



---

# THE SHEPHERD'S VOICE

---

*Daily Devotion at Zion + March 2022 AD + **Lent***

## **Lamentation**

Jesus wept over Jerusalem. The women wept over Jesus. Centuries earlier, the holy prophet Jeremiah wrote a whole book of sorrows, recording his grief at the destruction of God's city. Weeping, sorrow, and grief, all of which can fall under the word *lamentation*, are a frequent experience of the human soul, and this lamentation has a place in Christian devotion.

The Lord Himself even calls us to it:

“Yet even now,” declares the LORD, “return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning . . . Return to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and merciful . . . (Joel 2:12-13)

Lamentation expresses our faith: we trust God to be near us in our grief, ready to listen. We even believe He will deliver us from the sorrow of our sins. Lamentation is different from despair (though even despair cannot separate us from God): lamentation is the act of taking our sorrow to God in prayer.

What sorrows may you take to God this Lent? How will you grieve your sin? How will you give Him your despair? Consider these psalms of lament to help you: Psalm 6, 13, 38, 86, and 130. You might read Jeremiah's book of *Lamentations*, too. However you bring your lament to God, know that He hears you with a fatherly and merciful love.

## **About the Cover Art**

*Does this face of Christ, marked with tears, hover above the city, or does it rise up from within it? Notice how He seems almost to rest His head upon the factory's exhaust—even its pollution does not turn Him away—and how the buildings' sharp and straight lines contrast with the softer curves of His eyes and skin. Christ both bears the burdens of mankind, and He is the balm for it. He feels its anguish, and just for that reason, He sympathizes with it and helps. This painting, entitled “Man of Sorrows,” was made by James B. Jangknecht in 1990 A.D.*

### Daily Readings for the Week of Lent 1 (March 6)

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>S</b> Daniel 9:3-10<br>Hebrews 2:10-18<br>John 12:44-50         | <b>Th</b> Genesis 39:1-23<br>1 Corinthians 2:14—<br>3:15<br>Mark 2:1-12                                      |
| <b>M</b> Genesis 37:1-11<br>1 Corinthians 1:1-19<br>Mark 1:1-13    | <b>F</b> Genesis 40:1-23<br>1 Corinthians 3:16-23<br>Mark 2:13-22  |
| <b>T</b> Genesis 37:12-24<br>1 Corinthians 1:20-31<br>Mark 1:14-28 | <b>Sa</b> Genesis 41:1-13<br>1 Corinthians 4:1-7<br>Mark 2:23—3:6  |
| <b>W</b> Genesis 37:25-36<br>1 Corinthians 2:1-13<br>Mark 1:29-45  | <i>These readings correspond<br/>to pages 833– 863 in Vol-<br/>ume III of <u>For All the<br/>Saints.</u></i> |

### Daily Readings for the Week of Lent 2 (March 13)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>S</b> Genesis 41:14-45<br>Romans 6:3-14<br>John 5:19-24         | <b>Th</b> Genesis 42:29-38<br>1 Corinthians 6:12-20<br>Mark 4:21-34   |
| <b>M</b> Genesis 41:46-57<br>1 Corinthians 4:8-21<br>Mark 3:7-19a  | <b>F</b> Genesis 43:1-15<br>1 Corinthians 7:1-9<br>Mark 4:35-41   |
| <b>T</b> Genesis 42:1-17<br>1 Corinthians 5:1-8<br>Mark 3:19b-35   | <b>Sa</b> Genesis 43:16-34<br>1 Corinthians 7:10-24<br>Mark 5:1-20  |
| <b>W</b> Genesis 42:18-28<br>1 Corinthians 5:9—6:11<br>Mark 4:1-20 | <i>These readings correspond<br/>to pages 864—894 in Vol-<br/>ume III of <u>For All the<br/>Saints.</u></i> |

### Daily Readings for the Week of Lent 3 (March 20)

<b>S</b>	Genesis 44:1-17 Romans 8:1-10 John 5:25-29	<b>Th</b>	Genesis 46:1-7, 28-34 1 Corinthians 9:1-15 Mark 6:30-46
<b>M</b>	Genesis 44:18-34 1 Corinthians 7:25-31 Mark 5:21-43	<b>F</b>	Genesis 47:1-26 1 Corinthians 9:16-27 Mark 6:47-56
<b>T</b>	Genesis 45:1-15 1 Corinthians 7:32-40 Mark 6:1-13	<b>Sa</b>	Genesis 47:27—48:7 1 Corinthians 10:1-13 Mark 7:1-23
<b>W</b>	Genesis 45:16-28 1 Corinthians 8:1-13 Mark 6:13-29		<i>These readings correspond to pages 895-928 in Volume III of <u>For All the Saints</u>.</i>

### Daily Readings for the Week of Lent 4 (March 27)

<b>S</b>	Genesis 48:8-22 Romans 8:11-25 John 6:27-40	<b>Th</b>	Exodus 1:6-22 1 Corinthians 12:12-26 Mark 8:27—9:1
<b>M</b>	Genesis 49:1-28 1 Corinthians 10:14— 11:1 Mark 7:24-37	<b>F</b>	Exodus 2:1-22 1 Corinthians 12:27— 13:3 Mark 9:2-13
<b>T</b>	Genesis 49:29—50:14 1 Corinthians 11:2-34 Mark 8:1-10	<b>Sa</b>	Exodus 2:23—3:15 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 Mark 9:14-29
<b>W</b>	Genesis 50:15-26 1 Corinthians 12:1-11 Mark 8:11-26		<i>These readings correspond to pages 928-964 in Volume III of <u>For All the Saints</u>.</i>