

RUINS TO RESTORATION (LAMENTATIONS 4-5)

FEB 15, 2026



When our rebellion leads to ruins, repentance opens the door of restoration
The testimonies of God's people in the midst of turmoil conclude in prayer, not despair. Hope is only found in the confidence of our God!

1. The Reality of Ruin: Choices have Consequences

- All that glitters is not valuable; Make sure what you pursue is valuable to God
- The price you pay for wrong values is real; Sorry doesn't always change the price required
- Religion can lead to ruin, rather than righteousness. Knowing about Jesus is NOT the same as knowing Jesus!

2. Repentance is the Right Response

- Lament must become a confessional prayer for relationship with the LORD
- Personal ownership of sin: no excuses, no blame, no denial
- Spiritual awareness must change physical perception; perception is reality to the perceiver but it does not make it truth!

3. God's Reigning provides Restoration: Hope

- The LORD is now and will always be on the THRONE. His will always wins!
- The LORD's desire is Restoration, but He waits for us to desire it.
- Jesus is the fulfillment of our restoration: He bore our judgement; He wept over Jerusalem; He restores what sin destroyed. His payment is paid in full: tetelestai
- Do not allow ruins to be the end of your story, return to the LORD through the power of Jesus for restoration and relationship!

Restoration is the consequence of repentance, belief, and obedience. There's no better place to be than by the side of your Lord, Jesus!

1. Read Lamentations 4:1; Romans 12:1-2; Revelations 2:4. What does it look like when spiritual gold grows dim in a person or church today? Is there an area in your life that you have lost spiritual vibrancy? Explain.
2. Read Lamentations 4:13; Ezekiel 34:7-10; Hebrews 13:17. What role does spiritual leadership play in affecting spiritual health? How did the church at Berea (Acts 17:10-12) hold leadership to Biblical truth? What role do you have in praying for spiritual leadership?
3. Read Lamentations 4:22; Psalm 30:5; Hebrews 12:11. Explain the truth that punishment has an end? How does God use punishment to refine us and not just demolish us?
4. Read Lamentations 5:1; Psalm 77:11-12; Luke 1:54-55. How does remembering God's faithfulness provide comfort during suffering? What are some ways that God has been faithful to you in the past?
5. Read Lamentations 5:16; Proverbs 28:13; I John 1:9. Why is personal confession necessary for restoration? What is the difference between explaining choices versus excusing choices? Is there any sin that you need to confess? What prevents you from doing it?
6. Read Lamentations 5:19; Isaiah 46:9-10; Hebrews 1:8. What is the value of God's eternal reign in comforting you in difficult times? What is an area in your life that has challenged your trust in God's sovereignty?
7. Read Lamentations 5:21; James 4:8; Colossians 1:21-22. What is the difference between restoration and comfort? Is it possible to have one without the other? Explain. Do you desire restoration or just relief?
8. Read Romans 1:21-23; Proverbs 14:34; Deuteronomy 28:52-57; Luke 19:41-44; Ezekiel 34:2-6; Matthew 23:13-15; James 3:1; Exodus 2:24; Psalm 106:45; Luke 23:42; Daniel 9:5; I John 1:8-9; Psalm 51:3-4; Isaiah 6:5; Matthew 5:4; 2 Corinthians 7:10; Psalm 103:19; Hebrews 12:28; Revelation 11:15; Jeremiah 31:18; John 6:44; 2 Corinthians 5:17; Isaiah 53:5; Luke 19:41; Colossians 2:13-15; Revelation 21:5.

February: **Lamentations/Obadiah - Hope in Sorrow**

Memory Verse: Lamentations 3:22-23

Date	Sermon Text	1	2	3	4	5	6
Feb. 1	Lam. 1	Lam. 1:1-4	Lam. 1:5-8	Lam. 1:9-12	Lam. 1:13-16	Lam. 1:17-20	Lam. 1:21-22
Feb. 8	Lam. 2-3	Lam. 2:1-7	Lam. 2:8-15	Lam. 2:16-22	Lam. 3:1-22	Lam. 3:23-44	Lam. 3:45-66
Feb. 15	Lam. 4-5	Lam. 4:1-7	Lam. 4:8-15	Lam. 4:16-22	Lam. 5:1-7	Lam. 5:8-15	Lam. 5:16-22
Feb. 22	Obadiah	Ob. 1-4	Ob. 5-8	Ob. 9-12	Ob. 13-15	Ob. 16-18	Ob. 19-21