

## Lamentations 2 • The Second Step of Acknowledgment

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1. (v.1-3) Judgment on the backslidden may not be limited to a loss of the things of the **world**, but the **spiritual** as well. It's an indicator of how close one is coming to **losing** everything not just in this **life**, but the one to come.
2. (v.4-5) The Lord may turn all things against the backslidden if that is what it takes for them to **acknowledge** their true spiritual **condition**.
3. (v. 6-9) They had to be shown how their spiritual service and condition was completely **void** and **broken** by experiencing the literal things associated with that service being completely **voided** and **broken** by God Himself.
4. (v.10-12) The consequences of sin can have an extended **effect** to those around us. Part of the process God uses is to **force** the backslidden to face the **reality** not only of what they have done to **themselves**, but to **others** as well.
5. (v.13-16) The situation for the backslidden is unlike any other human condition of **suffering** because it is brought about by willful **deception** where personal **sin** is concerned.
6. (v.17-19) Right spiritual acknowledgment is achieved when we ascribe to Him the **authority** and **source** behind the earthly **tools** of His judgment. This acknowledgement always first takes material shape in the form of sincere **repentance** from the **heart**.
7. (v.20-22) Forgiveness and spiritual **reconciliation** may be ultimately achieved but do not automatically mean that there are no continued **consequences** for sin.