

Exegetical Notes, Lamentations 3:22-24
“Giving Thanks”
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Lamentations 3:22-24

Verse 22:

Because of YHWH’s great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail.

- Jeremiah, the author of the Book of Lamentation, was present at the fall of Jerusalem in 586 B.C. He witnessed great suffering. The nation was thrown into confusion. At the end of the siege, food was so scarce that mothers were forced to eat their dead children to stay alive. At the end of the siege, “the flower of the nation” was carried away into captivity. Lamentations 3:1-21 is a recounting of the horrors that Jeremiah saw.
- Yet he concludes that, despite all that Jerusalem has endured, God’s love prevails and so he is not consumed by his grief and suffering. He knows that God’s compassion never fails. God’s compassion is found in God’s faithfulness to what he has promised.

Verse 23:

They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

- God’s compassions, the demonstrations of his faithfulness, come to him each day as reminders that God is always faithful.

Verse 24

I say to myself, “YHWH is my portion; therefore I will wait for him.”

- Though everything else be taken away, YHWH remains the goodness of his life. Therefore, he will wait on God, for God alone is his help!

(These exegetical notes are the foundational study for the sermon entitled *Giving Thanks*. They have been prepared by the Reverend Doctor Charles H. Jensen, Senior Pastor at Cornerstone Fellowship, Coatesville Pennsylvania. All rights are reserved by Dr. Jensen and *Cornerstone Fellowship*.)