

“VOICES – THE MINOR PROPHETS OF THE OLD TESTAMENT”
HABAKKUK: THE RIGHTEOUS WILL LIVE BY FAITH [PART 1] 01.13.19

Why study the Old Testament?

“The Old and New Testaments together provide us with a single great narrative of salvation. Each is incomplete without the other. The Old Testament is more than a ‘backstory.’ It is the unfolding of God’s great plan of salvation in human history, a plan that will emerge out of Israel in Jesus Christ.” David F. Watson
Professor of New Testament, Scholar & Pastor

Habakkuk’s Message

“This is the message [“oracle”] that the prophet Habakkuk received in a vision.” Habakkuk 1:1

- Begins with _____
- Revealed in a _____
- That expresses a _____
- Addressed to the _____

Habakkuk’s Ageless Question

“How long, O Lord, must I call for help? But you do not listen!” Habakkuk 1:2

- | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| • Injustice | • Wrongful suffering |
| • Destruction | • Violence |
| • Strife | • Conflict |
| • The law is paralyzed | • Justice never prevails |
| • More wicked than righteous | • Justice is perverted |

God’s Response

“The Lord replied, ‘Look around at the nations; look and be amazed. For I am doing something in your own day, something you wouldn’t believe even if someone told you about it.’” Habakkuk 1:5

Habakkuk says: **“Look at this!”**

Yahweh replies: **“Look at that!”**

“I am raising up the Babylonians, a cruel and violent people. They will march across the world and conquer other lands.”

Habakkuk 1:6

Now Habakkuk is Really Confused!

“O Lord my God, my Holy One, you who are eternal – surely you do not plan to wipe us out? O Lord, our Rock, you have sent these Babylonians to correct us, to punish us for our many sins. But you are pure and cannot stand the sight of evil. Will you wink at their treachery? Should you be silent while the wicked swallow up people more righteous than they?” Habakkuk 1:12-13

- Why do you tolerate the [_____] treacherous?
- This is the _____
- God has a reply: _____

God’s Invitation

- Like Habakkuk, we can take our _____ straight to God
- It’s okay for believers to have _____ and _____ simultaneously
- To _____ what we don’t understand
- And _____ in God despite all circumstances

“I will climb up to my watchtower and stand at my guardpost. There I will wait to see what the Lord says and how he will answer my complain.” Habakkuk 2:1

“The message of Habakkuk’s proclamation is that God is interested first in restoring us to a right relationship with himself as created and redeemed people. God will stop at nothing in order to draw us near to himself and the way of peace he offers.” James Bruckner
Professor of Old Testament