THE LAMENTATIONS OF JEREMIAH.

THE STRUCTURE OF THE BOOK AS A WHOLE.

| 1: 1-7. | JUDGMENTS.  (Aleph (N = A) to Zayin (I = Z).) |
| 1: 8-11. | ZION. CONFESSION.  (Cheth (Y = H) to Kaph (S = K).) |
| 1: 12, 13. | APPEAL TO PASSERS BY.  (Lamed (Y = L) to Mem (S = M).) |
| 1: 14-18. | ZION. CONFESSION.  (Nun (S = N) to Taadd (Y = Z).) |
| 1: 18, 19. | APPEAL TO PASSERS BY.  (Kaph, S = K.) |
| 1: 20-22. | PRAYER.  (Resh (Y = R) to Tau (Y = T).) |
| 2: 1-13. | THE JUDGE.  (Aleph (N = A) to Mem (S = M).) |
| 2: 14. | ZION. SIN UNCONFESSIONED.  (Nun, Y = N.) |
| 2: 15-17. | RECRIMINATION OF PASSERS BY.  (Samekh (S = S) to Pe (S = P).) |
| 2: 18-22. | PRAYER.  (Taadd (Y = Z) to Tau (Y = T).) |
| 3: 1-21. | THE JUDGE.  (Aleph (N = A) to Zayin (I = Z).) |
| 3: 22-36. | REMEMBRANCE OF JEHOVAH'S MERCIES.  (Cheth (Y = H) to Lamed (Y = L).) |
| 3: 37-51. | ZION. SIN CONFESSIONED.  (Mem (S = M) to Pe (S = P).) |
| 3: 52-66. | PRAYER.  (Taadd (Y = Z) to Tau (Y = T).) |
| 4: 1-12. | JUDGMENTS.  (Aleph (N = A) to Lamed (Y = L).) |
| 4: 13-20. | ZION. CONFESSION.  (Mem (S = M) to Resh (Y = R).) |
| 4: 21, 22. | RETRIBUTION OF JEHOVAH.  (Shin (S = S) to Tau (Y = T).) |
| 5: 1-22. | PRAYER. |

For the place of Lamentations in the Hebrew Canon, see Ap. 1, where it is found to be the central book of the five Megilloth (or scrolls).

The book consists of five Elegies on the destruction of Jerusalem; and not, as Josephus supposed, on the death of Josiah (Ant. Jud. L. x, c. 5, § 1), basing his opinion on 2 Chron. 35. 25.

This book is appropriately read on the Fast of the ninth day of the fifth month (Ab, our August. See Ap. 51, V). For on that day are still commemorated the five great calamities which befell the nation, viz.:

1. The return of the twelve spies, and the decree of the forty years’ wanderings in consequence of the rebellion of the People.
2. The destruction of the first Temple by Nebuchadnezzar.
3. The destruction of the second Temple by the Romans under Titus.
4. The taking of Bether by the Romans under Hadrian, when 580,000 were slain.
5. The ploughing of Zion like a field, in fulfillment of Jer. 26. 18, &c. and Micah 3. 12.

The five Elegies are arranged in a remarkable manner:—

The first two (chapters 1 and 2) consist of twenty-two long verses of three lines each, each verse respectively commencing with the successive letters of the alphabet.

The third (chap. 3) consists of sixty-six verses (3 x 22), each triad of verses commencing with the same letter: e.g. the first three lines commence with Aleph (Aleph), the next three with Beth (Beth), and so on through the twenty-two letters of the alphabet.

The fourth (chap. 4) is arranged in twenty-two long verses of two lines each, also arranged acrostically.

The fifth (chap. 5) Lamentation is resolved into a prayer, and the acrostic arrangement gives way before the outburst of emotion. The only connection with the alphabet is that the number of the verses corresponds with the number of letters (twenty-two).

The Septuagint (followed by the Arabic and Vulgate versions) prefaces its version with these words: "It came to pass that, after Israel was taken captive and Jerusalem was made desolate, Jeremiah sat weeping, and lamented with this lamentation over Jerusalem, and said."

