

God is Enough

Text: Lamentations 3:24-26

Date: 11-27-22 10:30 AM

III. The Anchor of the Portion of Jehovah (Lam. 3:24).

Despite Jeremiah's despair, the prophet anchored his soul in the perfect qualities of God's loyal love and gentle yet intense concern for His people.

The word *portion* means *the share of something, possession, part* and often referred to the land being Israel's *inheritance*.

The Scripture speaks of the Lord being the portion of the faithful (Ps. 16:5; 73:26; 119:57). God's people are called God's portion (Deut. 32:9; Jer. 10:16). The Levites never received actual land because God was their special portion (Num. 18:20).

What was Jeremiah's allotment and portion according to this verse? It was Jehovah!

To the believer, God as our portion means that He is everything we need. He is not insufficient, He is not defective, He is not overbearing or overwhelming. He is exactly the right amount at exactly the right time.

He will not fail as our portion. He will not falter as our portion. He will uphold us by His word. He will sustain us and direct our paths. He will guide us and His presence will be with us.

All of these truths led Jeremiah to make a grand and logical conclusion: *I will hope in Him*.

The word *hope* means *to anticipate, to wait expectantly, to look forward to*. The word has an element of tarrying, waiting around in one place for something to happen. At the heart of the word is *trust in God*.

How should we respond in these times when God seems so distant? I offer two thoughts:

- **Remember the Past (Lam. 3; Psalm 77).**

Where does Asaph look to find God? Asaph finds God in the past (V. 11). He finds Him in remembering how God had worked in his difficulties in the past. He finds Him in His wonders of old. But, there is more for Asaph finds God as he meditates on his law and His doings (v. 12).

- **Wait for the Lord (Lam. 3:25-26).**

Jeremiah could expectantly hope in the Lord because he not only remembered God's past work towards him and his people but he realized God was good to those who wait on Him.

Explanation/good: This word (Hebrew: *tob*) has multiple facets to its meaning. It can include "1) practical, economic, or material good, 2) abstract goodness such as desirability, pleasantness, and beauty, 3) quality or expense, 4) moral goodness, and 5) technical philosophical good".¹ God's goodness could be a combination or parts of all of these types.

God's goodness is a limitless supply of all of His bountiful blessings and mercies. His grace, faithfulness, and power are all part of His goodness. Just like Jeremiah was doing, we need to declare praise and rest in the assurance of God in what He has done for us (i.e. Psalm 34:8).

¹ Bowling, A. (1999). [793 טוב](#). In R. L. Harris, G. L. Archer Jr., & B. K. Waltke (Eds.), *Theological Wordbook of the Old Testament* (electronic ed., p. 345). Moody Press.

While everyone experiences God's common grace, to the person that seeks Him, their soul becomes overwhelmed by how Jehovah manifests His goodness in the dark times.

Wait implies patience, expectancy, and ever-present looking towards God's future work through His plans and program.

Jeremiah waited patiently and expectantly for God to fulfill His promises and His word. "Because of this, Jeremiah resolved to **wait for** God to act, bringing about restoration and blessing. He could trust God despite his circumstances because he now understood how inexhaustible was God's supply of loyal love".²

In this we can learn the lessons that during trials (Lam. 3):

- ✓ We must wait on God and hope in His salvation (v. 26).
- ✓ We must recognize the brevity of the trial (vs. 31-32).
- ✓ We must see that though there is grief, God will distribute His compassion and mercies (v. 32).
- ✓ We must understand that God doesn't delight in giving His children affliction (v. 34).
- ✓ Those who are afflicted wrongly, God both sees it and doesn't approve of it (vs. 34-36).
- ✓ We must trust that both blessing and judgment come from the hand of God (vs. 36-37).
- ✓ We must turn our hearts back to the Lord and admit when we have sinned (v. 40, 42).
- ✓ We must praise God in the trial (v. 41).

² Dyer, C. H. (1985). [Lamentations](#). In J. F. Walvoord & R. B. Zuck (Eds.), *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures* (Vol. 1, pp. 1217–1218). Victor Books.