

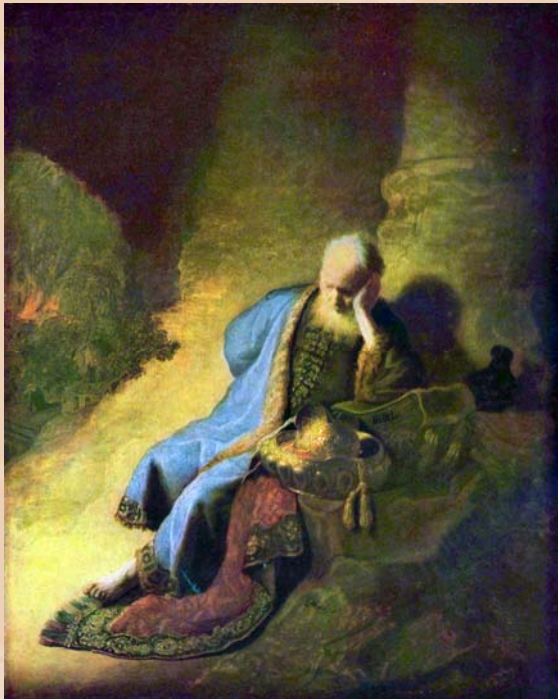
Jerusalem times

no.203.078

Keeping you up to date since the Garden of Eden

- Since creation-

THE LAMENTATIONS OF JEREMIAH AND THE GOD OF JEREMIAH (LAMENTATIONS 3:21-25)



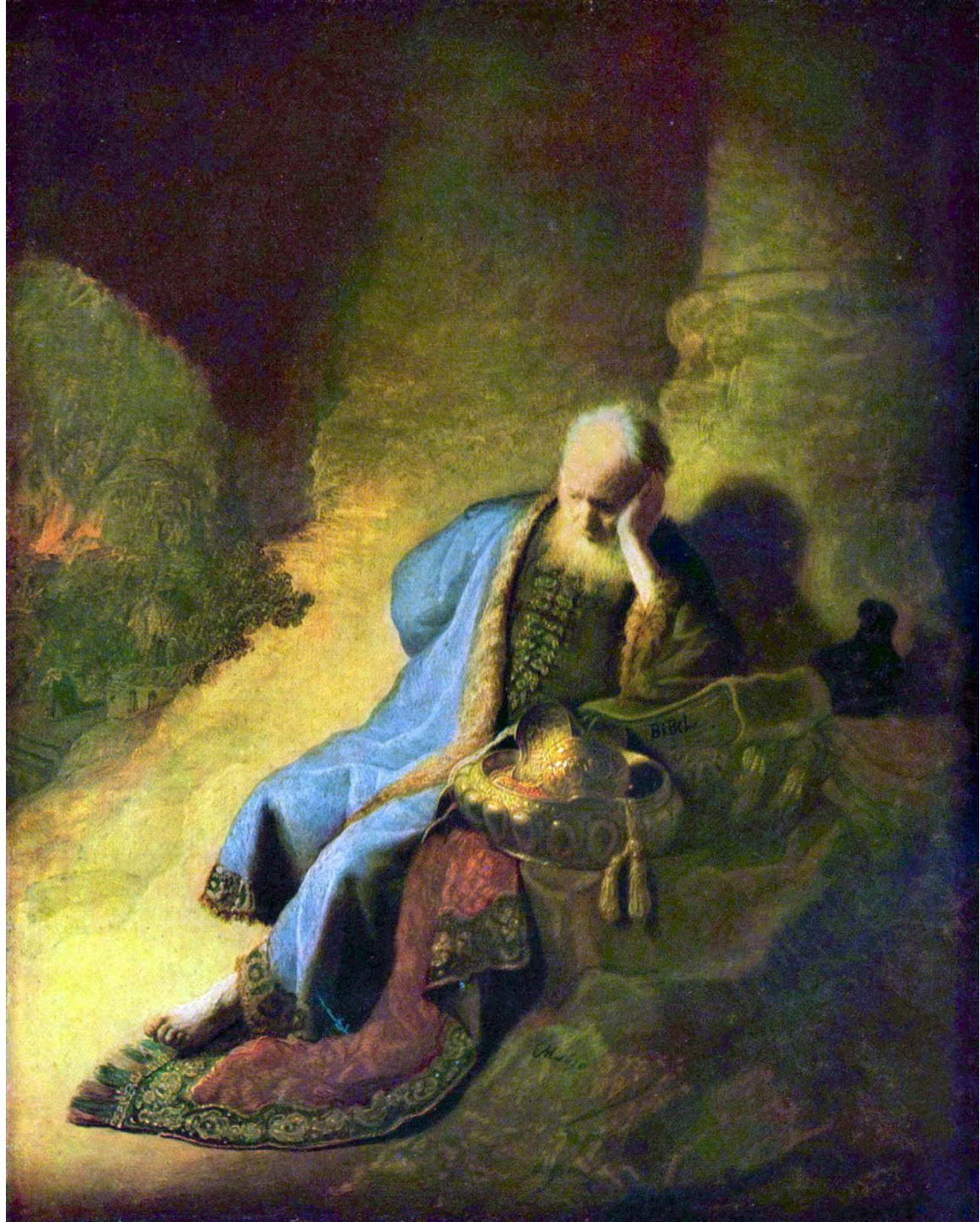
“The Prophet Jeremiah Mourning over the Destruction of Jerusalem” is among the early works of Rembrandt in which his *leitmotif* of conceptual structure was a single or totally dominant figure that is totally bound up in the course of an historical event. Rembrandt masterfully turns an individual person, their expressions and posture, into a history painting.

