

MY EYE AFFECTETH MINE HEART LAMENTATIONS 3

Text: Lamentations 3:51

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⁵¹ Mine eye affecteth mine heart because of all the daughters of my city.

Introduction:

The Book of Lamentations is written by Jeremiah in response to the Babylonian captivity of Jerusalem. It consists of five chapters. The subject of the first chapter is Jerusalem's Plight. The subject of the second chapter is Jehovah's Anger. The subject of the third chapter is Jeremiah's Sorrow. The subject of the fourth chapter is Jehovah's Anger Defended and the subject of the fifth chapter is Jerusalem's Prayer.

Jerusalem's sins had caused the judgment of God to fall upon them, but throughout the Lamentations, there is found HOPE for Jerusalem IF they would but REPENT and Return to God!

With that in mind let's consider these five "Mine eye affecteth mine heart."

As you study God's Word you note "The eye and the heart" are virtually linked.

Psalms 19:8

⁸ The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes.

Psalms 36:1-2

¹ The transgression of the wicked saith within my heart, that there is no fear of God before his eyes. ² For he flattereth himself in his own eyes, until his iniquity be found to be hateful.

Psalms 38:10

¹⁰ My heart panteth, my strength faileth me: as for the light of mine eyes, it also is gone from me.

Psalms 131:1

¹ LORD, my heart is not haughty, nor mine eyes lofty: neither do I exercise myself in great matters, or in things too high for me.

Proverbs 4:20-27

²⁰ My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings. ²¹ Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart. ²² For they *are* life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh. ²³ Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it *are* the issues of life. ²⁴ Put away from thee a froward mouth, and perverse lips put far from thee. ²⁵ Let thine eyes look right on,

and let thine eyelids look straight before thee. ²⁶
Ponder the path of thy feet, and let all thy ways be
established. ²⁷ Turn not to the right hand nor to the
left: remove thy foot from evil.

Proverbs 15:30

³⁰ The light of the eyes rejoiceth the heart: *and* a
good report maketh the bones fat.

Proverbs 21:2-4

² Every way of a man *is* right in his own eyes: but
the LORD pondereth the hearts. ³ To do justice and
judgment *is* more acceptable to the LORD than
sacrifice. ⁴ An high look, and a proud heart, *and*
the plowing of the wicked, *is* sin.

Proverbs 23:26

²⁶ My son, give me thine heart, and let thine eyes
observe my ways.

Ecclesiastes 2:10-11

¹⁰ And whatsoever mine eyes desired I kept not
from them, I withheld not my heart from any joy;
for my heart rejoiced in all my labour: and this was
my portion of all my labour. ¹¹ Then I looked on all
the works that my hands had wrought, and on the
labour that I had laboured to do: and, behold, all
was vanity and vexation of spirit, and *there was* no
profit under the sun.

The heart and the eye are linked together many times
in God's Word.

Why did God record these words in this Book of Lamentations?

The answer seems quite obvious – Our eyes are prone to wander – Our eyes tend to be easily distracted, and when this occurs, we are subject to dangers in our Christian life.

1. THE CRY OF THE PROPHET (3:1-18)

A. He Experienced Trouble (vs. 1-16)

1. Wrath of God
2. Separation from God
3. Physical problems
4. Heavy burdens
5. Attacks from people

B. He Experienced Tragedies (vs. 17-18)

1. Loss of peace
2. Loss of prosperity
3. Loss of strength
4. Loss of hope

Jeremiah lost his hope in verse 18 but by verse 19 he found it again.

2. THE CONDITION OF THE PROPHET. (3:19-21)

- A. He had physical afflictions.
- B. He had spiritual afflictions.
- C. He had hope.

3. THE CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE

Read Lamentation 1:1-11

4. THE COMPASSION OF THE PROPHET

Lamentations 1:16

¹⁶ For these *things* I weep; mine eye, mine eye runneth down with water, because the comforter that should relieve my soul is far from me: my children are desolate, because the enemy prevailed.

Lamentations 2:4

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 tabernacle of the daughter of Zion: he poured out his fury like fire.

Lamentations 2:18

¹⁸ Their heart cried 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.

Lamentations 3:48-49

⁴⁸ Mine eye 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,

What brought on the compassion of the prophet?

Lamentations 3:51

⁵¹ Mine eye affecteth mine heart because of all the daughters of my city.

5. THE CONFESSIONS OF HOPE OF THE PROPHET. (3:22-24)

A. God's mercies we are not destroyed.

NOTE: The people of the world can do all they want to us but they will never destroy God mercy.

B. God's compassion is ever lasting.

C. God is faithful

D. God will provide.

NOTE: God gives these things each morning anew.

Close:

As we look to our Saviour, in affects our heart. As we see the spiritual need of those around us it should affect our hearts.