# Listening to the Prophets A Study of Old Testament Major Prophets Lesson Five

Mervin W. Tapsfield

http://newjerusalemcommunity.blogspot.com/2011/05/old-testament-prophets.html



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

 Website-swordofthespiritstudies.com [Sword of the Spirit Studies]

- Live YouTube Lesson
- Student Notes
- Instructor Notes
- PowerPoint

YouTube-Sword of the Spirit Studies

Thank you for helping set up for last Thursday



## Virtual Serve (ELI) Opportunity



#### November 7-11

https://hillsidechurches.com/event/virtual-eli-serve-trip/





# Begin Recording

# Listening to the Prophets A Study of Old Testament Major Prophets Lesson Five

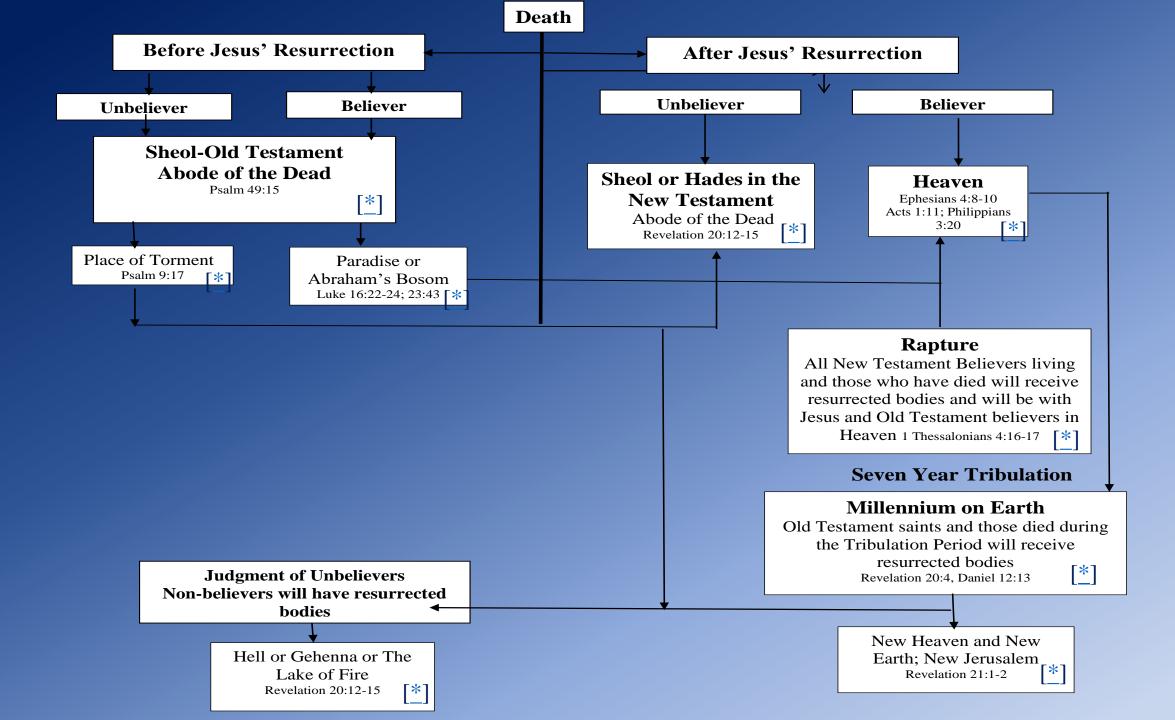
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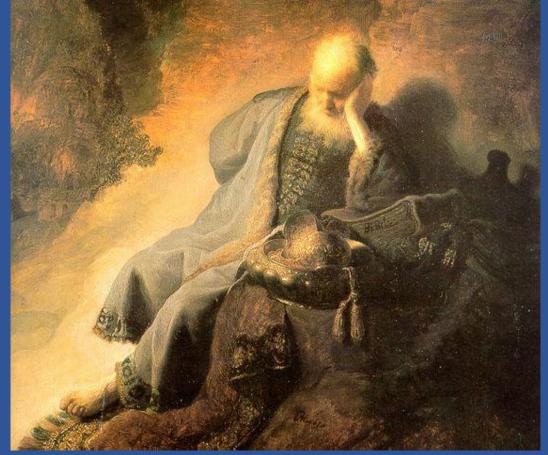
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## Lesson Five The Book of Lamentations

#### Introduction

• The word for Lamentations, comes from a Greek verb meaning "to cry aloud" and accurately describes the contents of the book.