The Arabic Targum begins its paraphrase thus: "Jeremiah the prophet, and great priest, said . . ."
1 O how doth the city sit empty; that was full of people!
how is she become as a widow! she that was was great
among the nations, and princess among the provinces, how is
she become tributary!
2 She weepeth sore in the night, and her tears are on her
cheeks: among all her allies she hath none to comfort her;
al her friends have dealt treacherously with her, they are
become her enemies.
3 Judah is gone into captivity because of affliction, and
because of great servitude: she dwelleth among the nations,
she findeth no rest; all her pursuers overtook her
between the straits.
4 The roads leading to Zion do mourn, because none come
to the appointed feasts: all her gates are desolate: her priests
sigh, her virgins are afflicted, and she is in bitterness.
5 Her adversaries are the head, her enemies prosper; for the
LORD hath afflicted her for the multitude of her rebellions:
her young children are gone into captivity before the enemy.
6 And from the daughter of Zion all her beauty is departed:
her princes are become like harts that find no pasture, and
they are gone without strength before the pursuer.
7 Jerusalem remembered in the days of her affliction and of
her miseries all her things she used to enjoy that she had in
the days of old, when her People fell into the hand of the
enemy, and none did help her: the adversaries saw her,
the days of old, when her People fell into the hand of the
3 among the heathen. Ref. to Pent. (Deut. 28. 64, 65).
heathen = nations.
persecutors = pursuers.
between the straits. Like a hunted animal driven where there is no
escape. Same word as in Pss. 116. 3; 118. 5. Occurs only in these three
4 The ways. Not streets in the city, but the roads leading thereto.
mourn. Fig. Prosopopoeia. Ap. 6.
solemn feasts = appointed feasts. See note on Ps. 74. 8 (same word).
bitterness = bitter for her. Instead of festal joy, Cp. Jer. 7. 34; 16. 9; 25.
10; 31. 13; 33. 11.
5 are the chiefs are the head. Ref. to Pent. (Deut. 28. 13, 44), the same
the LORD. Heb. Jehovah. Ap. 4. II.
transgressions = rebellions. Heb. pasha'. Ap. 44. ix.
children = young children, as in 2. 11, 19, 20; and 4. 4. Not "sons".
lake harts. See note on v. 3.
7 pleasant things. Heb. = things of desire. Put by Fig. Metonymy (of
Adjunct), for the things she used to enjoy.
abbath = or, sabbath-keepings; which she had herself profaned. See Jer.
17. 21-23. Ezek. 22. 8; 26. 23, 38,
光辉 sin. Note the Fig. Polyptoton Heb. = sinned a sin. Thus
well rendered. See note on "weepeth sore" (v. 2).
sinned. Heb. chatat'. Ap. 44. i.
is remove d = separated as unclean.
9 remembereth = remembered.
last end = hereafter.
wonderfully. Heb. pl. "wonders" = a great wonder.
behold = see. behold. Same word as in vv. 18, 20. Not the same word as
in v. 12.
10 entered into her sanctuary. Ref. to Pent. (Deut. 23. 3), a technical
congregation = convocation, or assembly.
behold = look attentively. Not the same word as in vv. 9, 18, 20.
sorrow = pain.
done unto me. Cp. v. 22; 3. 15.

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Note Fig. Polyptoton (Ap. 6). The Heb. = a weeping she weepeth. Thus well rendered. See note on Gen. 26. 28; and note the Fig. Prosopopoeia (Ap. 6).

lovers: i.e. allies, whom she had preferred to Jehovah. See Jer. 2. 17, 27, 36, 37; 4. 30; 22. 22. Ezek. 23; and 29. 6, 7, 16.


Heb. = sinned a sin. Thus well rendered. See note on Gen. 26. 28; and note the Fig. Prosopopoeia (Ap. 6).

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14 The yoke of my rebellions is bound by His hand: they are intertwined, and come up upon my neck: The yoke hath made my strength to stumble, the Lord hath delivered me into their hands, from whom I am not able to rise up.
15 The Lord hath trodden under foot all my valiant ones in the midst of me: He hath proclaimed a festal gathering against me to crush my young men: the Lord hath trodden the virgin, the daughter of Judah, as in a winepress.
16 For these things I weep; mine eye, mine eye runneth down with water, because the comforter that should bring me back to life is far from me: my sons are desolate, because the enemy prevailed.
17 Zion spreadeth forth her hands, and there is none to comfort her: the Lord hath commanded concerning Jacob, that his adversaries should be round about him: Jerusalem is as a menstruous woman among them.
18 The Lord He is righteous; for I have rebelled against His commandment: hear, I pray you, all peoples, and see my pain: my virgins and my young men are gone into captivity.
19 I called for my allies, but they deceived me: my priests and mine elders breathed their last in the city, while they sought their meat to relieve their souls.
20 Behold, O Lord; for I am in distress: my bowels are troubled; mine heart is turned within me; for I have grievously rebelled: abroad the sword bereaveth, at home there is as death.
21 They have heard that I sigh: there is none to comfort me: all mine enemies have heard of my trouble; they are glad that Thou hast done it: Thou wilt bring the day of vengeance that Thou hast proclaimed, and they shall be like unto me.
22 Let all their wickedness come before Thee; and do unto them, according as Thou hast done unto me for all my rebellions: for my sighs are many, and my heart is faint.

