

# THE KEY OF DAVID

Tomorrow's News  
Today

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## TRANSCRIPT (0924)

### VOICEOVER:

*The Key of David*, with Gerald Flurry.

### GERALD FLURRY:

Greetings, everyone.

The prophet Jeremiah wrote about the terrible times of Jacob, and he says in his prophecies that there was nothing like it. They'd never suffered anything like it. That's in Jeremiah 30 and verse 7. But then on down in verse 9 he talks about David being resurrected, and of course, that's a very happy ending, as Christ will be ruling at that time. So these terrible times that come upon us *in the end* are just *before* the second coming of Jesus Christ.

But Jeremiah also wrote another book, a smaller book that follows his book of Jeremiah, and that is the book of Lamentations, and it is a book that's devoted *completely and totally* to *explaining* the worst time of suffering ever on this earth. It's the *only* book in the Bible that does that, where the whole book just dwells on that, the worst suffering ever to come upon us in this end time, and *specifically* upon the people called Jacob.

Now, if you haven't read our book on *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*, you need to get that, and it will explain to you who Jacob is, and who the nations of Israel are (biblical Israel). That's certainly comprised of several different nations.

But here we have a book, Lamentations, that *explains* all that suffering as powerfully and as cogently as any thing you've ever read *in your life!* I mean, there's nothing—the poetry is just superb. It's the best, I think, the best poetry in the Bible, and why would God use poetry to describe all this? What is the purpose of God writing that little book, or inspiring Jeremiah to do so?

I said something to you recently about one of our serious problems here in America, and really it's in the United Kingdom, or Britain, and the Jews in the Middle East. They also are suffering from pretty serious financial catastrophes—all of them!

And I also mentioned that Herbert Armstrong was talking about that subject years ago, about twenty-five years ago, and said he thought to get Europe to unite in what *we* call and what *they* call the Holy Roman Empire, there's going to be a financial crisis or catastrophe that would do that. Here's what he said at that time, and I'll just quote him. "Well, now, I think I can see what may be the very event that is going to *trigger* it, and it is the economic situation in the world."

So how could this man know about that crisis that was going to come upon us, some twenty-five years ago—and even further if you understood all of his prophecies—but he spoke of many problems like that and told us how they were going to be concluded, and how it would all happen in the end time. And of course, he also said that that would be really what would *bring together* those ten nations in Europe that are going to comprise the Holy Roman Empire.

But in our financial crisis that we have seen before us, and I mean it is—well, it's *terrifying* in many ways if you understand what they're talking about. And other commentators see that, certainly that's not just myself, but did you know that all of the financial experts in the government didn't see any of this coming, or didn't prophesy that it was going to happen? I mean the financial *experts*, and yet here was a man, Herbert W. Armstrong, that told us *twenty-five years ago* that it was coming. Now how could he know that?

How important are these prophecies to you, when God talks about in Lamentations? He explains the worst suffering ever to come upon this earth. Why is He telling us that? What is the purpose of the book? What is God's plan? What is He working out?

Well, this two-fold prophecy, really, that Mr. Armstrong talked about was talked about for many, many years. He discussed it over and over and over again, and this work of God, overall, has talked about those prophecies for some *seventy years!* Seventy years that God has *warned* this nation about those prophecies and those crises that are coming upon us.

And if you looked at the trillions and trillions of dollars that the U.S. is now in debt, I defy *anybody* to PROVE to me how we can dig ourselves out of that financial hole. And that's *really* what the book of Lamentations is all about. It's about *that* problem and *other problems* that somehow the liberals and the conservatives think that we can solve if we just do it the right way, the way *they* think it should be done.

But Lamentations says no, that's not right, that men cannot solve these problems—liberals or conservatives or anybody else—only *God* can solve these problems. And they're so horrifying if you look at these prophecies, what is coming upon us in this end time, that we certainly *need* God's protection, and He says He'll *give it* if we will do what *He* says do, that *He will give it!*

God has warned America and Britain and the Jews in the Middle East for oh, so many years. And why? Well, when God gives a warning, you can be sure something catastrophic is going to follow.

