Structure and Literary Design
Lamentations

Lamentations 1	Lamentations 2	Lamentations 3	Lamentations 4	Lamentations 5
Poet: *Jerusalem, the widow, is lonely, empty, and abandoned* (1:1-9a)	**Destruction**: *Yahweh has done this, He has exercised His wrath* (2:1-9)	**The Suffering One**: *I am a man who has seen affliction under the rod of his wrath* (3:1-20)	**The Siege**: *Before… holy stones* *After… lies scattered* (4:1-10)	**Remember Us**: *Woe to us* *…men, women children…* *For we have sinned!* (5:1-18)
Zion: *"Behold my affliction!"* (1:9b)	**Mourning**: *My eyes are spent with weeping* (2:10-12)	**Hope**: *But this I call to mind…* *Steadfast love never ceases* *Great is your faithfulness* (3:21-39)	**Zion's Iniquity**: *Yahweh gave vent to fury for the sins of her prophets* (4:11-16)	
Poet: *The enemy has entered the sanctuary* (1:10-11a)	**Destruction**: *How can I comfort you?* *Yahweh has done his purpose* (2:13-19)		**The Siege**: *We watched vainly for help for a nation which can't save* (4:17-20)	
Zion: *"Look and see!"* (1:11b-16)	**Mourning**: *Look and see!* *Those killed by the sword* (2:20-22)	**Prayer**: *We sinned and you pursued…* *Now look and see and repay our enemies* (3:40-66)	**Zion's Iniquity**: *Our punishment is done* *But Edom will be be punished* (4:21-22)	**Restore Us**: *Yahweh, you reign forever* *Renew our days as of old* *Unless you have rejected us?* (5:19-22)
Poet: *There is no one to comfort her* (1:17)				
Zion: *"Look, for I am in distress!"* (1:18-22)				

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