

## **A Reading from the Book of Lamentations**

**My life is deprived of peace,  
I have forgotten what happiness is;  
my enduring hope, I said,  
has perished before the LORD.**

**The thought of my wretched homelessness  
is wormwood and poison;  
remembering it over and over,  
my soul is downcast.**

**But this I will call to mind;  
therefore I will hope:  
the LORD's acts of mercy are not exhausted,  
his compassion is not spent;  
they are renewed each morning—  
great is your faithfulness!**

**The LORD is my portion, I tell myself,  
therefore I will hope in him.**

**The LORD is good to those who trust in him,  
to the one that seeks him;  
it is good to hope in silence  
for the LORD's deliverance.**

**The Word of the Lord**