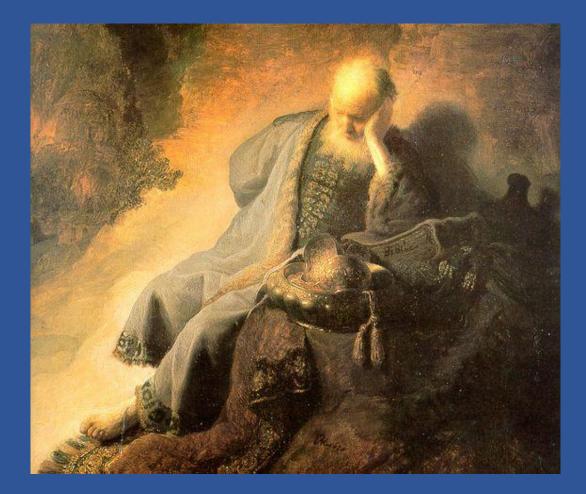


- Lamentations consists of five melancholy poems mourning the destruction of Jerusalem.18
- Most Bible scholars credit Jeremiah as the author of Lamentations.
  - This conclusion seems logical since Jeremiah lived to see the destruction of Jerusalem in <u>586</u> B.C.19



https://www.pinterest.com/pin/520025088193057380/

- Also, the writing style is characteristic with other "laments" issued by Jeremiah (2 Chronicles 35:25). [\*]
- Despite Jeremiah's repeated warnings, the Jews refused to obey God and turn from their idolatrous practices.



https://www.pinterest.com/pin/520025088193057380/

 The Jews never believed God would allow His chosen people, His temple, and His land to be taken by a heathen nation. They felt their existence was divinely secure despite disobeying God's laws.

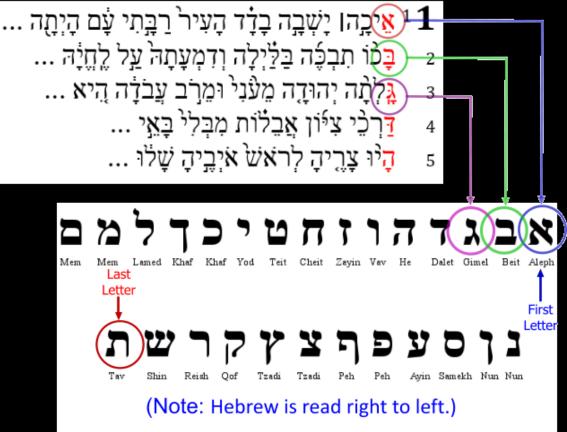


https://www.crosswalk.com/faith/bible-study/interesting-facts-about-solomons-temple.html

 Lamentations consists of five poems, each one chapter in length.

The first four poems or chapters begin as an acrostic (each verse begins with a word whose first letter is successively one of the 22 letters of the Hebrew alphabet).

