, placing hope in the reality that all suffering for the Christian is temporary.

**Response**

As apprentices of lament, we are learning that the Gospel marks the moment in history where our suffering has been dealt its deathblow. “It is finished!”

## Sunday Text Questions for Lamentations 4 (“From the Depth” Series)

May 17, 2020

Pastor Casey Ehlers

- 1) Starter Question: What have you learned from the book of Lamentations so far?
- 2) What is your reaction to Lamentations 4 as a whole?
- 3) What examples of suffering do you see in verses 1-10? Are any surprising to you?
- 4) Given the gruesome images present in this text, evaluate the popular Christian adage “God will never give you more than you can handle.”
- 5) Who was the LORD’s wrath directed to in verses 11-16? Do you think this passage serves as a warning to Christian leaders today?
- 6) The author/poet of Lamentations 4 experiences the suffering of Israel in verses 17-20. What can this teach us about our ministry to those suffering around us?
- 7) What do verses 21 and 22 teach us about God?
- 8) How is verse 21a: “The punishment of your iniquity, O daughter of Zion, is accomplished; he will keep you in exile no longer;” a comforting passage to the church today?
- 9) Why is suffering for a Christian temporary? What does this truth teach us about lament?
- 10) How is the Gospel—specifically Jesus’s death, resurrection, and ascension—connected to lament?

**Further study this week:** 2 Kings 25:1-21 (Mon); Jeremiah 2 (Tues); Habakkuk 1 (Wed); Habakkuk 2 (Thurs); Habakkuk 3 (Fri).

# SERMON NOTES



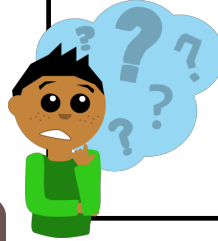
DATE

\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

WHO IS SPEAKING?



WORDS I HEARD BUT DON'T KNOW...



TODAY'S MAIN PASSAGE?

BOOK:

CHAPTER:

VERSE:

ACCORDING TO TODAY'S SERMON...

IS THERE SOMETHING I SHOULD  DOING?

 IS THERE SOMETHING I SHOULD START DOING?

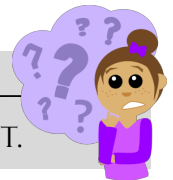
WRITE OR DRAW SOMETHING THAT YOU HEARD IN THE SERMON OR IN A SONG TODAY.

WHICH ONE VERSE IS THE MOST IMPORTANT?



FILL IN THE BLANKS BELOW DURING THE SERVICE AND THEN, ON THE WAY HOME, TALK ABOUT WHAT YOU HEARD AND THE NOTES YOU WROTE DOWN.

I HEARD \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ TODAY BUT WAS CONFUSED OR HAD A HARD TIME BELIEVING IT.



HEARING AND BELIEVING \_\_\_\_\_  
CHANGES THE WAY I \_\_\_\_\_