

CONTENTS

Preface	VII
Principal Abbreviations	XI

INTRODUCTION

The Meaning and Purpose of Lamentations	XV
The Name of the Book	XVII
Place in the Canon	XVII
The Date of Lamentations	XVIII
The Authorship of Lamentations	XIX
Place of Composition	XXIII
Alphabetic Acrostics	XXIV
Literary Types	XXVII
Sumerian Influence	XXVIII
Meter, Parallelism, Syntax, and Strophic Structure	XXX
Note on a Feature of Poetic Diction	XXXVII
The Text	XXXIX
Liturgical Use	XL
Selected Bibliography	XLIII

LAMENTATIONS

I. "Is there any pain like my pain?" (1:1-22)	1
II. "The Lord became like an enemy" (2:1-22)	31
III. Everyman (3:1-66)	49
IV. A Survivor's Account (4:1-22)	75
V. A Prayer (5:1-22)	95
Index of Authors	107
Index of Biblical Passages	109