

# Habakkuk:



**From Sorrow To Singing**

# Habakkuk

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- His name is either taken from the Hebrew root word for “embrace,” or from the Aramaic name “habbaququ” meaning “fragrant plant.”
- Luther writes: “His name speaks as one who took his nation to his heart, comforted it and held it up, as one embraces and presses to his bosom a poor weeping child, calming and consoling it with good hope.”
- Date of writing: around 612-606 B.C., just as Babylon was making her westward move toward world conquest.

# Habakkuk's Message

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- A burden - Hab. 1:1 - 2:1
- A vision - Hab. 2:2-20
- A prayer - Hab. 3:1-19
- The difference between Habakkuk and other prophets:
  - Instead of taking the Lord's message directly to the people, he takes the complaint of the people to the Lord, representing them in the complaint.
  - As he does so, Habakkuk goes "From Sorrow to Singing."

## His Burden: Faith Grappling With A Problem

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- He laments over the rule of wickedness; how can the Lord justify indifference?
  - Hab. 1:1-4
- God is not indifferent; He is doing something hard to understand.
  - Hab. 1:5-11
- How can holy God use an unholy agency?
  - Hab. 1:12-17
- He will wait for God to answer.
  - Hab. 2:1

# His Vision: Faith Grasping The Solution

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- God's first answer:
  - Habakkuk is to write what God reveals.
    - Hab. 2:2-3
  - The just shall live by his faith.
    - Hab. 2:4

# His Vision: Faith Grasping The Solution

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- God's 2nd answer: He will judge the proud.
  - Woe to the proud possessed with lust for conquest and plunder
    - Hab. 2:5-8
  - Woe to their efforts to build an empire through cruelty and gain
    - Hab. 2:9-11
  - Woe to those who build cities with bloodshed
    - Hab. 2:12-14

# His Vision: Faith Grasping The Solution

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- God's 2nd answer: He will judge the proud.
  - Woe to those cruel in their treatment of the conquered.
    - Hab. 2:15-17
  - Woe to those given over to idolatry.
    - Hab. 2:18-20

# His Prayer: Faith Glorifying In Assurance

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- Petition for God's action and mercy
  - Hab. 3:1-2, 19
- Praise for God's past deliverance and mighty works
  - Hab. 3:3-7
- Pronouncement for the wicked and salvation for His people
  - Hab. 3:8-15



# His Prayer: Faith Glorifying In Assurance

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## □ Profession of faith

- He trembled at what he heard; he will have rest in the day of trouble.
  - Hab. 3:16
- He expresses faith that while trouble may come, he will rejoice in the Lord.
  - Hab. 3:17-19

# Lessons Gleaned From Habakkuk

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- The universal supremacy of God's judgment upon the wicked.
  - God would use Chaldea to punish wicked Judah.
  - Then Chaldea would be destroyed for its own wickedness.
- Evil is self-destructive.
  - If the righteous can be patient, trusting in the Lord, then the tyranny and arrogance of the wicked will catch up to them.

# Lessons Gleaned From Habakkuk

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- Faith is essential.
  - By faith, the righteous in Habakkuk's day would live.
  - By faith, the righteous will live today.
    - In salvation - Rom. 1:16-17
    - In perseverance - Heb. 10:35-39

## Hab. 3:17-19

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- “Though the fig tree may not blossom, Nor fruit be on the vines; Though the labor of the olive may fail, And the fields yield no food; Though the flock may be cut off from the fold, And there be no herd in the stalls- 18 Yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation. 19 The LORD God is my strength; He will make my feet like deer's feet, And He will make me walk on my high hills.”