

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 Ageless Question

“Why does the Lord permit the righteous to suffer while the wicked prosper?”

Habakkuk says: “Look at this!”

God says: “Look at that!”

Habakkuk teaches us...

“The Lord is in his holy Temple.”

Habakkuk 2:20

“The righteous will live by their faithfulness to God.”

Habakkuk 2:4

- We can take our **struggles** straight to God (Ch. 1)
- It’s okay for believers to have **questions** and **faith** simultaneously; to **accept** what we don’t understand and **trust** in God despite all circumstances (Ch. 1)
- Faith often requires **waiting** for God’s justice (Ch. 2)
- Faith comes from a **hope** based not on visible circumstances but in God, who is ultimately in control of history (Ch. 2)
- God will ultimately bring **justice** to His world (Ch. 3)

**CHAPTER ONE KINDS OF QUESTIONS
PLUS CHAPTER TWO KINDS OBSERVATIONS
PRODUCES A CHAPTER THREE KIND OF _____**

THE _____ THING IS NEVER

THE _____ THING FOR THE PEOPLE OF GOD

“This prayer was sung by the prophet Habakkuk...”

Habakkuk 3:1

“Even though the fig trees have no blossoms, and there are no grapes on the vines; even though the olive crop fails, and the fields lie empty and barren; even though the flocks die in the fields, and the cattle barns are empty, yet I will rejoice in the Lord! I will be joyful in the God of my salvation! The Sovereign Lord is my strength! He makes me as surefooted as a deer able to tread upon the heights.”

Habakkuk 3:17-19

Habakkuk’s response to God’s revelation was to _____
God “even though”...

Habakkuk chooses to _____ what God has done

“I have heard all about you, Lord. I am filled with awe by your amazing works. In this time of our deep need, help us again as you did in years gone by. And in your anger, remember your mercy.”

Habakkuk 3:2

Habakkuk chooses to _____ what God was doing

“I trembled inside when I heard this; my lips quivered with fear. My legs gave way beneath me, and I shook in terror. I will wait quietly for the coming day when disaster will strike the people who invade us.”

Habakkuk 3:16

Habakkuk chooses to _____ in what God would do

“I will be joyful in the God of my salvation! The Sovereign Lord is my strength! He makes me as surefooted as a deer able to tread upon the heights.”

Habakkuk 3:19