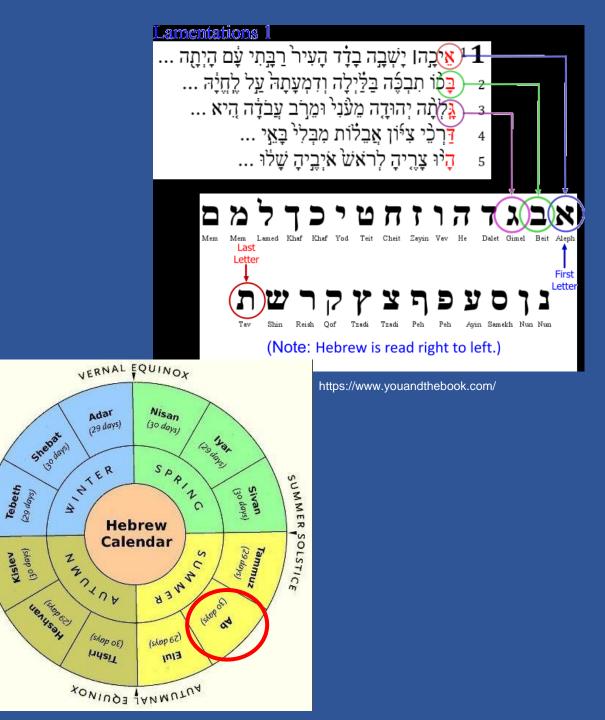
#### Lamentations 1



https://www.youandthebook.com/

 The first four chapters are written in "limping meter," a cadence used in funeral dirges.

 The Jews read this book publicly on the ninth day of the month of Ab (about mid-July).



SOLSTICE

WINTER

- The reading commemorates the destruction of Jerusalem in 586 B.C.
- Roman Catholics also read this book in commemoration of Jerusalem's destruction by the Romans in 70 A.D.
- Lamentations reminds one of Jesus' burdens over Jerusalem (Matt. 23:37-38).<sup>21</sup> [\*] Ezekiel 11:22-23; 1<sup>st</sup> Samuel 4:19-22; Matt. 7:21-23; Rev. 20:11-15 [\*]



https://www.pinterest.com/pin/322077810850721884/

### **Chapter 1-The Desolation of Jerusalem**

- Jeremiah laments over Jerusalem's baron roads and over the <u>silence</u> of the Feasts (1:4). [\*]
- Jeremiah clearly states the reason for Jerusalem's captivity (vs. 5). [\*]
- Jeremiah 1:1-3 explains Jerusalem's complete <u>destruction</u>. [\*]

Feast of	Jewish Calendar Month	Day	Month	Ref
Passover Unleavened Bread)	Nisan	14-21	Mar-Apr	Ex. 12:43-13:10 Matt 26:17-20
* Pentecost First Fruits or Weeks)	Sivan	6 (50 days after Passover)	May-June	Deut 16:9-12 Acts 2:1
Frumpets Rosh Hashanah	Tishri	1,2	Sept-Oct	Num. 29:1-6
Day of Atonement <i>Tom Kippur</i>	Tishri	10	Sept-Oct	Lev 23:26-32 Heb 9:7
' Tabernacles Booths or Ingathering)	Tishri	15-22	Sept-Oct	Neh 8:13-18 John 7:2
Dedication (Lights) <i>Hanukkah</i>	Chislev	25 (8 days)	Nov-Dec	John 10:22
Purim (Lots)	Adar	14,15	Feb-Mar	Esth 9:18-32

https://www.pinterest.com/pin/279434351850792313/

- Jeremiah prophesied the captivity would take place and the duration would be <u>70</u> years (Jer. 25:11). [<sup>\*</sup>]
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Chronicles 36:14-16; 20-21 states why the captivity took place. [\*]
  - The captivity was due to Israel's idolatry and for Israel neglecting the 70 years of sabbatical rest (Leviticus 25:2-4). [\*]



https://millersportcc.com/messages/flee-from-idolatry/

 During Israel's captivity, the people had time to ponder over their life back in Jerusalem (vs.7).



https://millersportcc.com/messages/flee-from-idolatry/

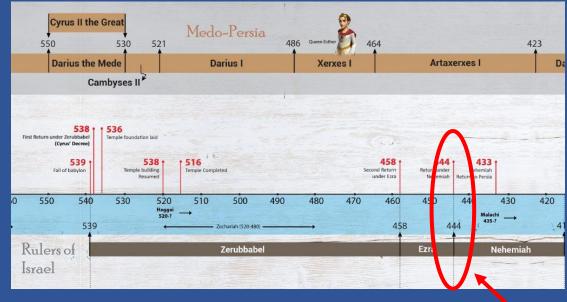
## **Chapter 2-The Destruction of Jerusalem**

- Jerusalem's siege lasted from 588-586 B.C.
  - During the siege, the living conditions within the city degenerated to <u>unimaginable</u> proportions (2: 20-21).



