### MEANING:
Lamentations means “laments,” “tears.”

### AUTHOR:
Internal and external evidence suggests Jeremiah.

### TIME WRITTEN:
Lamentations was written soon after Jerusalem’s destruction (39:52) at the beginning of the exile.
- Nebuchadnezzar laid siege to Jerusalem from January 588 B.C. to July 19.
- The city and Temple were burned on August 15.
- Therefore, Jeremiah probably wrote Lamentations before he was taken captive to Egypt by his disobedient countrymen not long after the destruction. 43:1-7

### POSITION IN THE BIBLE:
- 25th Book in the Bible
- 25th Book in the Old Testament
- 3rd of 17 books of Prophecy (Isaiah - Malachi)
- 3rd of 5 major prophets (Isaiah-Daniel)
- 41 Books to follow it.

### CHAPTERS:
5

### VERSES:
154

### WORDS:
3,415

### OBSERVATIONS ABOUT LAMENTATIONS:
- Jeremiah literally weeps from A to Z.
- The five sections can be divided as follow:
  - The Destruction of Jerusalem - Chapter 1
  - The Anger of Yahweh - Chapter 2
  - The Prayer for Mercy - Chapter 3
  - The Siege of Jerusalem - Chapter 4
  - The Prayer for Restoration - Chapter 5
- Six centuries later Christ would also weep over Jerusalem. Matthew 23:37-38
- Three themes appear in the Book of Lamentations:
  - Mourning over Jerusalem’s holocaust.
  - A confession of sin and an acknowledgment of God’s righteous and holy judgment upon Judah.
  - A note of hope in God’s future restoration.
- In His sorrow, Jeremiah:
  - Sometimes speaks for himself.
  - Sometimes speaks for the captives, some 900 miles away in Babylon.
  - Sometimes speaks for the personified city.