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 notAs 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 witnessTo 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 ownHis anger to suppress.My only hope is found in Jesus’ righteousness. | **3**. And now for me He standsBefore 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.* |