I. Introduction to Lamentations and Ezekiel

A. The juncture of two OT characters occurs in these two books.

1. One is a Home Missionary: Jeremiah

2. One is a Foreign Missionary: Ezekiel

B. Romans 11:22 offers a broad perspective on these two books.

1. With this theological perspective a foundation is laid for all of scripture.

2. Without it, one’s Biblical worldview has a cracked foundation.

II. Lamentations offers a Home Mission Report: Jerusalem.

A. Severe troubles abound.

B. Jeremiah’s heart is breaking and his soul is despairing over what he sees.

1. Let’s compare Isaiah 59 with this book.

C When Jeremiah introduces his message of Hope, it is in this context.

1. Lamentations 3:22ff. is source of the hymn, “Great is Thy Faithfulness.”

III. Ezekiel offers a Foreign Mission Report: Babylon

A. “The Watchtower” is a publication of the Jehovah’s Witnesses.

1. Ezekiel can be considered its “first editor.” Chapters 1-3

2. Ezekiel was a street preacher and a watchman.

a. His message for 22 years was one of Doom.

b. After the doom occurred, his was a message of Hope.

B. Chapters 1-3 offer the introduction to this great book.

1. “Without vision the people perish.” Proverbs 29:18

2. With vision ignored, they indeed do perish.

a. Note well both the kindness and severity of God in Romans 11:22

**Great is Thy Faithfulness**

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| **1**. Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father,  There is no shadow of turning with Thee;  Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not  As Thou has been, Thou forever will be.  **2**. Summer and winter, springtime and harvest,  Sun, moon and stars in their courses above,  Join with all nature in manifold witness  To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love. | **3**. Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,  Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;  Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,  Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!  **Chorus:**  *Great is Thy faithfulness! Great isThy faithfulness!*  *Morning by morning new mercies I see;*  *All I have needed Thy hand has provided –*  *Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!* |

**My Hope is in the Lord Who Gave Himself for Me**

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| **1.** My hope is in the Lord  Who gave Himself for me,  And paid the price of all my sin at Calvary.  **2**. No merit of my own  His anger to suppress.  My only hope is found in Jesus’ righteousness. | **3**. And now for me He stands  Before the Father’s throne.  He shows His wounded hands and names me as His own.  **Chorus:** *For me He died,*  *For me He lives,*  *And everlasting life and light He freely gives.* |