

# Book of LAMENTATIONS Written Form

	Chapter 1	Chapter 2	Chapter 3	Chapter 4	Chapter 5
Theme	The prophet dwells on the oppression of the city who weeps sorely as a widow.	The miseries are the result Judah's national sin.	He speaks of hope for the people of God. The chastisement was for their good. They will see better days.	The prophet laments the desolation of the city and temple. He points out that their personal sins are the cause.	The prophet prays that Zion's reproach may be taken away by repentance of the people.
Message	Describes Babylon's destruction of Jerusalem in 586BC		Hope for the future of Israel and Judah	Describes Babylon's destruction of Jerusalem in 586BC	
Meter	Common <i>qinah</i> meter used in laments of the Hebrew Bible. The <i>qinah</i> meter has the second line beat shorter than the first line. This gives the reader the impression of limping along the text. It gives a sense of incompleteness.				Has the same number of beats in each line. It is more like a prayer poem.
Acrostic	These are acrostic poems with each verse beginning with the succeeding consonant.				
Grammar	The Hebrew letter <i>pe</i> comes before the Hebrew letter <i>'ayin</i> . This is contrary to the usual order.				
Acrostic	Has 22 verses, reflecting the number of letters in the Hebrew alphabet. It is an acrostic poem.	Has 66 verses. The first 3 verses begins with the first consonant, the second 3 with the second, and so on. The acrostic form may help Jews remember the laments.		Has 22 verses, reflecting the number of letters in the Hebrew alphabet. It is an acrostic poem.	