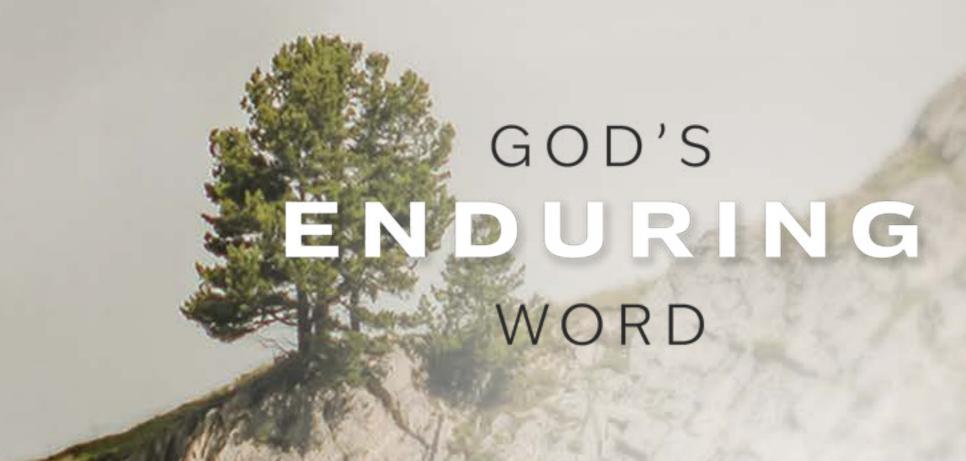
Truth in the Tears

PASTOR LUCAS CONE LAMENTATIONS 3:1-24



I am the man who has seen affliction under the rod of His wrath;

He has driven and brought me into darkness without any light;

surely against me He turns His hand again and again the whole day long.

He has made my flesh and my skin waste away; He has broken my bones;

He has besieged and enveloped me with bitterness and tribulation;



He has walled me about so that I cannot escape; He has made my chains heavy;

though I call and cry for help, He shuts out my prayer;

Lamentations 3:8

He has blocked my ways with blocks of stones; He has made my paths crooked.

He is a bear lying in wait for me, a lion in hiding;

He turned aside my steps and tore me to pieces; He has made me desolate;

He bent His bow and set me as a target for His arrow.

He drove into my kidneys the arrows of His quiver;

I have become the laughingstock of all peoples, the object of their taunts all day long.

He has filled me with bitterness; He has sated me with wormwood.

He has made my teeth grind on gravel, and made me cower in ashes;

my soul is bereft of peace; I have forgotten what happiness is;

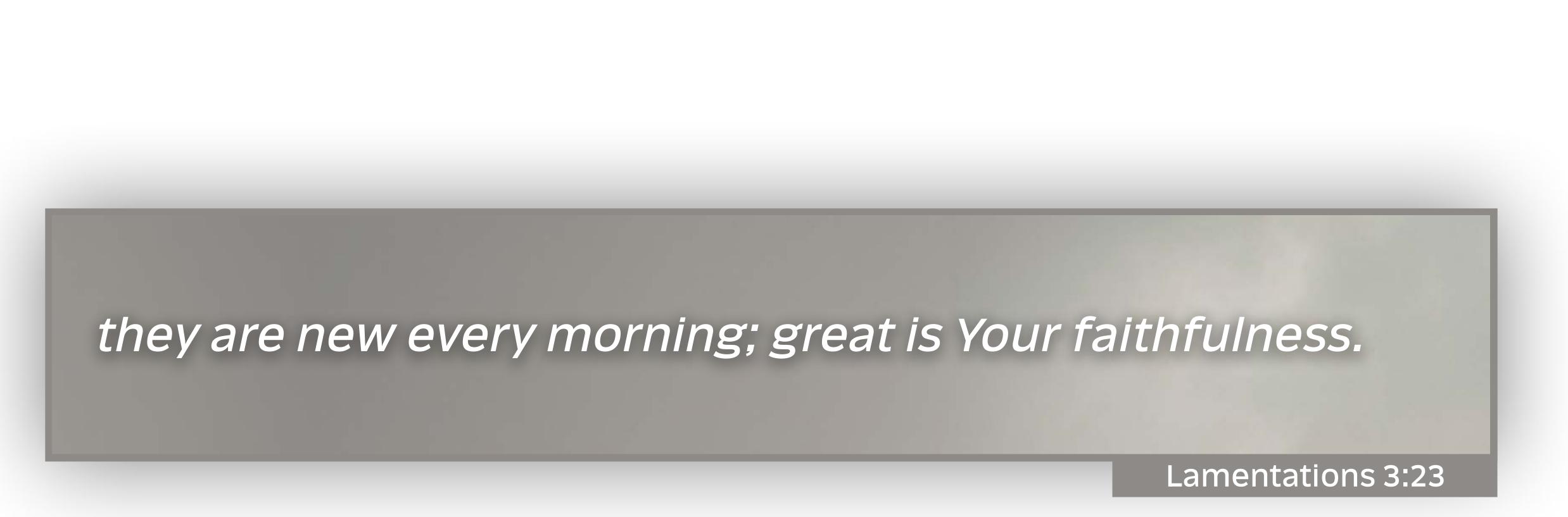
so I say, "My endurance has perished; so has my hope from the LORD."

Remember my affliction and my wanderings, the wormwood and the gall!

My soul continually remembers it and is bowed down within me.

But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope:

The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; His mercies never come to an end;



"The Lord is my portion," says my soul, "therefore I will hope in Him."

We can <u>cry</u> <u>out</u> with <u>honesty</u>.

We can cling to God's sovereignty.



We can count on God's steadfast love.



Because of God's steadfast love, we have hope in our greatest hardship.

