

**I. Real Reproach Rehearsed**

v 1 - 17

*Is any afflicted, let him pray*

**James 5:13**

The people of God come to the footstool of grace and pray.

God sees, considers and remembers all      **Neh 9:32**

v 1 They complain, not of evils feared, but **evils felt**.

Summed up in one word : **reproach**.

Consider : their relation to God - - - reflects upon His name and honour.

They mention the particulars of their reproach

v 2 They've been dispossessed of their Land.

v 3 They've been reduced to a lowly social status.

*orphans* - Their King (the 'father of Israel') was gone.

v 4 They're hard pressed to provide necessities.

v 6/5 Some sold their liberty : resulting in *persecution* and slavery

v 8 Those who will not be ruled by God's *servants the prophets* (Amos 3:7) who are gracious & fair;

... shall justly be ruled by base, vulgar 'servants' who are cruel and unfair.

v 10 Those who once feasted are now famished.

v 11-13 All were abused : no exceptions

*women ravished*, v 11      *princes hanged*, v 12

*elders dishonoured*, v 12      *children abused*, v 13

v 14-17 The **end** has come !      wisdom, v 14      *musick*, v 14      *joy*, v 15      *royalty*, v 16

*spir*: spiritual *crowns* may fall from some of God's children due to persistent **sin**.

**II. Remembrance of Our Great God**

v 18 - 22

v 18 Here, Jeremiah reflects on his deep concern for Zion, God's holy land & great Temple more than his personal state of affairs.

v 19 They comfort themselves with the Doctrine of the Eternal God      **Deu 33:27**

"God is still the same. He remains forever *wise & holy*, forever *just & good*."

His *throne of government*, *throne of glory*, *throne of grace*: immovable, unchangeable !!!

**1 Tim 1:17**