

Sunday, January 1, 2023

1 Timothy 4:13, “Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching.”

Series New Year’s Day 2023

Title: My Portion and My Hope

Text: Lamentations 3:1 - 27 (21-27)

Purpose: I want to MOTIVATE my congregation to focus on and be yoked to Jesus Christ.

Introduction:

~ Authorship of the Book of Lamentations

~ Jeremiah, Lamentations and Ezekiel address the judgment of God against Judea and the City of David (Jerusalem) because of their idolatry. Ezekiel writes as a priest taken into captivity and Jeremiah (the son of priest) writes as a survivor of the Babylonian captivity; one who witnessed the defeat of Judah and the fall of Jerusalem.

1. My PERSONAL Decision:

~ vs. 21, “*But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope.*”

~ The idea of the Hebrew word “call” includes the thoughts of: to restore, refresh, repair, to bring back. As we read the context we discover some very dismal observations and thoughts – vs. 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 12, 13, 15, etc. But the author has made a decision to “call” to mind the Word of God.

~ This results in a personal sense of “hope.” This Hebrew word means “to wait; by implication to be patient, hope – cause to hope”

2. My PERSONAL Conviction (Belief or Opinion):

~ This conviction is the direct result of “I call to mind,”

~ vs. 22: KJV, “*It is the LORD’S mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions (H7356) fail not.*”

NIV, “*Because of the LORD’S mercies we are not consumed, Because His compassions (H7356) fail not.*”

ESV, “*The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies (H7356) never come to an end;*”

~ Even when I am being disciplined: Hebrews 12:1 - 14

~ An interesting note on the word “mercies” in the Hebrew - its primary meaning is womb or compassion.

3. My PERSONAL Confidence:

~ vs. 23, “*they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.*”

~ Faithful One, so unchanging, ageless One, You’re my Rock of Peace, Lord of all I depend on You,

I call out to you, again and again, I call out to You, again and again...

4. My PERSONAL Portion:

~ vs. 24 “*The LORD is my portion,*” says my soul, “*therefore I will hope in him.*”

The concept behind the word “portion” is: portion, share, part, territory

Compare with 1 Peter 1:1 – 9 and 2 Peter 1:1 – 8

5. My PERSONAL Discipline:

~ vs. 25 and 26, “*The LORD is good to those who wait for him, to the soul who seeks him. It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the LORD.*”

~ to wait: to allow myself to be twisted together with Jesus Christ who is the living Word

~ to seek: to tread or to follow

6. My PERSONAL Calling:

~ vs. 27, “*It is good for a man that he bear the yoke in his youth.*”

~ Matthew 11:25 - 30

Conclusion:

Song

Faithful One, So Unchanging