

## **Lamentations 3:17-18 (NET)**

I am deprived of peace; I have forgotten what happiness is. <sup>18</sup> So I said, “My endurance has expired; I have lost all hope of deliverance from the LORD.”

## **Lamentations 3:19-21 (NET)**

Remember my impoverished and homeless condition, which is a bitter poison.

<sup>20</sup> I continually think about this, and I am depressed. <sup>21</sup> But this I call to mind; therefore I have hope:

## **Lamentations 3:22-23 (NET)**

The LORD's loyal kindness never ceases; his compassions never end.

<sup>23</sup> They are fresh every morning;  
your faithfulness is abundant!

# **Desolation    Chaos**

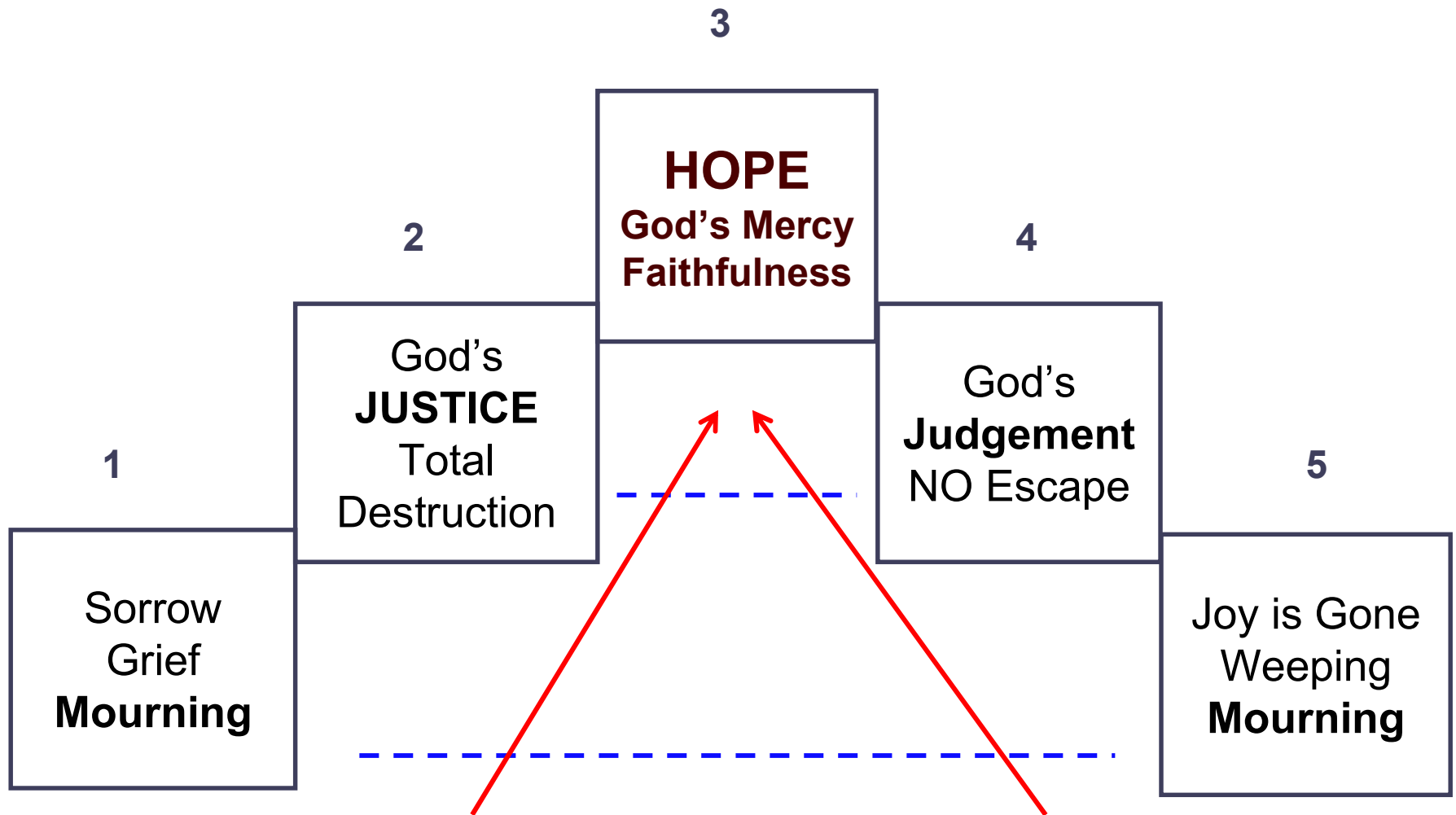
# **HOPE?**

**Lamentations 3:19-23**









## → The godly followers of God SUFFERED along with the Wicked

Jeremiah 38:2-4 (NIV)

This is what the LORD says: 'Whoever stays in this city **WILL DIE** by the **sword**, **famine** or **plague**, but whoever **GOES OVER** to the Babylonians **will live**. He will escape with his life; he will live.

<sup>3</sup> ...This city will **certainly be handed over** to the army of the king of Babylon, who will capture it.

<sup>4</sup> Then the **officials** said to the king,  
**This MAN should be put to DEATH.**  
He is discouraging the soldiers who are  
left in this city, as well as all the people,  
by the things he is saying to them.  
**This man is NOT seeking the GOOD**  
of these people but their ruin.

Those who were **FAITHFUL** to God  
**SUFFERED**  
along with the **Wicked**

# LAMENT...

The Bible Project

- Reminds us it is OK to Cry out **AGAINST** Suffering
- Helps us **PROCESS** our **EMOTIONS**
- Gives a Voice to our **CONFUSION** and **ANGER**
- Draws attention to what is **WRONG**
- Asks God to **DO SOMETHING**

