Lamentations - Commentaries by Henry Allan Ironside

Daily Sacrifice, May 4

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“Thou, O Lord, remained forever; Thy throne from generation to generation”— Lamentations 5:19.

WHAT confidence it gives to realize that we are linked up eternally with Him who remains forever, whose throne is unmoved by all that goes on down here on earth and abides from generation to generation. There can be no thwarting of His counsels, which from of old are faithfulness and truth. Everything He has promised He will perform; no word of His shall be void of power. It is blessed indeed to realize that He who is from everlasting to everlasting has taken us into relationship with Himself, having given us life eternal and thus made Himself responsible to see us through all the various vicissitudes of life and to give us a place in the Father’s house for all eternity.

—Isaac Watts.

Daily Sacrifice, May 3

“It is of the Lord’s mercies that we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is Thy faithfulness”— Lamentations 3:22, 23.

IF God had dealt with us after our sins and in accordance with our deserts we would have been cast away from His presence long since, but in His infinite mercy and compassion He has dealt with us according to the love of His heart, and in all His ways He manifests His faithfulness and His deep Fatherly interest in those who have put their trust in Him. None who wait upon Him need fear that He is indifferent and unconcerned; His love is unchanging, and His heart is ever toward His own.

—T. O. Chisholm.

Continual Burnt Offering: Daily Meditations, April 30

“The Lord was as an enemy: He hath swallowed up her palaces: He hath swallowed up all her palaces: He hath destroyed his strong holds, and hath increased in the daughters of Judah mourning and lamentation” —Lamentations 2:5.

THE Lord was as an enemy. He was never really an enemy of His people. But He had declared, “You only have I known of all the inhabitants of the earth, therefore will I punish you for all your iniquities” (Amos 3:2). He chastens those whom He loves that they may be conformed to His holiness. But though He may use the rod there is always goodness behind it, directing every blow. It is in mercy that He afflicts. Faith recognizes this, and so can bow the head before Him and exclaim, “It is the Lord; let Him do what seemeth Him good;” assured that “He doth not afflict willingly, nor grieve the children of men” (Lam. 3:33). When the purpose of the chastening is accomplished, He will lift the rod and grant that governmental forgiveness in which He delights

Continual Burnt Offering: Daily Meditations, April 29

“Is it nothing to you, all ye that pass by? Behold, and see if there be any sorrow like unto My sorrow, which is done unto Me, wherewith the Lord hath afflicted Me in the day of His fierce anger” — Lamentations 1:12.

WHILE these words, primarily, express the grief of God’s afflicted people of Judah when the judgments of the Lord fell upon them, yet they may most suitably be used to express the sorrow of our blessed Lord when He, the true Israel, stood in the place of His people, and bore as our representative the wrath of God against sin, on the cross in those dark hours when the sun was blotted from view and His holy soul was made an offering for sin. Never was there sorrow like His. None other ever endured that which He passed through when all the waves and billows of wrath rolled over His soul. How our hearts should adore Him for such matchless grace as He there exhibited on our behalf!