



Repentance Tabernacle Church

RepentanceTabernacle@gmail.com
www.RepentanceTabernacle.org (984) 369-5171

Faithfulness of God!

Scripture: Lamentations 3:21-38

The prophet Jeremiah wrote Lamentations in a time of grief and national mourning, after the once great city of Jerusalem fell to Babylon, approximately 586 BC. The book describes great anguish—and great hope—in poetic form. The main theme of the book is God's judgment on Judah's sin as well as His compassion for His people. Lamentations contains "laments" or "loud cries" for Jerusalem and many expressions of anguish and pain, but in **chapter 3, right in the middle of the book, there is a beautiful passage of confidence and hope.**

The prophet Jeremiah makes the transition from the desperate complaint to hope. We know that, even in the darkest times, God is faithful and will not cast off His people forever. Every day, every morning, God shows His mercy and compassion. Jeremiah saw all the sin and sorrow surrounding him: **God's compassion never fails.**

The Lord's "**great love**" abides even in times of trouble and divine judgment. God never stopped loving Israel, despite His discipline of them. It is God's "great love" for His people that spared them from being utterly wiped out by Babylon. As we know from history, God later restored His people to their land and blessed them again. Perhaps there is some sin in your life that you thought God would not forgive. **God's compassion is greater than any sin, and he promises forgiveness.** Out of the faithfulness of His covenant God grants mercy. His mercy is limitless and can never fail.

Jeremiah knew from personal experience about God's faithfulness. God had promised that punishment would follow disobedience, and it did. The very fact that there still exists a remnant of His people proves the steadfastness of God's mercy. If the Lord is kind to those who hope in Him, then it follows that we ought to be patient while waiting for His help in suffering. The Lord has pity on His suffering children; in fact, His mercies are new every morning. God is unchanging, and His mercies toward Israel and us are unfaltering. His covenant with Abraham's descendants would be kept. This was the bright ray of hope that shone through the smoke of Jerusalem's ruins.

The dawning of every new day could be seen as a symbol of God's light breaking through the darkness and His mercy overcoming our troubles. Every morning demonstrates God's grace, a new beginning in which gloom must flee. We need look no further than the breath in our lungs, the sun that shines upon us, or the rain that falls to nourish the soil. The mercies of God continue to come to us through a multitude of manifestations.

God's mercy is ready to forgive our sins, as they are atoned for by the shed blood of Jesus Christ on the cross. We serve a great, loving, and merciful God, and because of His great love we are not consumed. Our God is for us, not against us. In Jesus Christ we have the fullest expression of God's mercy and compassion (Matthew 14:14), and He is "the same yesterday and today and forever" (Hebrews 13:8). Jesus' mercy is indeed "new every morning."

Bearing the yoke means willingly coming under God's discipline and learning what he wants to teach. This involves several important factors: (1) silent reflection on what God wants, (2) repentant humility, (3) self-control in the face of adversity, and (4) confident patience, depending on the Teacher to bring about the loving lessons in our lives. **God has several long-term and short-term lessons for you right now.** Moreover, there are three certainties given to comfort the afflicted: there will be end to their sorrow, He shows compassion according to the fullness of grace, and God does not delight to send sorrow and pain to his children, but chastisement is a necessary part of spiritual growth.

The Word of God points out the necessity of covenant obedience, the reality of divine judgment on sin, and the ever-present hope of salvation for those who truly repent. If we were to be completely honest, we would have to admit to ourselves that much of the trouble we face in our lives is of our own making. Therefore, the only way to experience the saving, reconciling, restoring power of God's Spirit is to confess and repent.

Thank God for His mercies and compassions which are new every morning!