

# Ezekiel 2:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he spread it before me; and it was written within and without: and there was written therein lamentations, and mourning, and woe.

## Analysis

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The scroll "written within and without" (both sides) signifies the comprehensive and complete nature of God's revealed judgment. Typically, only one side of a scroll was used; writing on both sides indicated unusual abundance of content. The message contains "lamentations, mourning, and woe"—threefold emphasis on sorrowful judgment. This comprehensiveness foreshadows the total devastation coming upon Jerusalem and warns that God's patience has limits. The Reformed understanding of God's holiness and justice appears here: sin cannot go unpunished, and when judgment comes, it will be thorough and complete.

## Historical Context

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In 593 BC, the scroll's message of comprehensive judgment seemed excessive to the exiles who expected quick restoration. However, within seven years, Jerusalem would be completely destroyed (586 BC), the temple burned, the Davidic king blinded and exiled, and the population slaughtered or scattered. The "lamentations" predicted in Ezekiel found expression in Jeremiah's Lamentations, which graphically describes Jerusalem's devastation. The double-sided scroll's unusual format emphasized the extraordinary nature of the coming judgment—unprecedented in Israel's history until the Roman destruction in AD 70.

## Related Passages

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**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

**1 Corinthians 13:4** — Characteristics of love

## Study Questions

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1. How does the comprehensiveness of God's judgment in Ezekiel inform our understanding of eternal punishment?
2. What does the scroll containing only lamentations teach about God's response to persistent covenant unfaithfulness?

## Interlinear Text

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| וַיִּפֹּרֶשׁ<br>And he spread<br>H6566 | אֹתָהּ<br>H853                             | פָּנֵי יָם<br>it before<br>H6440 | יְהוָה יָא<br>H1931                      | וְכָתוּב<br>and there was written<br>H3789 | פָּנֵי יָם<br>it before<br>H6440 |
| וְאֵין<br>and without<br>H268          | וְכָתוּב<br>and there was written<br>H3789 | אֶל יְהוָה<br>H413               | קִנְיָם<br>therein lamentations<br>H7015 | וְגֵהָ<br>and mourning<br>H1899            |                                  |
| וְהִיא<br>and woe<br>H1958             |  |                                  |  |  |                                  |

## Additional Cross-References

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**Revelation 8:13** (Parallel theme): And I beheld, and heard an angel flying through the midst of heaven, saying with a loud voice, Woe, woe, woe, to the inhabitants of

the earth by reason of the other voices of the trumpet of the three angels, which are yet to sound!

**Isaiah 3:11** (Parallel theme): Woe unto the wicked! it shall be ill with him: for the reward of his hands shall be given him.

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