https://lastdayspast.com/the-siege-of-jerusalem/

- Lamentations 2:8-9 describes the destruction of Jerusalem's walls. [\*]
  - The restoration of the wall marked the beginning of the <u>Messiah's</u> timeline as king.
  - Daniel 9:24-27 gave specific details about the countdown from the time of the wall's rebuilding to the Messiah coming as king. [\*]



https://simplifybible.com/bible-study/old-testament/zechariah/

445 BC

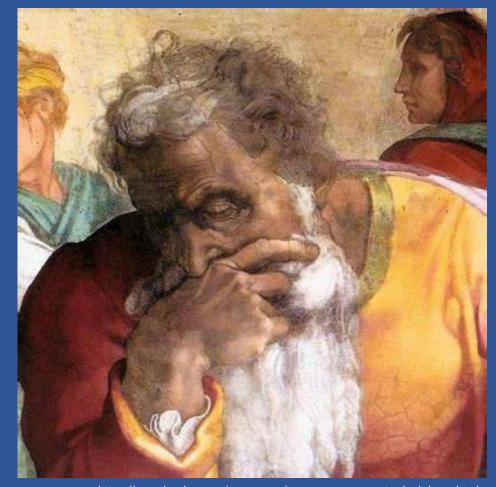
## **Chapter 3-The Distraught Prophet**

- Jeremiah poured out his soul over the destruction of Jerusalem.
- Many refer to Jeremiah as the "<u>weeping prophet</u>" because of his compassion for Israel (vs. 48-51). [\*]
- Jeremiah's hope in the Lord sustained him despite his suffering.



https://www.pinterest.com/pin/520025088193057380/

- Verses 19-26 are some well quoted parts of scripture. [\*]
- Verse 40 gives a good recipe for repentance. [\*]
- Jeremiah expressed his hope and trust in God (vs. 55-58). [<sup>\*</sup>]



https://www.haebea.org/newsroom/a-prayer-as-we-enter-lockdown.html

## Chapter 4-The Defeated People of Jerusalem

Chapter 4 describes the plight of those in Jerusalem who were under siege. The Jews still refused to repent of their sins. (Vs. 4-6; 10).

 The Jews eventually ostracized the false prophets and priests, however, the time for restoration had passed (vs. 13-15).<sup>22</sup>[<sup>\*</sup>]



https://lastdayspast.com/the-siege-of-jerusalem/

 The Babylonian captivity came <u>swiftly</u> (vs. 19-20). [ ]



https://lastdayspast.com/the-siege-of-jerusalem/

# Chapter 5-Prayer for the People (Confession)

Jeremiah interceded on behalf of Jerusalem.
Jeremiah reminded God of Israel's grief and waited for God's restoration (vs. 9-12; 16; 21). [\*]



## Summary

- God does not show favor, nor does He demonstrate partiality.
- The Jews believed God would never destroy them or forsake them.
- The Jews felt exempt from following God's laws since they were His "chosen" people.
- Even though God chose the Jews as His people, they were still held <u>accountable</u> for their obedience to the Law.
   Over---

- Do we as Christians tend to rest upon the laurels of our past or upon our redeemed position in Christ?
- It is easy to fall into the trap of feeling exempt from God's laws.
- Even though we live under grace, we should keep His laws for our good.
- When we disobey God and deliberately refuse to obey His commands, we often pay the price for our actions.
  Ultimately-God is merciful and full of compassion Over---

- God is merciful and full of forgiveness.
- It is important not to harden our hearts and refrain from repenting.
- A fulfilled life of blessing is one that adheres to God's instruction.
- End----

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Chronicles 35:25

25 Then Jeremiah chanted a song of mourning for Josiah. And all the male and female singers speak about Josiah in their songs of mourning to this day. And they made them an ordinance in Israel; behold, they are also written in the Lamentations. [\*]

#### Matthew 23:37-38

37 "Jerusalem, Jerusalem, who kills the prophets and stones those who have been 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. 38 Behold, your house is being left to you desolate! [\*]

Lamentations 1:4

4 The roads of Zion are in mourning

Because no one comes to an appointed feast.

