

God IS IMMUTABLE (*UNCHANGING*) – Lamentations 3:1-29

Series: THE JOURNEY OF PURSUING GOD'S WILL

³ But Israel has rejected what is good; an enemy will pursue him. ⁴ They set up kings without my consent; they choose princes without my approval. With their silver and gold they make idols for themselves to their own destruction. ***Hosea 8:3-4 (NIV)***

⁷ "They sow the wind and reap the whirlwind. The stalk has no head; it will produce no flour. Were it to yield grain, foreigners would swallow it up. ***Hosea 8:7 (NIV)***

¹ By the rivers of Babylon we sat and wept when we remembered Zion. ² There on the poplars we hung our harps, ³ for there our captors asked us for songs, our tormentors demanded songs of joy; they said, "Sing us one of the songs of Zion!"
Psalms 137:1-3 (NIV)

1. THE BAD NEWS: THE CYCLE OF COMPLICATIONS

A. When we compromise truth, we begin to be afflicted.

¹ I am the man who has seen affliction Because of the rod of His wrath. ² He has driven me and made me walk In darkness and not in light.
Lamentations 3:1-2 (NASB)

➤ Cf. **Lamentations 3:3-11**

B. When we compromise truth, hope flees.

¹⁴ I have become a laughingstock to all my people, Their *mocking* song all the day. ¹⁵ He has filled me with bitterness, He has made me drunk with wormwood. ¹⁶ He has broken my teeth with gravel; He has made me cower in the dust.
Lamentations 3:14-16 (NASB)

¹⁷ You have moved my soul far from peace; I have forgotten prosperity. ... ²⁰ My soul still remembers And sinks within me. ***Lamentations 3:17, 20 (NKJV)***

²⁵ Who can eat or enjoy themselves without God? ***Ecclesiastes 2:25 (GW)***

C. When we compromise truth, God doesn't move.

⁸ Jesus Christ (the Messiah) is [always] the same, yesterday, today, [yes] and forever (to the ages). ***Hebrews 13:8 (AMP)***

2. THE GOOD NEWS: BECAUSE GOD IS FAITHFUL, HOPE RETURNS

²¹ This I recall to my mind, Therefore I have hope. ²² The LORD'S lovingkindnesses indeed never cease, For His compassions never fail. ²³ They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness. ²⁴ "The LORD is my portion," says my soul, "Therefore I have hope in Him." ²⁵ The LORD is good to those who wait for Him, To the person who seeks Him. ***Lamentations 3:21-25 (NASB)***

➤ **What is the hope?**

- A. The Lord's lovingkindnesses never cease
- B. The Lord's compassions never fail
- C. The Lord's faithfulness never diminishes

² O LORD, be gracious to us; we have waited for You. Be their strength every morning, Our salvation also in the time of distress. ***Isaiah 33:2 (NASB)***

¹⁴ But Zion said, "The LORD has forsaken me, And the Lord has forgotten me."
¹⁵ "Can a woman forget her nursing child And have no compassion on the son of her womb? Even these may forget, but I will not forget you. ¹⁶ "Behold, I have inscribed you on the palms of *My hands*; Your walls are continually before Me.
Isaiah 49:14-16 (NASB)

3. TRUST GOD TO REMEMBER YOU

²⁵ The LORD is good to those who wait for Him, To the person who seeks Him. ²⁶ *It is* good that he waits silently For the salvation of the LORD. ***Lamentations 3:25-26 (NASB)***

- A. Stop running from God and start waiting for God
- B. Start seeking Him again.
- C. Submit to His Will, willingly (Lam. 3:29)