Alex Tang went to Amsterdam in 2006 which is the 400 year anniversary of Rembrandt’s birth. Alex saw this painting of the prophet Jeremiah in the Rijksmuseum Amsterdam - Museum for Art and History and was immediately captivated.

Seated at the base of a large column, Jeremiah mourns the destruction of Jerusalem. It was an event he had prophesied. The light falls almost exclusively on the old man and his immediate surroundings.

**The Prophet
Jeremiah
Mourning over
the Destruction
of Jerusalem**

by Rembrandt
(1603)



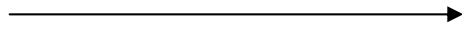
Jeremiah ministered under seven rulers

- Josiah (Judah's last Godly king)
- Jehoiakim (ungodly, scripture burning king)
- Jehoiachin (a ninety-day wonder judged by God)
- Zedekiah (Judah's last king)
- Nebuchanezzar (Babylon conqueror)
- Gedaliah (Babylonian appointed governor of occupied Jerusalem)
- Johanan (successor of Gedaliah who was assassinated)

God's judgment on the Israelites (Judeans)

- Ungodly kings
- False prophets, priests and wise men
- Idolatry of the people (return to worship of Baal)
- Refusal to listen to God

Book of
Jeremiah



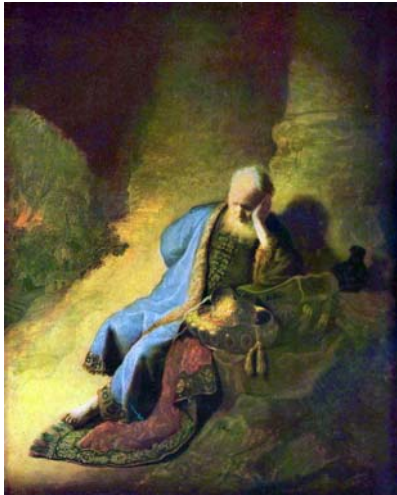
Fall of Jerusalem

Book of
Lamentations



Looking
ahead
(warning)

Looking
back
(mourning)