Let me just quickly read to you some verses, just parts of verses really, about God's *fierce anger and wrath* from this book of Lamentations. I'll just quickly read them to you. Lamentations 2 and verse 1 says, “[i]n the day of his anger! (2) The Lord hath swallowed up all the habitations of Jacob... in his wrath. (3) He hath cut off in *his* fierce anger all the horn of Israel: ... he burned against Jacob like a flaming fire. (4) [h]e poured out his fury like fire.”

Verse 6, “And he hath violently taken away his tabernacle...: and hath despised in the indignation of his ANGER the king and the priest.”

Verse 21, “[m]y virgins and my young men are fallen by the sword; thou hast slain *them* in the day of thine anger;” In the day of His anger! That’s *always* referring to the end time. It’s talking about the time we’re living in *now*.

Verse 22, God says here, He’s inspired *this* verse, “Thou hast called as in a solemn day my terrors round about, so that in the day of the LORD's anger none escaped.”

And then verse 1 of chapter 3. That was chapter 2, pardon me. This is chapter 3 and verse 1, “I *am* the man *that* hath seen affliction by the rod of his wrath.”

Verse 43, “Thou hast covered with anger, and persecuted us:” A repeat of that practically.

Verse 66, “Persecute and destroy them in anger.”

And then chapter 4 and verse 11, “The LORD hath accomplished his fury; he hath poured out his fierce anger, and hath kindled a fire in Zion.”

Verse 16, “The anger of the LORD hath divided them; he will no more regard them:”

Well, let me go, just quickly give you a few scriptures where it talks about God has no pity in that period of time. He has no pity! Can you imagine a God of love without pity! How bad is this, and why is it so important that you need to know about this book of Lamentations?

Verse 2 of chapter 2, “The Lord hath swallowed up all the habitations of Jacob, and hath not pitied:”

Who is Jacob? Well, our book on *The United States and Britain in Prophecy* will explain that very clearly to you, if you don’t already know.

Verse 17 of chapter 2, “[h]e hath thrown down, and hath not pitied:”

I mean this is God that is without pity in this book. What is it all about, and why do you so urgently need to understand this? It is, after all, prophecy for right now, and is being fulfilled, even as I explain this to you.

Chapter 2 and verse 21, “[t]hou hast killed, *and* not pitied.” God has killed and not pitied?

And then chapter 3 and verse 43, “[t]hou hast slain, thou hast not pitied.”

Can you imagine a small book explaining that kind of wrath that God has toward His people, and toward the peoples of Israel? The nations of Israel, biblical Israel has different nations if you understand that. But can you understand that here is God full of

wrath and without any pity in this period of time? Why is God so wrathful, and why will He not show any pity at all?

Well, it has *everything* to do with that seventy years of warning that has been going out to these nations, and God is going to hold them accountable, as He holds *all of us* accountable. We *must* understand these prophecies, and certainly God says if you respond to Him, He is going to protect *you*. He's going to protect you.

But in this book of Lamentations is God's strongest warning in the Bible. I believe it is the very, very strongest.

No people have ever been punished more. Now you know there are TV commentators and there are radio commentators and all kinds of people like this that are talking about some very dire troubles that are coming upon our land in America and Canada and Britain and the Jewish nation in the Middle East. And *those* commentators, every one of them I verily do believe, feels that if somehow we can just change the course of events and do it *their* way, that we will solve these problems. But Jeremiah said no, that is not true. Because of our own sins that is not true, and that's what God wants us to see and what we *must* see, but He *does* say there is a solution if we'll just listen to Him. There *is* a solution! But there's only one, and *nobody* it seems is eager to choose it. But they ought to be *most eager to choose it* because sooner or later, God is going to teach them a lesson the hard way. They're going to see that man cannot solve these catastrophic problems he's facing. Man CREATED them! He can't solve them or we wouldn't have them! It's just the way it is! But that is a lesson that God is going to have to teach man, no matter how much suffering it takes. And it looks like it's going to take a lot of suffering, and that shouldn't be. This is the lesson, the corrective lesson that God wants to teach us.

The Talmud talks about Lamentations, and calls it *Kinot*, and it's like a hymn of grief or lamentation or a dirge, like you'd sing songs at a *funeral*. It's a *gigantic funeral dirge*; that's what it is! Now that's not something you want to take lightly. I mean when you think about this, it's actually talking about the worst funeral dirge EVER! That's something to think seriously about.