All her gates are deserted;

Her priests groan,

Her virgins are worried,

And as for Zion herself, it is bitter for her. [\*]



5 Her adversaries have become her masters,

Her enemies are secure;

For the Lord has caused her grief

Because of the multitude of her wrongdoings;

Her little ones have gone away

As captives led by the enemy. [\*]

#### Jeremiah 1:1-3

1 The words of Jeremiah the son of Hilkiah, of the priests who were in Anathoth in the land of Benjamin, 2 to whom the word of the Lord came in the days of Josiah the son of Amon, king of Judah, in the thirteenth year of his reign. 3 It came also in the days of <u>Jehoiakim</u> the son of Josiah, king of Judah, until the end of the eleventh year of Zedekiah the son of Josiah, king of Judah, until the exile of Jerusalem in the fifth month. [\*]

#### Jeremiah 25:11

11 This entire land will be a place of ruins and an object of horror, and these nations will serve the king of Babylon for <u>seventy years</u>. [\*]

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Chronicles 36:14-16; 20-21

4 Furthermore, all the officials of the priests and the people were very unfaithful, following all the abominations of the nations; and they defiled the house of the Lord which He had sanctified in Jerusalem.

15 Yet the Lord, the God of their fathers, sent word to them <u>again and again</u> by His messengers, <u>because He</u> <u>had compassion</u> on His people and on His dwelling place; 16 but they continually mocked the messengers of God, despised His words, and scoffed at His prophets, until the wrath of the Lord rose against His people, until there was no remedy. [Over---] 20 He took into exile those who had escaped from the sword to Babylon; and they were servants to him and to his sons until the rule of the kingdom of Persia, 21 to fulfill the word of the Lord by the mouth of Jeremiah, until the land had enjoyed its Sabbaths. All the days of its desolation it kept the Sabbath until <u>seventy years</u> were complete. [1]

Lamentations 1:7

7 In the days of her affliction and homelessness Jerusalem remembers all her treasures That were hers since the days of old, When her people fell into the hand of the adversary And no one helped her. The adversaries saw her, They laughed at her ruin. [\*]

## Lamentations 2:20-21

20 "See, Lord, and look! With whom have You dealt this way? Should women really eat their children, The little ones who were born healthy? Should priest and prophet really be killed In the sanctuary of the Lord? Over----

21 "On the ground in the streets
Lie young and old;
My virgins and my young men
Have fallen by the sword.
You have put them to death on the day of Your anger,
You have slaughtered, without sparing. [\*]

Lamentations 2:8-9 8 The Lord determined to destroy The wall of the daughter of Zion. He has stretched out a line, He has not restrained His hand from destroying, And He has caused rampart and wall to mourn; They have languished together. Over---

9 Her gates have sunk into the ground,
He has destroyed and broken her bars.
Her king and her leaders are among the nations;
The Law is gone.
Her prophets, too, find
No vision from the Lord. [\*]

Daniel 9:24-27

24 "Seventy weeks have been decreed for your people and your holy city, to finish the wrongdoing, to make an end of sin, to make atonement for guilt, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy, and to anoint the Most Holy Place. 25 So you are to know and understand that from the issuing of a decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem, until Messiah the Prince, there will be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks; it will be built again, with streets and moat, even in times of distress. [Over---]

26 Then after the sixty-two weeks, the Messiah will be cut off and have nothing, and the people of the prince who is to come will destroy the city and the sanctuary. And its end will come with a flood; even to the end there will be war; desolations are determined. 27 And he will confirm a covenant with the many for one week, but in the middle of the week he will put a stop to sacrifice and grain offering; Over----

and on the wing of abominations will come the one who makes desolate, until a complete destruction, one that is decreed, gushes forth on the one who makes desolate." [\*]

Lamentations 3:48-51 48 My eyes run down with streams of water Because of the destruction of the daughter of my people. 49 My eyes flow unceasingly, Without stopping, 50 Until the Lord looks down And sees from heaven. 51 My eyes bring pain to my soul Because of all the daughters of my city. [\*]

Lamentations 3:19-26

19 Remember my misery and my homelessness, the wormwood and bitterness.

20 My soul certainly remembers,

And is bent over within me.

21 I recall this to my mind,

Therefore I wait.

