FOR OUR LEARNING

1 Corinthians 10:1-6

INTRODUCTION

- A. Purpose of a Funeral.
 - 1. To comfort the grieving.
 - 2. To pay respect to the deceased remember a life lived.
 - 3. To warn the living of certain death and urge preparation.
 - a. Heb. 9:27, "...it is appointed for men to die once and after this comes judgment."
- B. The Preacher Ecclesiastes.
 - 1. Eccl. 7:2
 - 2. Eccl. 7:4
- C. Lamentations.
 - 1. A burial of the city of Jerusalem, Lam. 1:1-3.
 - 2. 1 Cor. 10:6, "These things happened as an example for us..."
 - 3. But, what lessons to learn?

I. THE NATURE OF SIN. Lam. 1:8

- A. "Jerusalem sinned greatly, therefore she has become an unclean thing."
- B. Warnings Against Sin.
 - 1. Prov. 6:27
 - 2. Prov. 14:34
 - 3. Isaiah 30:1
 - 4. Ps. 1:1-2, natural progression of sin.
- C. We Cannot Ignore Sin.
 - 1. Are we pure in our walk and talk before God and man? Titus 2:7-8

II. A DAY OF JUDGMENT. Lam. 2:5

- A. "The Lord has become like an enemy. He has swallowed up Israel;..."
- B. No Hiding Sin.
 - 1. Numbers 32:23, "...be sure your sin will find you out."
 - 2. Job 34:21-22
 - 3. Prov. 1:24-32
- C. God's Mercy Only Lingers So Long.
 - 1. There's a Great Day Coming.
 - a. Jesus warned of it.
 - b. Peter warned of it.
 - c. Paul warned of it.
 - d. John warned of it.
 - 2. Have we obtained His grace and mercy for that great day? Heb. 4:14-16

III. EXAMINE OUR WAYS. Lam. 3:40

- A. "Let us examine and probe our ways, and let us return to the Lord."
- B. Set Our Minds Above.
 - 1. Ps. 119:59-60

- 2. Isa. 55:6-9
- 3. Col. 3:2
- C. The Lord's Lovingkindness.
 - 1. Lam. 3:22-26
 - 2. To bring His people back to Him has ever been God's good and worthy goal.
 - 3. We must test ourselves to see if we are in the faith, Gal. 3:26-27; 2 Cor. 13:5.

IV. FAILURE TO REPENT - DESTRUCTION. Lam. 4:11

- A. "The Lord has accomplished His wrath, He has poured out His fierce anger; and He has kindled a fire in Zion which has consumed its foundations."
- B. Slow to Anger, But...
 - 1. Exodus 34:7
 - 2. Romans 2:4-10
- C. Need for Repentance.
 - 1. Jesus warned of the need to repent, Luke 13:3, 5.
 - 2. How sad God had to go so far before righteousness could be restored in the land!
 - a. Gen. 6:5-7
 - b. Ps. 14:2-3
 - c. Rom. 3:9-11
 - 3. Do we stand in righteousness before Him? Col. 3:5-6; Eph. 4:22-24

V. RESTORED AND RENEWED BY GOD. Lam. 5:21

- A. "Restore us to You, O Lord, that we may be restored; renew our days as of old."
- B. God's Lovingkindness.
 - 1. Psalm 51:7-13
 - 2. Joel 2:12-14
- C. God's Righteous Acts.
 - 1. Isaiah 1:24-26
 - 2. Jer. 27:19-22 the vessels return from Babylon (God's hand).
- D. Restored by God.
 - 1. Are we living the life the Lord has called us to live?
 - 2. Romans 6:3-11

CLOSING

- A. 2 Peter 3:8-13
- B. Parallel to the book of Lamentations.
- C. What kind of people are we to be?