

Lament over the Destruction of Jerusalem

- ¹By the rivers of Babylon—
there we sat down and there we wept
when we remembered Zion.
- ²On the willows^[a] there
we hung up our harps.
- ³For there our captors
asked us for songs,
and our tormentors asked for mirth, saying,
“Sing us one of the songs of Zion!”
- ⁴How could we sing the LORD’s song
in a foreign land?
- ⁵If I forget you, O Jerusalem,
let my right hand wither!
- ⁶Let my tongue cling to the roof of my mouth,
if I do not remember you,
if I do not set Jerusalem
above my highest joy.
- ⁷Remember, O LORD, against the Edomites
the day of Jerusalem’s fall,
how they said, “Tear it down! Tear it down!
Down to its foundations!”
- ⁸O daughter Babylon, you devastator!^[b]
Happy shall they be who pay you back
what you have done to us!
- ⁹Happy shall they be who take your little ones
and dash them against the rock!