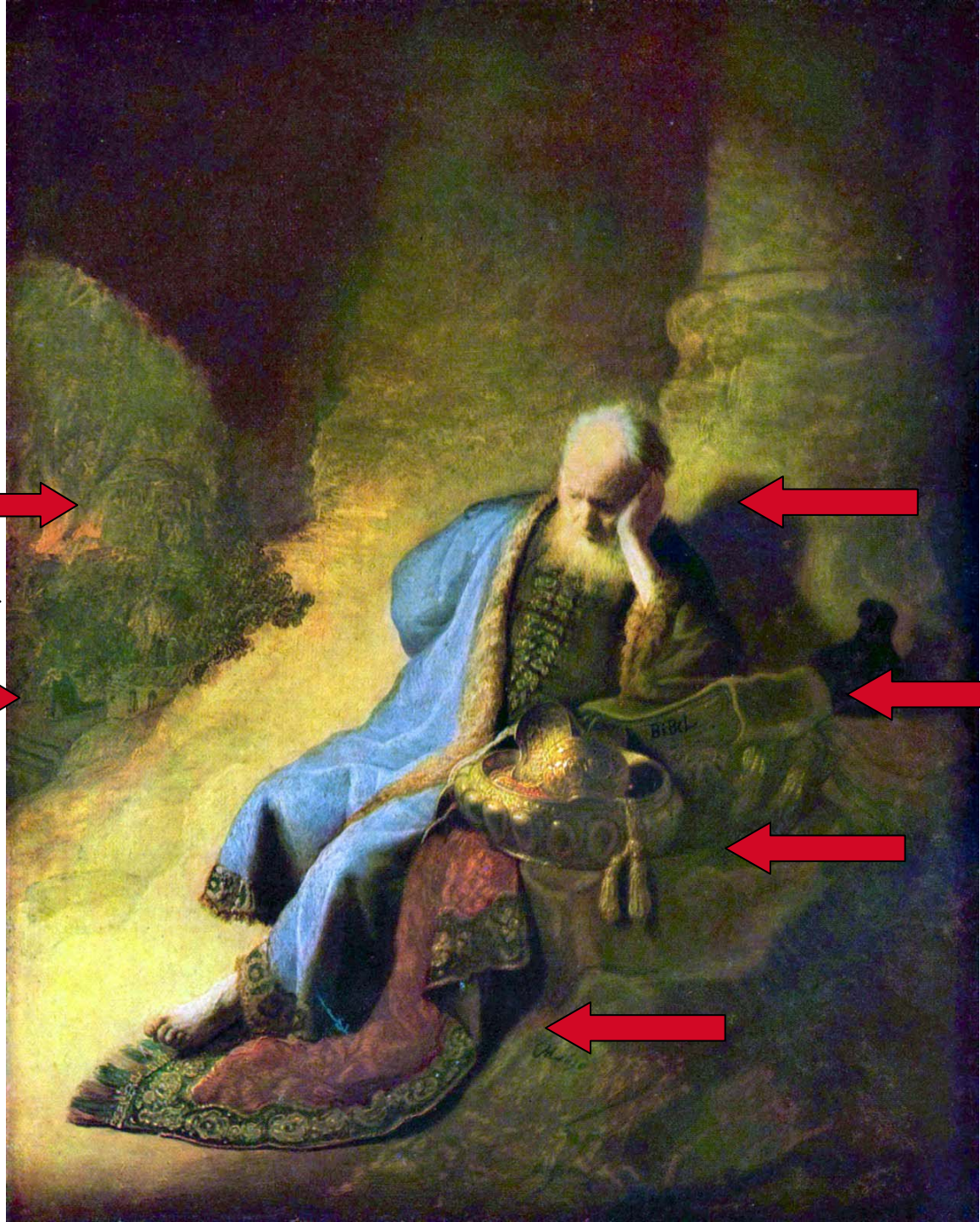
The Fall of Jerusalem

Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon in 586 BC

- Wholesale devastation and slaughter of kings, princes, elders, priests, prophets and people
- Starving mothers are reduced to cannibalism
- Judah's people are dragged into exile
- Elaborate ceremony and worship rituals came to an end

**The Prophet
Jeremiah
Mourning over
the Destruction
of Jerusalem**

By Rembrandt
(1603)









The chiasm structure of Lamentations

Jeremiah's
response
(Lam. 3)

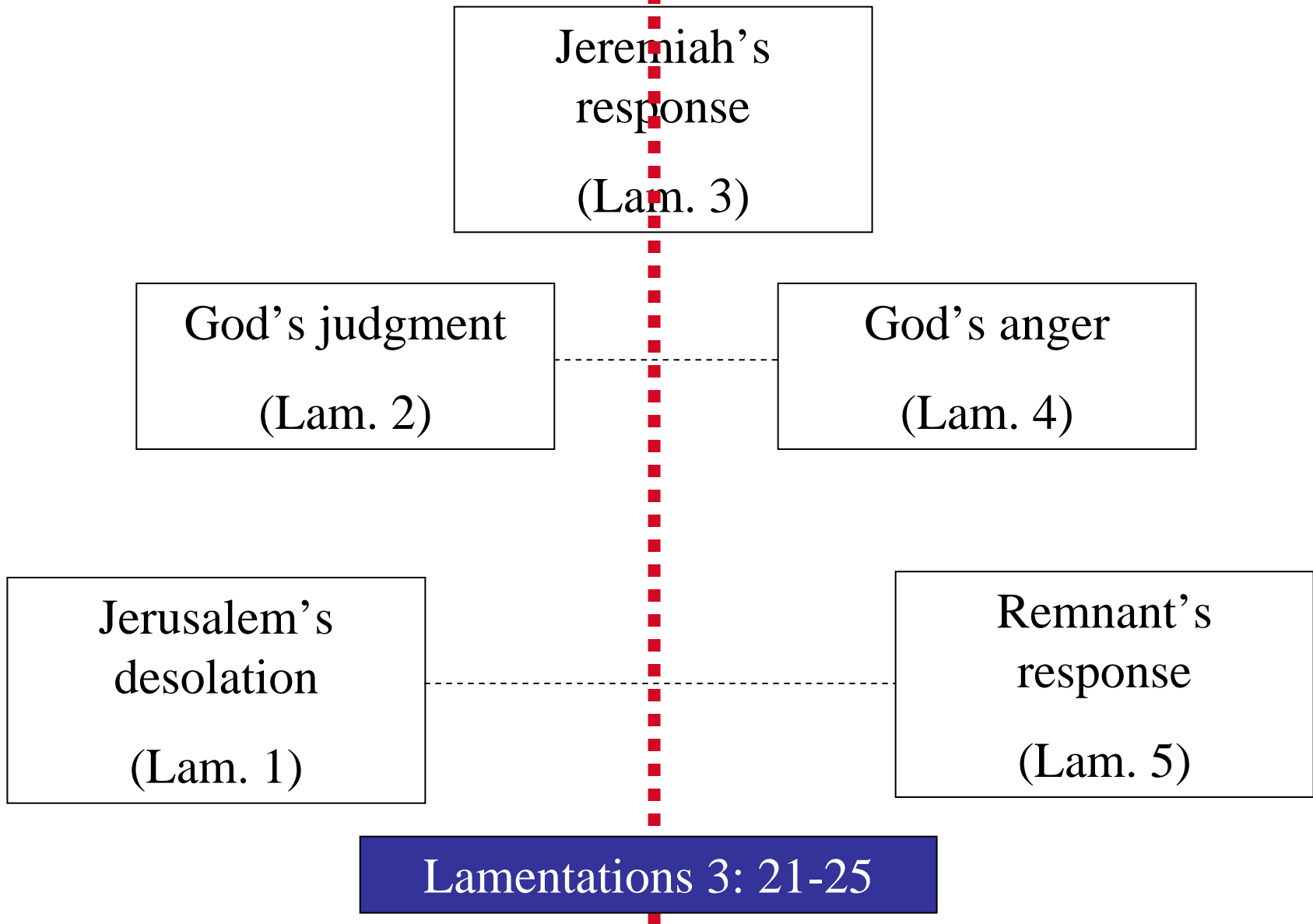
God's judgment
(Lam. 2)