Here's what Lange's says about this book, *All the way through the book of Lamentations, Lange's Commentary refers to the author as the Poet.*

I'm reading from our booklet on Lamentations. *The Bible doesn't say for sure who wrote it, but most scholars believe Jeremiah did. I believe the Bible CLEARLY shows us that Jeremiah was the author. Lamentations is the most elegant poetry in all the Bible. Lange's describes it as the most perfect product in regard to the external artistic structure of the Old Testament scriptures. Adam Clarke's commentary says, "I have called this an INIMITABLE form.*

That is, it can't be imitated. It just simply can't be imitated, it's that good, it's that outstanding, and it was inspired by the great God because He loves us, and He wants to make this message as powerful as He possibly can so that we *might* be able to understand it and heed the warning. But will we?

I mean, Jeremiah was apparently an eyewitness to all of this. He was there for nineteen years as Babylon was besieging Judah, when he was warning Judah, and they threw him in jail. He gave a lot of those warnings right from the dungeon he was cast into. So he had to go through a lot to make all this possible.

Clarke's Commentary has this to say, *Misery has no expression that the author of the Lamentations has not employed. One would think that every letter was written with a tear, every word the sound of a breaking heart, that the author was compacted of sorrows, one who never breathed but in sighs, nor spoke but in a groan.*

All this precise poetry, and I mean, this is the most precisely structured book in the Bible, as far as I can tell. And it's all about destruction! I mean God isn't just kind of in a temper tantrum where He's not controlling Himself. He's *controlling* and *precisely planning* all of this suffering to teach lessons to people that are rebelling! He wants to save them! He doesn't want to destroy them! But it looks like He's going to have to go a long way in that direction to ever even get their attention so that they'll listen to Him.

I mean your Bible is a *living book* from the *Living God*! And these prophecies are just *painfully accurate* when you look at how they've been fulfilled. And we've been talking about that *a long time*.

But God is concerned about more than just the nations of Israel. He's concerned about a good deal more than that. If you notice, Jeremiah only went to Judah, but he addresses this book of Jeremiah *and* Lamentations to all of Israel. Well, Israel had already gone into captivity over a hundred years before, so all of this is for the end time. It's for nations in Israel, and we need to be concerned who they are because God is talking to all of us, and specifically the nations of Jacob, or Israel.

Lamentations gives us the horrendous details of the worst suffering ever, and God wants so much to see YOU—to see YOU escape it! But He talks about “as a widow,” these people being “as a widow.” Why would God say that? He's not only aiming this at the nations of Israel—or excuse me, He's directing it to His church, His own church.

Notice verse 1 of Lamentations 1, “How doth the city,” that is, Jerusalem, “sit solitary, *that was* full of people! *how* is she become as a widow!” It's talking spiritually here, because Jerusalem today is not God's widow. If you look at that city you know that. But He's talking about a *spiritual* city, a *spiritual* nation of Israel, if you please, with Jerusalem as its spiritual capital.

But he goes on to say, “[s]he *that was* great among the nations, *and* princess among the provinces, *how* is she become tributary!”

See, here's the worst news you've ever heard, and yet as a part of that news, she sits “as a widow.” She's not a widow. This is God's own wife, His own bride that has turned away from Him, and she's “as a widow.” She's not a widow. That's good news!

But the bad news is she's going to suffer as a widow until she repents, and 50% of God's own people are not going to repent, if you can believe that horrifying statistic. But that's what your Bible teaches.

Why do we have to be so hard? Do you see why God has to get so hard? Because *we're* so hard, and we need to *change* that. We need help from God.

So this is good news, and even better news is there's a little very elect delivering the message to *warn* God's church *and* the nations of Israel.

And verse 12 states it this way, "*Is it* nothing to you, all ye that pass by? behold, and see if there be any sorrow like unto my sorrow." In the day of His fierce anger, or God's fierce anger, that's what these people are saying. "Is there any sorrow like my sorrow?" And there *hasn't* been. That's what they're talking about.

I mean we saw the Nazi concentration camps of World War II, but He's saying this trouble is without parallel. There's never been anything like it, not even in World War II. Is that worth responding to?

I'll tell you, you look—and I hope you'll write for this booklet on *Lamentations* if you haven't already gotten it because it talks about Adonai, the God that rules. And that word Adonai is mentioned fourteen times in *Lamentations*, two sevens—which seven means completion—so this is like *double completion*.

