



6:30pm Bible Study: Pastor Chip Luter

Wednesday, September 18, 2024

## "Foundational Truths About God's Mercy" Lamentations 3:19-24

### Opening Discussion

- When you hear the word "mercy", what words or phrases come to mind?
- In our culture today, when or where do you hear the word "mercy"? Music? Movies? Social media?

### Introduction to the Book of Lamentations

Notes taken from the Holman Illustrated Handbook:

- Author and Date of Writing:
  - Unknown, perhaps Jeremiah, written soon after 586 B.C.
  - According to 2 Chronicles 35:25
- Audience: Jewish witness to Jerusalem's fall
- Key Text: Lamentations 1:1 - *"How she sits alone, the city once crowded with people! She who was great among the nations has become like a widow. The princess among the provinces has been put to forced labor."*
- Key Term: "Lament" - a "lament" or "lamentation" is a formal expression of grief in the face of loss or death. This book expresses the anguish the author felt over the fall of Jerusalem.
- One-Sentence Summary:
  - A skillful and emotional poet described the devastation of the city of Jerusalem - brought by the Babylonians but ultimately caused by the Lord's anger against his people - and poured out his own personal expressions of sorrow.

### Foundational Truths About God's Mercy

- I. God's Mercy comes from the \_\_\_\_\_ of God.
  - James 5:11
  - Romans 9:14-16
- II. God's Mercy is different from the \_\_\_\_\_ of God.
  - Grace is getting what you **don't** deserve.
    - Romans 5:6-12
  - Mercy is **not** getting what you **do** deserve.
    - Daniel 9:8-9
  - Mercy has to do with kindness and compassion.
    - Deut. 4:30-31
  - 1 Timothy 1:12-17

III. God's Mercy \_\_\_\_\_ ends.

- Psalm 23:6

IV. God's Mercy is \_\_\_\_\_ every morning.

- Every day is a new day, and with every new day comes new mercy.

### **How should we respond to God's Mercy?**

1.) \_\_\_\_\_ it.

- 1 Timothy 1:12-17
- 1 Peter 2:10

2.) \_\_\_\_\_ it.

- Exodus 12:11-14, 21-27
- Psalm 103:8-14

3.) \_\_\_\_\_ it.

- Micah 6:8
- Matthew 5:7; 18:21-34
- Luke 6:35-36

4.) \_\_\_\_\_ in it.

- Isaiah 30:18

### **Big Idea**

God's Mercy is undeserved, for we have done nothing to earn it. When we open our eyes to the wonders of His Mercy, our hearts will change, and our lives will never be the same!

### **Personal Follow Up**

- Have you truly accepted God's Mercy and begun a growing relationship with Jesus?
- Are you living each day with gratitude for God's Mercy?
- Are you extending God's Mercy to others the way you have received it?