22 The Lord's acts of mercy indeed do not end,

For His compassions do not fail.

23 They are new every morning;

Great is Your faithfulness. [Over---]

24 "The Lord is my portion," says my soul,
"Therefore I wait for Him."
25 The Lord is good to those who await Him,
To the person who seeks Him.
26 It is good that he waits silently
For the salvation of the Lord. [<sup>\*</sup>]

Lamentations 3:40 40 Let's examine and search out our ways, And let's return to the Lord. [\*]

Lamentations 3:55-58 55 I called on Your name, Lord, Out of the lowest pit. 56 You have heard my voice, "Do not cover Your ear from my plea for relief, From my cry for help." 57 You came near on the day I called to You; You said, "Do not fear!" 58 Lord, You have pleaded my soul's cause; You have redeemed my life. [\*]

Lamentations 4:4-6; 10 4 The tongue of the infant clings To the roof of its mouth because of thirst; The children ask for bread, But no one breaks it for them. 5 Those who used to eat delicacies Are made to tremble in the streets; Those who were raised in crimson clothing Embrace garbage heaps. Over---

6 For the wrongdoing of the daughter of my people Is greater than the sin of Sodom, Which was overthrown as in a moment, And no hands were turned toward her... 10 The hands of compassionate women Boiled their own children; They became food for them Due to the destruction of the daughter of my people. 11The Lord has expended His wrath, He has poured out His fierce [\*]

Lamentations 4:13-15 13 Because of the sins of her prophets And the wrongdoings of her priests, Who have shed in her midst The blood of the righteous, 14 They wandered, blind, in the streets; They were defiled with blood, Such that no one could touch their garments. Over----

15 "Keep away! Unclean!" they cried out of themselves.
"Keep away, keep away, do not touch!"
For they distanced themselves as well as wandered;
People among the nations said,
"They shall not continue to reside with us." [\*]

Lamentations 4:19-20 19 Our pursuers were swifter Than the eagles of the sky; They chased us on the mountains, They waited in ambush for us in the wilderness. 20 The breath of our nostrils, the Lord's anointed, Was captured in their pits, Of whom we had said, "In his shadow We shall live among the nations." []

Lamentations 5:9-12; 16; 21 9 We get our bread at the risk of our lives Because of the sword in the wilderness. 10 Our skin has become as hot as an oven, Because of the ravages of hunger. 11 They violated the women in Zion, The virgins in the cities of Judah. 12 Leaders were hung by their hands; Elders were not respected. Over----

16 The crown has fallen from our head;
Woe to us, for we have sinned!
21 Restore us to You, Lord, so that we may be restored;
Renew our days as of old... [\*]

### Ezekiel 11:22-23

22 Then the cherubim lifted up their wings with the wheels beside them, and the glory of the God of Israel hovered over them. 23 The glory of the Lord went up from the midst of the city and stood over the mountain which is east of the city. 24 And the Spirit lifted me up and brought me in a vision by the Spirit of God to Chaldea, to the exiles. Then the vision that I had seen left me. 25 And I told the exiles all the things that the Lord had shown me.

#### 1st Samuel 4:19-22

19 Now his daughter-in-law, Phinehas' wife, was pregnant and about to give birth; and when she heard the news that the ark of God had been taken and that her father-in-law and her husband had died, she kneeled down and gave birth, because her pains came upon her. 20 And about the time of her death the women who were standing by her said to her, "Do not be afraid, for you have given birth to a son." But she did not answer or pay attention.

21 And she named the boy Ichabod, saying, "The glory has departed from Israel," because the ark of God had been taken and because of her father-in-law and her husband. 22 So she said, "The glory has departed from Israel, because the ark of God has been taken."

#### Matt. 7:21-23

21 "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of My Father who is in heaven will enter. 22 Many will say to Me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?' 23 And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; leave Me, you who practice lawlessness.'

#### Revelation 20:11-15

11 Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat upon it, from whose presence earth and heaven fled, and no place was found for them. 12 And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, and books were opened; and another book was opened, which is the book of life; and the dead were judged from the things which were written in the books, according to their deeds.