2 How hath the Lord covered the daughter of Zion with a cloud in His anger, and cast down from heaven unto the earth the beauty of Israel, and remembered not His footstool in the day of His anger!
2 The Lord hath swallowed up [as by an earthquake] all the habitations of Jacob, and hath not pitied: He hath thrown down in His wrath the strong holds of the daughter of Judah; He hath brought them down to the ground: He hath polluted the kingdom and the princes thereof.
3 He hath cut off in His fierce anger all the horn of Israel: He hath drawn back His right hand from before the enemy, and He burned against Jacob like a flaming fire, which devoureth round about.
4 He hath bent His bow like an enemy: He stood with His right hand as an adversary, and slew all that were pleasant to the eye: in the tent of the daughter of Zion He poured out His fury like fire.
5 The Lord was as an enemy: He hath swallowed up Israel, He hath swallowed up all His palaces: He hath destroyed His strong holds, and hath increased in the daughter of Judah His mourning and lamentation.
6 And He hath violently taken away His dwelling, as a booth in a garden is destroyed: He hath destroyed His places of the assembly: the Lord hath caused the appointed seasons and sabbaths to be forgotten in Zion, and hath despised in the indignation of His anger the king and the priest.
7 The Lord hath cast off His altar, He hath abhorred His sanctuary, He hath given up into the hand of the enemy the walls of her palaces; they have made a noise in the house of the LORD, as in the day of an appointed season.

8 The LORD hath purposed to destroy the wall of the daughter of Zion: He hath stretched out a line, He hath not withdrawn His hand from swallowing up: therefore He made the rampart and the wall to lament; they languished together.

9 Her gates are sunk into the earth; He hath destroyed and broken her bars: *her king and her princes* are among the nations: the law *is no longer known and obeyed*; her prophets also find no vision from the LORD.

10 The elders of the daughter of Zion sit upon the earth, and keep silence: they have cast up dust upon their heads; they have *girded* themselves with sackcloth: the virgins of Jerusalem hang down their heads to the ground.

11 Mine eyes do fail with tears, my bowels are *ferment*, my *liver* is poured upon the earth, for the destruction of the daughter of my People; because the *babes* and the sucklings swoon in the streets of the city.

12 They say to their mothers, “Where is corn and *wine*?” when they swooned as the wounded in the streets of the city, when their soul was poured out into their mothers' bosom.

13 What thing shall I take to witness for thee? what thing shall I liken to thee, O daughter of Jerusalem? what shall I equal to thee, that I may comfort thee, O virgin daughter of Zion? for thy breach is great like the sea: who can heal thee?

14 Thy *prophets* have seen vain and foolish things for thee: and they have not discovered thine iniquity, to cause thy captives to return; but have seen for thee false *oracles* and *causes* of banishment.

15 All that *pass by* clap their hands at thee; they hiss and wag their head at the daughter of Jerusalem, *saying*, “Is this the city that men call The perfection of beauty, The joy of the whole earth?”

16 *All thine enemies* have opened their mouth against thee: they hiss and gnash the teeth: they say, “We have swallowed her up: certainly this *is* the day that we looked for; we have found, we have seen it.”

17 *The LORD hath done that which He had devised; He hath fulfilled His word that He had commanded in the days of old: He hath thrown down, and hath not pitied: and He hath caused thine enemy to rejoice over thee, He hath set up the horn of thine adversaries.

18 Their heart *cried distressfully* unto the Lord, O wall of the daughter of Zion, let tears run down like a river day and night: give thyself no rest; let not the apple of thine eye cease.

19 Arise, cry out in the night: in the beginning of the watches pour out thine heart like water before the face of the Lord: lift up thy hands toward Him for the *soul* of thy young *babes*, that faint for hunger in the top of every street.

