

[L]amenting trust is not merely a belief or conviction; it is trusting despite what circumstances might lead one to believe. ... [It] is believing what you know to be true even though the facts of suffering might call that belief into question. ~Mark Vroegop

Based on material in *Dark Clouds Deep Mercy: Discovering the Grace of Lament* by Mark Vroegop

WE LIVE IN A BROKEN WORLD

1. _____ is the real problem. 1:5, 8, 18, 19, 22

➤ *The problem isn't suffering; it's the sin that causes it.*

• Romans 8:20-22

2. Sin ruins _____ it touches. 1:1-9

➤ *Sin brings ruin, always and without exception.*

➤ *Our first response to sin, every sin, any sin, should be to lament, not be angry, fearful, apathetic, despair, or blame, but lament.*

[A] Christian should understand that beneath every painful aspect of our humanity is the reality of sin. Every death, every war, every injustice, every loss, every hurt, and every tear owe their existence to sin. It has affected everything. Lamentations reminds us that underlying our lives is a foundational brokenness connected to the presence of sin in the world. ~Mark Vroegop

Learning from
L A M E N T

Sin brings shame

Sin pollutes and defiles

3. Sin _____ sympathy. 1:10-22

From people Luke 18:11

From God

➤ *Sin is such a serious problem God is willing to punish His people, destroy His city and His temple to deal with it.*

[The smoldering ruins of Jerusalem sent a message.... The lesson is clear: God is long-suffering and merciful, but rebellion against his rule has consequences. Lamentations was written to mourn the scale of the brokenness in the world. The fall of Jerusalem reminds us of the powerful nature of sin.... Sin is that bad, and God is that holy. ~Mark Vroegop

➤ *We need to be reminded of the seriousness of sin and the holiness of God.*

4. Only God can _____ the problem of sin.

What are we going to do because we learned,

_____ **is the real problem?** Learning from
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