Judah was **not suffering** because her God had been defeated by the **stronger gods** of Babylon. **Judah's God was the only true God**, and He had caused her calamity.

Yet this same God who brought about her destruction **ALSO had the power to bring about her restoration.** BKC

→ God is **STILL** God - He is  
**SOVEREIGN forever**

<sup>19</sup> But LORD, You remain the **SAME**  
**forever!** Your **THRONE** continues from  
generation to generation. (NLT)

<sup>20</sup> I continually think about this, and  
**I am depressed.** (NET)

<sup>21</sup> But this I call to mind;  
therefore  
**I have HOPE:** (NET)

# → Choosing to **HOPE** - takes **COURAGE**

3:20 I will **NEVER FORGET** this awful time,  
as I **GRIEVE** over my **LOSS**.

21 Yet I still **DARE** to **HOPE...**

There is **strength** within the **sorrow**;  
There is **Beauty** in our **tears**  
And **YOU meet us in our mourning**;  
With a love that cast out fears.  
**YOU are working** in our waiting;  
Sanctifying us  
And beyond our understanding;  
**Your teaching us to TRUST**

Your plans are still to prosper;  
You have NOT forgotten us  
**You're with us in the fire and the flood;**  
**You're Faithful** forever  
Perfect in love;  
You are **Sovereign Over** us

**→HOPE Requires ACTION - to  
REMEMBER Who God IS**

**21 Yet I still DARE to HOPE when  
I REMEMBER this:**

**22 The FAITHFUL LOVE of the LORD  
NEVER ends!**

**His MERCIES never cease. (NLT)**

Nehemiah 4:14 (NIV)

...Don't be **afraid** of them.

**REMEMBER** the Lord,

who is **GREAT** and **AWESOME**...

→ We have **HOPE** because God's  
Faithfulness **Never Ends** and His  
Mercies **are Always NEW**

<sup>23</sup> Great is His **FAITHFULNESS**;  
His **MERCIES** begin **AFRESH**  
**each morning.** (NLT)