20 Behold, O LORD, and consider: to whom Thou hast done this? *Shall* the women eat their fruit, and *babes* of a *span* long? *Shall* the priest and the prophet be slain in the sanctuary of the Lord?

21 The young and the old lie on the ground in the streets: my virgins and my young men are fallen by the sword; Thou hast slain *them* in the day of Thine anger; Thou hast killed, *and* not pitied.

22 Thou hast called as in a day of assembly my *terrors* round about, so that in the day of the LORD's anger none escaped nor remained: those that I have swaddled and brought up hath mine enemy consumed.
3. 1 This chapter contains twenty-two verses: each verse having three lines: each line beginning with the same letter: and so, onward to the end of the alphabet.

1 I am the man. The prophet is representative of the nation, and speaks in the name of the whole. He is also typical and prophetic of Another, Who, in after years, took on Himself and bore the nation’s sin. Ap. 85. The chapter must be read in connection with the Passion Psalms (Ps. 22, 69, 88). The Fig. is Prospopoeia (Ap. 6), by which the nation speaks as one man.


5 builded against = built up against. gall. Cp. v. 19, and Ps. 69. 21, with Matt. 27. 34. travel = travail, or labour. This line probably is put for the fortifications and the trench.

6 set me = made me to dwell. as they, &c. = like the age-long dead.

7 chain = iron, or bronze. Put by Fig. Metonymy (of Cause). Ap. 6, for the fetters made of it. Cp. Judg. 16. 21 and 2 Kings 25. 7. 2 Chron. 33. 11; 36. 6. Jer. 39. 7; all of distinguished men. crooked = to turn or wind back.

9 as a lion. See note on Ps. 22. 16. 12 His bow. Fig. Anthropopathia.

13 arrows = sons. Fig. Hypocatastasis. As "sparks" are called "sons of the flame".

14 derision = derision. Cp. Jer. 20. 8. all my People. A special various reading called Sevir (Ap. 34), with some codices, and Syr., read "all peoples".

15 song = mocking-song. Cp. v. 6 and 69. 12.

18 strength = strength (for endurance). Heb. nezah. See notes on Isa. 40. 9, 10, 26, 29, 31.

19 Remembering = Remember.

20 My soul. The primitive reading was “Thy soul”, which the Sopherim have recorded, and state that they altered it to “My soul” (see Ap. 33), considering it an offensive anthropomorphism. By so doing they destroyed the logical sequence and deep paths of the primitive text. The three verses (19, 20, 21) retranslated will show this:

19 "Remember my humiliation and my misery,

The wormwood and the gall.

20 Yea, verily, Thou wilt remember, And Thy soul will mourn over me.

21 This I bring back to my heart, Therefore I shall have hope."

22 mind = heart. hope = expectation.

22 mercies = lovingkindnesses.

because = verily.

23 new = fresh. every morning. Put by Fig. Synedroche (of the Part), for always and continually.

25 wait for Him. Ref. to Pent. (Gen. 49. 18, same word).

26 quietly wait = wait, and he silent.

29 He. See note on 1. 12.


31 the LORD*. One of the 134 places where the Sopherim say they altered "Jehovah" of the primitive text to "Adonai". See Ap. 32. Here some codices, with two early printed editions, also read "Jehovah".

33 willingly = from His heart. children = sons. men. Heb. ysh (sing).

35 turn aside, &c. Ref. to Pent. (Deut. 16. 19; 24. 17; 27. 19, same word).

