

Chuck Smith:

"GOD'S LAMENTATION"

I. "HEAR, O MY PEOPLE."

- A. God is calling to His own chosen.
 - 1. As the lament of Jesus over Jerusalem.
 - 2. God sorrows over the lost world.
 - 3. He also sorrows over His people.

II. HIS LAMENT WAS OVER LOST LOVE.

- A. He warns them against strange gods.
 - 1. It is interesting the strange things man will believe when he rejects truth.
 - a. "I believe that man evolved out of the primordial ooze."
 - b. I believe that god is the positive force in every man.
 - c. God can be discovered by sitting in a contorted position.
 - 2. The strange passions man will devote his life to.
 - a. He may hate God, but love football.
 - b. Love his Datsun.
 - c. Love some kinky form of sex.
- B. "My people would not hearken to My voice, and Israel would none of Me."
 - 1. The one I love will have nothing to do with me.
 - 2. The greatest thing you'll ever learn is to love and be loved in return.
 - a. The worst thing is to love and not be loved in return.
 - b. This was the basis for God's lament.
- C. "So I gave them up to their own heart's lust."
 - 1. Sometimes the worst thing that can happen to you is to receive your own heart's desire.
 - a. As long as we can't have it it seems so appealing.
 - 1. I dream of how nice it would be.
 - 2. I picture myself in ultimate happiness.
 - b. My mother was always health conscious.
 - 1. Proper diet, proper exercise.
 - 2. No cokes, coffee, candy.
 - 3. I used to fantasize over cokes.

III. HIS SORROW OVER THEIR LOSS.

- A. He desired to fill their lives.
 - 1. "Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it."
 - a. Little birds in nest.
 - b. Expectancy, anticipation
 - c. Our attitude before God.
- B. He desired to be their defense "I would have subdued their enemies."
 - 1. The gods they chose so weakened them they were destroyed by their enemies.
 - 2. People who give themselves over to their own lusts soon become captives.
- C. He desired to give them victory over their enemies. vs. 14, 15
- D. He desired to give them the best.
 - 1. Finest of wheat.
 - 2. Honey out of rock.
 - 3. "Should I have satisfies thee."

IV. THE SAD TESTIMONY OF HISTORY.

- A. Israel turned to other gods.
- B. Israel was subdued by her enemies.
- C. Recent diggings on Jerusalem tell the tragic story.