



7 August

Lamentations 1:12-22



<http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Lamentations%201:12-22&version=NKJV>

## Deceitful friends



The prophet puts himself into the position of the inhabitants of the city and writes from their perspective. The inhabitants of Jerusalem didn't care about God and His interests. They thought nothing could happen to them because Jerusalem was God's chosen city.

But with what severity had the judgment hit them! The conquerors had burnt the city mercilessly, most inhabitants had been taken captive and been deported to Babylon.

All people should consider the judgment of Jerusalem to be a warning (v18). Even the neighbouring nations, allies of the city, didn't want to help. They turned out to be false friends (v19). Remember: It is pointless to rely on friends when you are not at peace with God.



03. In this passage, find at least five punishments which God brought over Jerusalem (vv15-19)!



A yoke (v14) was used to link oxen or other animals together to work in the fields, for example to pull the plough. The yoke was a wooden beam which was strapped to the neck of the animals.



**Choose your friends carefully! And rely much more on God than on them!**




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03. The mighty men were trampled underfoot (the best soldiers were killed - v15), the young men were crushed (v15), the children (sons) are desolate (helpless) (v16), the virgins and young men are gone into captivity (v18), the priests and elders died of starvation whilst searching for food in the city (v19).