36 the MOST HIGH. Heb. 'El'yon. Ap. 4. VI.
37 Who is he that saith, and it cometh to pass, when the Lord commandeth it not?
38 Out of the mouth of the MOST HIGH procedeth not evil and good?
39 Wherefore doth a living man complain, a man for the punishment of his sins?
40 Let us search and try our ways, and turn again to the LORD.
41 Let us lift up our heart with our hands unto GOD in the heavens [saying].
42 We have revoluted and have rebelled: Thou hast not pardoned.
43 Thou hast covered with anger, and pursued us: Thou hast slain, Thou hast not pitied.
44 Thou hast covered Thyself with a cloud, that our prayer should not pass through.
45 Thou hast made us as the offscouring and refuse in the midst of the peoples.
46 All our enemies have opened their mouths against us.
47 Fear and a snare is come upon us, desolation and destruction.
48 Mine tears runneth down with rivers of water for the destruction of the daughter of my people.
49 Mine eye trickleth down, and ceaseth not, without any intermission,
50 Till the LORD look down, and behold from heaven.
51 Mine eye affecteth mine heart because of all the daughters of my city.
52 Mine enemies chased me sore, like a bird, without cause.
53 They have cut off my life in the pit, and cast a stone upon me.
54 Waters flowed over mine head; then said I, I am cut off.”
55 I called upon Thee, O LORD, out of the low pit.
56 Thou hast heard my voice: hide not Thine ear at my breathing, and at my outcry.
57 Thou didst near in the day that I called upon Thee: Thou saidst, “Fear not.”
58 O Lord, Thou hast pleaded the causes of my soul; Thou hast redeemed my life.
59 O LORD, Thou hast seen my wrong: judge Thou my cause.
60 Thou hast seen all their vengeance and all their imaginations against me.
61 Thou hast heard their reproach, O LORD, and all their imaginations against me;
62 The lips of those that rose up against me, and their meditation against me all the day.
63 Behold their sitting down, and their rising up; I am their mocking song.

41 GOD. Heb. El. Ap. 4. IV. the heavens. Supply the Ellipsis thus: “the heavens [saying].” We have”, &c.
43 persecuted = pursued. Cp. Ps. 35. 6. 45 people = peoples.
46 All our enemies, &c. Here again, as in 2.1 6 and 17, the letters Pe (פ = P) and Ayin (י) are transposed; not from any “mistake” or “forgetfulness”, but to call our attention to the truth which might otherwise have been overlooked: viz. the sorrow, on account of the destructive work of the enemies (vv. 46-48), which would have been averted by true sorrow for the sins which caused it (vv. 49-51).
47 eye = tears: “eye” being put by Fig. Metonymy (of Adjunct), for the tears which flow from it.
49 gold = most fine gold = fine gold. Fig. Anabasis, which is lost in A.V. rendering, which should be “gold . . . fine gold . . . pure gold”. Ap. 66. I
We have, &c.
52 dungeon = pit. Cp. Jer. 38. 6; and Ps. 88. 6.
53 over mine head. Cp. Ps. 69. 2. I am cut off. Cp. Ps. 88. 5.
54 Thy name = Thee, or Thy attributes. See note on Ps. 20. 1.
55 at my breathing. See note on Mal. 3. 16.
56 at my cry. Some codices, with Vulg., read “and at my cry” (or outcry).
57 redeemed. Heb. ga’al. See note on Ex. 6. 6.
59 their mocking song, as in v. 14.
60 Give them sorrow of heart = Thou wilt suffer them a veiling of heart (or obstinacy) of heart. See Isa. 6. 9, 10.
61 sorrow = covering, or veiling.
62 as earthen pitchers. The comparison is both in the material and in the workmanship. Cp. Jer. 18. 1-6; 19. 1-10.
65 For = And. punishment of the iniquity. This is the full translation of the Fig. Metonymy (of Effect): the iniquity “being put for its consequent punishment.
66 Persue and destroy them in anger from under the heavens of the LORD.
67 Thou wilt suffer them a veiling of heart, Thy curse unto them.
68 4) Persue and destroy them in anger from under the heavens of the LORD.
69 Render unto them a recompense, O LORD, according to the work of their hands.
70 Thou wilt suffer them a veiling of heart, Thy curse unto them.
71 Persue and destroy them in anger from under the heavens of the LORD.
72 How is the “gold” “become dim! how is the most fine gold changed! the stones of the sanctuary are poured out in the top of every street.
73 The precious sons of Zion, comparable to pure gold, how are they esteemed “as earthen pitchers, the work of the hands of the potter!
74 Even the sea monsters draw out the breast, they give suck to their young ones: the daughter of My people is become cruel, like the “ostriches in the wilderness.
75 The tongue of the sucking child cleaveth to the roof of his mouth for thirst: the young children ask bread, and no man breaketh it unto them.
76 They that did feed delicately are desolate in the streets: they that were brought up in scarlet “embrace dunghills.
77 And the “punishment of the iniquity of the daughter of my People is greater.
than the punishment of the sin of Sodom, that was 
overthrown as in a moment, and no hands brought it
about.
7 Her Nazarites were purer than snow, they were whiter
than milk, they were more ruddy in body than rubies, their
polishing was of sapphire:
8 Their visage is blacker than a coal; they are not
recognized in the streets: their skin cleaveth to their bones;
it is withered, it is become like a stick.
9 They that be slain with the sword have proved
better than they be slain with hunger: for these pine away, stricken
through for want of the fruits of the field.
10 The hands of the tender-hearted women have sodden
their own babes: they were their meat in the destruction of the
daughter of my People.
11 The LORD hath accomplished His fury; He hath poured out His fierce anger, and hath kindled a fire in Zion, and it hath devoured the foundations thereof.
12 The kings of the earth, and all the inhabitants of the world, would not have believed that the adversary and the enemy should have entered into the gates of Jerusalem.
13 For the sins of her prophets, and the iniquities of her priests, that have shed the blood of the righteous ones in the midst of her,
14 They have wandered as blind men in the streets, they have polluted themselves with blood, so that men could not touch their garments.
15 They cried unto them, Depart ye; it is unclean; depart, depart, touch not: when they fled away and wandered, they said among the nations, They shall not more sojourn there.
16 The face of the LORD hath divided them; He will no more regard them: they respected not the persons of the priests, they favoured not the elders.
17 As for us, our eyes as yet failed for our vain help: in our watching we have watched for a nation that could not save us.
18 They hunt our steps, that we cannot go in our streets: our end is near, our days are fulfilled; for our end is come.
19 Our pursuers are swifter than the eagles of the heaven: they pursued us upon the mountains, they laid wait for us in the wilderness.
20 The breath of our nostrils, the anointed of the LORD, was taken in their toils, of whom we said, Under his shadow we shall live among the nations.
21 Rejoice and be glad, O daughter of Edom, that we have known thee; the land of Uz; the cup also shall pass through unto thee: thou shalt be drunken, and shalt make thyself naked.
22 The punishment of thine iniquity is completed, O daughter of Zion; He will no more carry thee away into captivity: He will punish thine iniquity, O daughter of Edom; He will discover thy sins.

