

Hebrew Canon – 24 books in 3 Divisions

Torah / Teachings: Gen, Ex, Lev, Num, Deut

Nevi'im / Prophets: Major & Minor Prophets

Ketuvim / Writings: Poetry, Theology, Drama:

Ps, Prov/ Job, Sof S, Ruth, Lamentations,
Eccl, Esther, Daniel, Ez-Neh, Chronicles

Hebrew Canon is called **TaNakh**—first 3 letters



Jeremiah, by Michelangelo
Ceiling of Sistine Chapel, Rome

Lamentations among the 5 SCROLLS read at special times

Song of Songs, Ruth, **Lamentations**, Ecclesiastes, Esther

Lamentations read 9th of Abib: Day of the Burning of the Temple

Lamentations in the RCC read on the last 3 days of Holy Week

O.T. scripts Rabbis call it “**Ekah**” from “**אֵיכָה**” for “**How**” begins chs 1,2,3,4

Greek LXX, Latin, Church Fathers “**Threni**” = we get **Lamentations**

1 א **Lamentations** – 5 Poems / Chapters

2 ב **1-4 Acrostic** verses begin with 22 letters of Hebrew Alphabet

3 ג
4 ד **Destruction of Jerusalem** (586/7 B.C.)

- 5 ה Ch 1. 1-22 Poet speaks, then City speaks
6 ו *distress of the city personified*
- 7 ז Ch 2. 1-22 Fate of City, Citizens, & Cry to God
- 8 ח Ch 3. 1-66 Person or Community Speaks
9 ט
10 י
11 יא
12 יב 1-18 Deep Affliction – 19 Cries to God
13 יג 22 sets of 3 prs = 66
14 יד 21-47 God’s Mercy Renewed Every Morning ... Only Hope
15 יו 58-55 Afflictions of the Community
16 יז 56-66 Prayer for Help & Avenging on Enemies
- 17 יח Ch 4. 1-22 Affliction for Sins of Leaders, Priests, Prophets (Lastly Edom)
- 19 יט Ch 5. 1-22 Prayer ... closing with 19-22, "Renew our days as of old"
- 20 כ Chapter 5 w 22 verses *but not beginning with Hebrew Alphabet*

21 כו
22 כז