

# Lamentations 4:22

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The punishment of thine iniquity is accomplished, O daughter of Zion; he will no more carry thee away into captivity: he will visit thine iniquity, O daughter of Edom; he will discover thy sins.

## Analysis

**The punishment of thine iniquity is accomplished, O daughter of Zion** (תָּמַם עֲוֹנֶךָ בַּת־צִיּוֹן, tam-avonekh bat-tsiyon)—'Accomplished' (tam) means completed, finished. The judicial sentence has been fully served. **He will no more carry thee away into captivity** (לֹא יוֹסִיף לְהַגְלוֹתְךָ, lo yosif lehaglotek)—'no more' (lo yosif) promises an end to exile. This is prophetic hope: judgment is temporary, restoration is coming. **He will visit thine iniquity, O daughter of Edom; he will discover thy sins** (פָּקַד עֲוֹנֶךָ בַּת־עֲדוֹם גִּלְהַל־חַטֹּאתֶיךָ, paqad avonekh bat-Edom gilah al-chatotayikh)—'visit' (paqad) means to attend to, punish. Edom's hidden treachery ('discover' = reveal, expose) will be judged. The book ends with contrasting futures: Israel's punishment complete, Edom's beginning.

## Historical Context

This prophetic word was fulfilled: Judah returned after 70 years (539 BC under Cyrus). Though Israel experienced later exiles, the Babylonian captivity was unique and never repeated in that form. Edom's judgment came gradually but comprehensively—they ceased to exist as a people. The final verse of Lamentations thus ends not in despair but hope.

## Related Passages

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**James 2:17** — Faith and works

**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

## Study Questions

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1. When you're experiencing God's discipline, can you trust that it has a 'tam'—a completion point—that it will not last forever?
2. How does the contrast between Israel's ended punishment and Edom's coming judgment demonstrate that God's discipline of His children differs fundamentally from His wrath against His enemies?

## Interlinear Text

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|--|--|---|--|---------------------|
| <b>תָּם</b><br>is accomplished<br>H8552                      | <b>עֲוֹנֶךָ</b><br>The punishment of thine iniquity<br>H5771 | <b>בֵּת</b><br>O daughter<br>H1323      | <b>לֵא צִיּוֹן</b><br>of Zion<br>H6726                   | <b>אֵל</b><br>H3808 |
| <b>יֹסֵף</b><br>he will no more<br>H3254                     | <b>גָּלָה</b><br>carry thee away into captivity<br>H1540     | <b>פָּקַד</b><br>he will visit<br>H6485 |  |                     |
| <b>עֲוֹנֶךָ</b><br>The punishment of thine iniquity<br>H5771 | <b>בֵּת</b><br>O daughter<br>H1323                           | <b>אֶדֹם</b><br>of Edom<br>H123         | <b>גָּלָה</b><br>carry thee away into captivity<br>H1540 |                     |
| <b>עַל חַטָּאתֶיךָ:</b><br>H5921<br>thy sins<br>H2403        |  |   |  |                     |

## Additional Cross-References

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**Isaiah 40:2** (Sin): Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned: for she hath received of the LORD'S hand double for all her sins.

**Psalms 137:7** (Parallel theme): Remember, O LORD, the children of Edom in the day of Jerusalem; who said, Rase it, rase it, even to the foundation thereof.

**Jeremiah 50:20** (Sin): In those days, and in that time, saith the LORD, the iniquity of Israel shall be sought for, and there shall be none; and the sins of Judah, and they shall not be found: for I will pardon them whom I reserve.

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