5 Remember, O LORD, what is come upon us: consider, and behold our reproach.
2 Our inheritance is turned to strangers, our houses to aliens.
3 We are orphans and fatherless, our mothers are as widows.
4 We have drunken our water for money; our wood is sold unto us.
5 Our pursuers are upon our necks: we labour, and no respite was granted us.
6 We have voluntarily submitted to the Egyptians, and to the Assyrians, to be satisfied with bread.
7 Our fathers have sinned, and are not; and we have borne [as a burden] their iniquities.
8 Servants have ruled over us: there is none that doth deliver us out of their hand.
9 We brought home our bread with the peril of our lives because of the sword of the wilderness.

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10 Our skin was black like an oven because of the terrible famine.
11 They ravished the wives in Zion, and the maids in the cities of Judah.
12 Princes are hanged up by their hand: the faces of elders were not honoured.
13 They took the young men to do women's work, and the young children fell under the weight of the load the wood.
14 The elders have ceased from the gate, the young men from their musick.
15 The joy of our heart is ceased; our dance is turned into mourning.
16 The crown is fallen from our head: woe unto us, that we have sinned!
17 For this sin our heart is faint; for these things our eyes are dim.
18 Because of the mountain of Zion, which is desolate, the Jackals walk upon it.
19 Thou, O LORD, sittest as King for ever; Thy throne from generation to generation.
20 Wherefore wilt Thou forget us for ever, and forsake us so long time?
21 Turn Thou us unto Thyself, O LORD, and we shall be turned; renew our days as of old.
22 But Thou hast utterly rejected us; Thou hast been very wroth against us.

11 women = wives.
12 faces. Put by Fig. Synecdoche (of the Part), Ap 6, for the whole person.
13 to grind: i.e. to do women's work.
children = young children, youths.
fell = staggered.
under the wood: i.e. under [the weight or load] of the wood (they were compelled as bond-slaves to carry).
17 this: i.e. this sin.
these things: i.e. loss of king, country, possessions, and liberties.
18 foxes = jackals.
19 remainest = sittest: i.e. as king.
20 dost = wilt.
21 Turn Thou us. National repentance was the one abiding condition of national blessing, and this must be Jehovah's own work.
unto Thee = unto Thyself.
22 art = hast been.
In the public reading of the Hebrew text v. 21 is repeated after v. 22, so that the book may end with comfort. The same is the case with Ecclesiastes, Isaiah, and Malachi. The synagogue use appoints this book to be read on the Fast of Ab, which commemorates the destruction of Jerusalem.