



# The Book of Lamentations: A Meditation and Translation

*David R. Slavitt*

Download now

[Click here](#) if your download doesn't start automatically

# The Book of Lamentations: A Meditation and Translation

David R. Slavitt

## The Book of Lamentations: A Meditation and Translation David R. Slavitt

Distinguished poet and translator David R. Slavitt here provides a translation of and meditation upon the Book of Lamentations, the biblical account of the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem in 587 B.C., on the ninth day of the Jewish month of Av?Tish'a b'Av. (Six centuries later the Romans destroyed the second Temple on the same day.) Most of the Jewish population was deported to Babylon, and the ensuing period came to be known as the Babylonian Captivity. According to tradition, the Book of Lamentations was written in response to this political, social, and religious crisis. The five poems composing the book express Israel's sorrow, brokenness, and bewilderment before God.

Tish'a b'Av is the day on which observant Jews fast and pray. And mourn. As Slavitt observes in his meditation: "It is forbidden on Tish'a b'Av even to study the Torah, except for the Book of Job and the Book of Lamentations. This is the day on which we grieve for every terrible thing that happens in this world. It is the worst day of the year." Slavitt's meditation provides a context for reading the scriptural text. Cast in the same style as the Hebrew poetry, his meditation recounts how sorrow and catastrophe have characterized so much of the history of the Jewish people, from their enslavement in Egypt to the Holocaust of Nazi Germany.

Few translations of this remarkable book of the Bible attempt to reproduce in English, as Slavitt does here, the Hebrew acrostics. In the original, each verse begins with a different letter of the Hebrew alphabet in sequential order; Slavitt elegantly reproduces this effect using the first 22 letters of the English alphabet. More than a structural or mnemonic device, Slavitt argues, the acrostics are "a serious assertion that the language itself is speaking, that the speech is inspired, and that there is, beyond all the disaster and pain the book recounts, an intricacy and an orderly coherence."

 [Download The Book of Lamentations: A Meditation and Transla ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Book of Lamentations: A Meditation and Trans ...pdf](#)

## **Download and Read Free Online The Book of Lamentations: A Meditation and Translation David R. Slavitt**

---

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Anita Pfeifer:**

Within other case, little folks like to read book The Book of Lamentations: A Meditation and Translation. You can choose the best book if you love reading a book. As long as we know about how is important any book The Book of Lamentations: A Meditation and Translation. You can add expertise and of course you can around the world by the book. Absolutely right, mainly because from book you can know everything! From your country till foreign or abroad you will find yourself known. About simple factor until wonderful thing you are able to know that. In this era, we are able to open a book or maybe searching by internet gadget. It is called e-book. You may use it when you feel weary to go to the library. Let's go through.

#### **Lila Dixon:**

Now a day people who Living in the era just where everything reachable by connect with the internet and the resources included can be true or not need people to be aware of each data they get. How individuals to be smart in acquiring any information nowadays? Of course the solution is reading a book. Studying a book can help men and women out of this uncertainty Information mainly this The Book of Lamentations: A Meditation and Translation book because book offers you rich data and knowledge. Of course the data in this book hundred percent guarantees there is no doubt in it as you know.

#### **Charles Owens:**

Reading a reserve can be one of a lot of action that everyone in the world enjoys. Do you like reading book so. There are a lot of reasons why people fantastic. First reading a guide will give you a lot of new information. When you read a e-book you will get new information mainly because book is one of numerous ways to share the information or their idea. Second, reading a book will make a person more imaginative. When you reading through a book especially fictional book the author will bring that you imagine the story how the figures do it anything. Third, you may share your knowledge to other folks. When you read this The Book of Lamentations: A Meditation and Translation, you could tells your family, friends as well as soon about yours e-book. Your knowledge can inspire different ones, make them reading a guide.

#### **Connie Nixon:**

Do you like reading a book? Confuse to looking for your chosen book? Or your book ended up being rare? Why so many issue for the book? But any people feel that they enjoy with regard to reading. Some people likes reading, not only science book but additionally novel and The Book of Lamentations: A Meditation and Translation or maybe others sources were given understanding for you. After you know how the truly great a book, you feel wish to read more and more. Science publication was created for teacher or maybe students especially. Those textbooks are helping them to add their knowledge. In different case, beside science reserve, any other book likes The Book of Lamentations: A Meditation and Translation to make your spare time a lot more colorful. Many types of book like this one.

**Download and Read Online The Book of Lamentations: A  
Meditation and Translation David R. Slavitt #L1QKX78THJ0**

# **Read The Book of Lamentations: A Meditation and Translation by David R. Slavitt for online ebook**

The Book of Lamentations: A Meditation and Translation by David R. Slavitt Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read The Book of Lamentations: A Meditation and Translation by David R. Slavitt books to read online.

## **Online The Book of Lamentations: A Meditation and Translation by David R. Slavitt ebook PDF download**

**The Book of Lamentations: A Meditation and Translation by David R. Slavitt Doc**

**The Book of Lamentations: A Meditation and Translation by David R. Slavitt Mobipocket**

**The Book of Lamentations: A Meditation and Translation by David R. Slavitt EPub**