The problem with God's own church and with the nations of Israel is they *won't let God RULE them!* And I'll tell you another sober warning in this book. It doesn't mention the word Elohim, which it usually uses, which really indicates the very *family* of God. Because *these* people, God's own people, are REBELLING against the family of God, and they won't *proclaim* that message any more, as they once did. Is God going to have to send them through this to wake them up? That's what it's all about. I tell you, that's what it's all about.

So sometimes, you see, there's a strong warning in what is *not said*. What is *not* said. God is concerned about His Laodicean church, and He says 95% of His people have turned away from Him, and He gives us this *precisely structured* book of *Lamentations* about the worst destruction *ever* on mankind. Well, that's something that we ought to be concerned about.

Verse 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:"

What are they talking about? See, what is the comforter? Well, John 14 and verse 16 talks about it. This is talking the *comfort*, the *power* that God will give us through His Holy Spirit if we seek it, and it will give us *comfort*, it will give us *joy*, and take away the *anxiety* and the *fears*. Perfect love casts out fear. That's what God wants to give. Why should we live in fear? God says there's no *reason* for it. You have a comforter.

Well, now, you have to know about faith and repentance and baptism, and we have booklets on those subjects if you'd like to write for them, and certainly about the Holy Spirit. We have a correspondence course. You ought to be enrolled in it because I'll tell you, it explains *all* of those subjects, and teaches you how to make *sure* that you have that comforter in your life, and RULING your life. And God will always be there to protect you, if that is the case.

Now, there will be a few exceptions, of course, where God has in the past let His leaders be killed to be a witness against those evil men in this world.

But God promises protection to His people in this end time. *He promises to PROTECT them* from the crises and the catastrophes that are coming upon us. *We need* comfort. This world needs comfort. They try to find it in drugs or illicit this or that, but that's not the way to be comforted. That makes the problem worse! Because you're violating the law of God! The law that brings joy and abundance.

Well, he talked here about the anointing of these people. Those people of God have been anointed to be kings and priests forever (Revelation 1 and verse 6). They're here on this earth as kings and priests in embryo, preparing to rule this earth with David and with Christ. That's why they're here!

Then it goes on to talk about, in verse 4 and 5 of Lamentations 2, where God, Himself, is our adversary! He's our enemy! Can we possibly win? Is there any way we can win when God is our adversary? Absolutely not! That's the worst *possible disaster* there is! There's nothing worse than that!

And the only way, you see, to solve these problems is to turn to God. It says in verse 8 of chapter 2, "[h]e hath stretched out a line," He's *measuring* all this destruction, to do everything He can to try to save Israel and the world.

And also He knows that with some of His people, He knows eternal life is at stake, and He's going to precisely measure all the correction. I mean this is the Living God we're talking about! He knows *exactly* what's happening on this earth! He knows every detail! Every little *tiny* detail! All the minutiae you can imagine. God knows about it.

But verse 9 says, "[t]he law *is no more*; her prophets also find no vision from the LORD." Why do they not find a vision and new revelation and understanding from God? Because they turned away from the law, and God gives them no revelation and no vision. If you turn away from the law, God won't give you that revelation and that vision and that comfort and that joy and that abundance. He won't give it! See, we can't allow ourselves to get in sync with all of the evil of this world, and at the same time expect the great God to protect us and look after us and *continually* comfort us in these very uncomfortable times, filled with all kinds of fears and anxieties. But God says He will take all of those away if we will just trust Him, and put our lives in His hands.

Until next week, this is Gerald Flurry. Goodbye, friends.

Request our two free booklets, Lamentations: The Point of No Return and Repentance Toward God. Lamentations was a warning to ancient Judah that it had reached the point of no return. The nation could no longer repent to avoid being taken captive by Babylon. What happened to Judah is only a type of what is prophesied to happen in this end time. It is a prophecy where the Laodicean Church and three nations of Israel (America, Britain and the Jewish nation) have reached the point of no return. They are going to become enslaved by a modern-day Babylon from Europe. Only individuals can still repent before the Great Tribulation. And even they have only a tiny span of time to do so. This is all thoroughly explained in our free booklet, Lamentations: The Point of No Return. Even in this temporary bad news, there is still hope for every individual. Request our free booklet Repentance Toward God. Do you know the difference between godly repentance and worldly sorrow? This booklet could dramatically change your life!

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