God's anger
(Lam. 4)

Jerusalem's
desolation
(Lam. 1)

Remnant's
response
(Lam. 5)

The chiasm structure of Lamentations



Lamentations 3:21-25



3:21 Yet this I call to mind
and therefore I have hope:

3:22 Because of the LORD's great love we are
not consumed,

for his compassions never fail.

3:23 They are new every morning;
great is your faithfulness.

3:24 I say to myself, "The LORD is my
portion;

therefore I will wait for him."

3:25 The LORD is good to those whose hope
is in him,

to the one who seeks him;

Jeremiah recalls the attributes of God

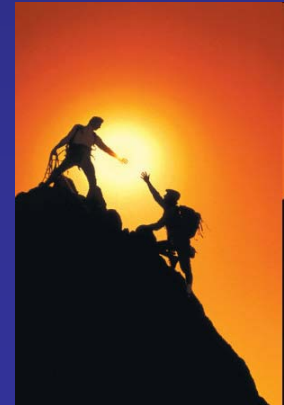


- God of hope (3:21)
- God of love (3:22)
- God of faithfulness (3:23)
- God of salvation (3: 22-23)

God of hope (3:21)



Yet this I call to mind and therefore I have hope:



God of love (3:22)



Because of the LORD's great love we
are not consumed,

for his compassions never fail.



God of faithfulness (3:23)



They are new every morning;
great is your faithfulness.

Everyday is a new start



God of salvation (3: 24-25)



I say to myself, "The LORD is my portion; therefore I will wait for him."

The LORD is good to those whose hope is in him, to the one who seeks him;



Psalm 16 (David)

Keep me safe, O God,
for in you I take refuge.

I said to the LORD, "You are my Lord;
apart from you I have no good thing."

As for the saints who are in the land,
they are the glorious ones in whom is all my
delight.

call to mind, hope

Psalm 16

The sorrows of those will increase
who run after other gods.

I will not pour out their libations of blood
or take up their names on my lips.

LORD, you have assigned me my portion and my
cup; you have made my lot secure.

The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant
places; surely I have a delightful inheritance.

wait, hope, seek, salvation

Psalm 16

I will praise the LORD, who counsels me;
even at night my heart instructs me.

I have set the LORD always before me.
Because he is at my right hand,
I will not be shaken.

new every morning

Psalm 16

Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue
rejoices; my body also will rest secure,

because you will not abandon me to the grave,
nor will you let your Holy One see decay.

You have made known to me the path of life;
you will fill me with joy in your presence,
with eternal pleasures at your right hand.

love not consumed, never fails

Lessons for us

In difficult times





GAS PRICE

Fuel price hike (2004-2008)



Since May 2004, diesel price has increased by 231%, petrol by 97.1%



Lessons for us



In difficult times

- God of hope
- God of love
- God of faithfulness
- God of salvation

Sermon Statement



Justice and love comes together in our Holy God in perfect balance. The unfailing love of God goes beyond judgment to new life because He is a God of hope, love, faithfulness and salvation

Great is Thy Faithfulness