13 And the sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades gave up the dead who were in them; and they were judged, each one of them according to their deeds. 14 Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. 15 And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire. [\*]

## Psalm 49:15

13 This is the way of those who are foolish, And of those after them who approve their words. Selah. 14 As sheep they are appointed for Sheol; Death shall be their shepherd; And the upright shall rule over them in the morning, And their form shall be for Sheol to consume So that they have no habitation. 15 But God will redeem my soul from the power of Sheol, For He will receive me. [\*]



# 7 The wicked will return to Sheol, *Even* all the nations who forget God. [\*]

#### Luke 16:22-24; 23:43

22 Now the poor man died and was carried away by the angels to Abraham's bosom; and the rich man also died and was buried. 23 In Hades he lifted up his eyes, being in torment, and saw Abraham far away and Lazarus in his bosom. 24 And he cried out and said, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus so that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool off my tongue, for I am in agony in this flame.'

25 But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that during your life you received your good things, and likewise Lazarus bad things; but now he is being comforted here, and you are in agony. 26 And besides all this, between us and you there is a great chasm fixed, so that those who wish to come over from here to you will not be able, and *that* none may cross over from there to us.'



42 And he was saying, "Jesus, remember me when You come in Your kingdom!" 43 And He said to him, "Truly I say to you, today you shall be with Me in Paradise." [\*]

#### Revelation 20:12-15

12 And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, and books were opened; and another book was opened, which is *the book* of life; and the dead were judged from the things which were written in the books, according to their deeds.13 And the sea gave up the dead which were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead which were in them; and they were judged, every one of them according to their deeds.

14 Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. 15 And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire. [\*]

## Ephesians 4:8-10

8 Therefore it says, "WHEN HE ASCENDED ON HIGH, HE LED CAPTIVE A HOST OF CAPTIVES, AND HE GAVE GIFTS TO MEN." 9 (Now this *expression*, "He ascended," what does it mean except that He also had descended into the lower parts of the earth? 10 He who descended is Himself also He who ascended far above all the heavens, so that He might fill all things.)

## Acts 1:11

11 They also said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into the sky? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in just the same way as you have watched Him go into heaven."

## Philippians 3:20-21

20 For our citizenship is in heaven, from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ; 21 who will transform the body of our humble state into conformity with the body of His glory, by the exertion of the power that He has even to subject all things to Himself. [\*]

# 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17

16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of *the* archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord. [\*]

#### **Revelation 20:4**

4 Then I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was given to them. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony of Jesus and because of the word of God, and those who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received the mark on their forehead and on their hand; and they came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years.

Over---

#### Daniel 12:13

13 But as for you, go *your way* to the end; then you will enter into rest and rise *again* for your allotted portion at the end of the age." [\*]

## Revelation 21:1-2

1 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth passed away, and there is no longer *any* sea. 2 And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, made ready as a bride adorned for her husband. [\*]

#### Revelation 20:12-15

12And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, and books were opened; and another book was opened, which is *the book* of life; and the dead were judged from the things which were written in the books, according to their deeds.13 And the sea gave up the dead which were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead which were in them; and they were judged, every one of them according to their deeds.

Over---

14 Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. 15 And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire. [\*]

#### • GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS

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

Great is Thy faithfulness

Great is Thy faithfulness

Morning by morning new mercies I see All I have needed Thy hand hath provided Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me Summer and winter and springtime and harvest

Sun, moon and stars in their courses above

Join with all nature in manifold witness

To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love

Great is Thy faithfulness

Great is Thy faithfulness

Morning by morning new mercies I see All I have needed Thy hand hath provided Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth

Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide

Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow

Blessings all mine with 10, 000 beside

Great is Thy faithfulness

Great is Thy faithfulness

Morning by morning new mercies I see All I have needed Thy hand hath provided

Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me

End----

\*

# Leviticus 24:2-4

2 "Speak to the sons of Israel and say to them, 'When you come into the land which I am going to give you, then the land shall have a Sabbath to the Lord. 3 For six years you shall sow your field, and for six years you shall prune your vineyard and gather in its produce, 4 but during the seventh year the land shall have a Sabbath rest, a Sabbath to the Lord; you shall not sow your field nor prune your vineyard.