

Psalme 136

The Prophet describeth how lamentably the people in captiuitie of Babylon, wil bewaile the want of meanes to ferue God, and of their natiue foyle: 7. with iust desire of their enimies punishment.

The Iewes
lamentation
in captiuitie.
The 4. key.

A Pfalme of Daud ^{a)}for Ieremie.

Vpon the riuers ^{b)}of Babylon, there we ^{c)}fate
and wept: whiles we ^{d)}remembred Sion.

² On the willowes in the middes therof, we hanged
vp ^{e)}our instrumentes.

³ Because there they that led vs captiue, ^{f)}demanded
of vs wordes of fonges.

And they that led vs away: Sing ye an hymne to
vs of the fonges of Sion.

^{4 g)}How shal we fing the fong of our Lord in a
fstrange land?

^{5 h)}If I shal forget thee ô Ierufalem, let my right
hand be forgotten.

^{6 i)}Let my tongue cleaue to my iawes, if I doe not
remember thee:

^a By adding to this title (for Ieremie) the Septuagint Interpreters
fignifie that this Pfalme treateth of the fame captiuitie, in which
Ieremias writte his Lamentations.

^b Nere the riuers in Chaldea; wherof Babylon was the head cite,

^c the Iewes remained mourning,

^d remembring the holie rites and seruice of God, which had bene in
Sion, wherof they were deprived in the captiuitie.

^e Al their muscal instrumentes, as hauing no vse of them.

^f Either in earnest, or in fcorne the Chaldees willed them to fing,
as they were accustomed in their countrie.

^g They excused themfelues, and refused to fing sacred Pfalmes before
prophane people, neither had they mind to fing in that mourning
fstate of captiuitie.

^h The people shew not only their feruent present desire to ferue God
in Ierufalem, but also their firme purpose ftill to desire the fame,
wifhing that if they forget it, or lose this affection, their right
handes, or whatfoeuer is most deare, or necessarrie for them, may
be forgotten, not conferued, but suffered to perish.

ⁱ If I lose this affection, let me also lose the vse of my tongue.

If I shall not see Ierusalem in the beginning of my
joy.

⁷ Be mindful ô Lord of ^a)the children of Edom, in
^b)the day of Ierusalem:

That ^c)say: Rafe it, rafe it, euen vnto the founda-
tion therof.

⁸ ^d)Daughter of Babylon miserable: bleffed is he,
that shall repay thee thy payment, which thou hast payed
vs.

⁹ Bleffed is he, ^e)that shall hold, and ^f)shall dash thy
litle ones againft the rocke.

^a The Idomeans incensed the Chaldees to be cruel againft the Iewes,
wherof they pray for iuft reuenge, and withal the Pfalmift prophe-
cieth that it wil be reuenged, which Ifaias alfo prophecieth, *c. 21.*
v. 11.

^b for their reioycing in Ierufalems miferie.

^c The voice of the Idumeans, inciting the Babylonians vtterly to
deftroy Ierusalem.

^d A prophecie that the people of Babylon fhould alfo be punifhed, for
their crueltie againft the Iewes, wherof Ifaias likewife prophecieth.
c. 13.

^e God wil bleffe, or reward them that fhall feuerly afflict the Baby-
lonians,

^f not fparing their children. Morally he is bleffed, that mortifieth
his owne paffions, cutteth of firft il motions, or punifheth venial
finnes, that they grow not ftrong vvithin his foule, and fo draw it
to committe mortal finne. *S. Aug. hic. & S. Greg. in fine expof.*
Pfal. 4. pœnit.