

# Lamentations 5:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Servants have ruled over us: there is none that doth deliver us out of their hand.

## Analysis

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Slaves rule over us, none delivers. Ultimate indignity—ruled by those who should be servants.

## Historical Context

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Babylonian officials, often former slaves, ruled over Judean nobility in exile.

## Related Passages

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**1 John 4:8** — God is love

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

## Study Questions

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1. How does inverted social order demonstrate sovereignty over hierarchies?
2. What is the spiritual significance of being ruled by servants (those of lower status)?
3. How does this role reversal express the depth of Judah's degradation and powerlessness?

## Interlinear Text

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|       |        |        |        |        |          |          |            |     |
|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|----------|----------|------------|-----|
| אָלָא | פָּרָא | בְּנֵי | בְּנֵי | שָׁלֹא | עֲבָדִים | Servants | have ruled | הָא |
| H369  | H6561  | H0     |        |        |          | H5650    | H4910      |     |
|       |        |        |        |        |          |          |            |     |

us out of their hand  
H3027

## Additional Cross-References

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**Nehemiah 5:15** (Parallel theme): But the former governors that had been before me were chargeable unto the people, and had taken of them bread and wine, beside forty shekels of silver; yea, even their servants bare rule over the people: but so did not I, because of the fear of God.

**Zechariah 11:6** (Parallel theme): For I will no more pity the inhabitants of the land, saith the LORD: but, lo, I will deliver the men every one into his neighbour's hand, and into the hand of his king: and they shall smite the land, and out of their hand I will not deliver them.

**Psalms 7:2** (Parallel theme): Lest he tear my soul like a lion, rending it in pieces, while there is none to deliver.

**Proverbs 30:22** (Parallel theme): For a servant when he reigneth; and a fool when he is filled with meat;