



Sermon Title: El Emunah- The Faithful God

Text: Lamentations 3:22-23

"Life may sometimes be painful, yet God is always faithful."

We often recite Lamentations 3:22-23—*"Great is Your faithfulness"*—when we are joyful, but these words were spoken during intense sorrow and difficulty. In this series, we will turn our focus to learning about God's character by exploring His names. Our journey begins with the name **El Emunah**, meaning "The Faithful God." Jeremiah penned these verses not from a place of comfort, but during the tragic collapse of Jerusalem. For generations, despite repeated warnings, the people of the Southern Kingdom had chosen empty religious rituals over genuine repentance, letting their hearts grow hard. This spiritual decline ultimately led to the destruction of both their city and temple.

We all face our own struggles—be it national crises, fractured family ties, or personal losses. It is natural to respond with feelings like anger, fear, or anxiety. Still, Jeremiah's story shows that even in dark times, hope is possible when we root ourselves in God's character. To honor God amid suffering, it is essential to shape our outlook around the truth of **El Emunah**. As we reflect on Jeremiah's writings, we can discover ways to handle suffering and pain. To do so, we need to have clear views on these three things:

- Our perspective on the **world**, our understanding of **ourselves**, and our view of **God**.

Discover God Through His Names

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THE WORLD IS BROKEN- FACE THE BROKENNESS/FALLENNESS AROUND US

To find hope in despair, we must first have the right expectation of the world we live in. In Genesis 1:31, God declared His creation "very good" (*tov me'od*)—a world of perfect harmony, free from death, decay, or pain. However, when sin entered the picture, that original intention was disrupted.

Today, we live in a fallen world where the human heart and the systems around us are deeply corrupted. We see this brokenness manifested in:

- **Violence and Injustice:** Systems that favor the powerful while neglecting the needy.
- **Environmental Decay:** A creation that "groans" under the weight of human sin.
- **Broken Relationships:** Families and communities torn apart by a lack of love.
- **Moral Confusion:** A culture that often redefines truth and calls evil "good."

We must stop expecting a "fairy tale" existence. When we accept that the world is broken, we stop being surprised by hardship and start looking for the only source of true stability: **El Emunah**.

WE ARE FRAGILE - EMBRACE OUR HUMAN VULNERABILITY.

To experience the hope of *El Emunah*, we must first accept our own humanity. Scripture frequently reminds us that we are not invincible; we are described as "grass that withers" (Isaiah 40:7) and "jars of clay" (2 Corinthians 4:7). We are inherently fragile, weak, and limited.

Even Jeremiah, a great prophet of God, reached a point of absolute exhaustion. In Lamentations 3:1-20, he uses vivid, figurative language to describe his pain—feeling "walled in," "broken," and even "targeted"

by God's arrows. He honestly admits this in v. 18 of our text. This was not a loss of faith; it was a lament. Lament is not the same as hopeless complaining. It is a faithful mourning that clings to God through tears. By embracing our vulnerability and practicing biblical lament, we invite God into our pain. As Psalm 51:17 reminds us, God will not despise a broken and contrite heart. We are fragile, but we are held by a Faithful God.

GOD IS OUR HOPE- ANCHOR OUR HOPE IN HIM.

Despite his intense suffering, Jeremiah experienced a radical shift in perspective. In Lamentations 3:21, he declares: *“But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope.”* By intentionally shifting his focus from his circumstances to God’s character, Jeremiah found the strength to move forward.

Our hope is not a wish or good vibes; it is an anchor grounded in three specific truths about **El Emunah**:


- **The Character of God:** His steadfast love (*hesed*) never ceases. His mercies are new every morning, meaning they are fresh, sufficient, and tailored for today’s specific trials.
- **God as Our Portion:** In the Old Testament, “portion” refers to one’s inheritance. Jeremiah had lost his home, temple, and nation, but he realized he still had God. When God is your portion, He is your ultimate contentment, refuge, and greatest treasure.
- **The Promise of Salvation:** Hope is found in the active pursuit of God. This involves seeking His will in humility and waiting quietly, resisting the urge to complain and instead trusting in His timing.


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To navigate the “darkest night” of the soul, we must follow the **3Fs**:

1. **Don’t let Feelings lead:** Express your emotions through lament, but ultimately submit them to God’s truth.
2. **Stand on the Facts:** Rely on the unchanging Word of God and the finished work of Christ rather than your shifting moods.
3. **Exercise Faith:** Choose to trust and obey even when you don’t “feel” like it.

 **Ponder:** Faithfulness is not something we manufacture; it is our response to **El Emunah**. When you stop looking at the brokenness of the world and start looking at the character of God, your perspective shifts from despair to endurance.

 **Practical Application:** The next time you feel overwhelmed, audit your heart using the **3F** framework:

- **Feelings:** Name your pain. Lament honestly to God—it is okay not to be okay.
- **Facts:** Recite one unchanging truth from Scripture (e.g., “God’s mercies are new this morning”).
- **Faith:** Take one small step of obedience or quiet waiting, trusting God’s timing over your own.

 **Prayer:** Heavenly Father, we admit that we are fragile “jars of clay” living in a broken world. When our endurance fails, remind us that You are our Portion—our ultimate inheritance and security. Thank You that Your steadfast love never ceases and Your mercies are new every morning. Help us to anchor our hope in Your unfailing character rather than our shifting circumstances. In Jesus' name, Amen.

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