

**PLEASE TURN to the  
BOOK of HABAKKUK**

**RAISE YOUR HAND  
to BORROW a BIBLE**

**SILENCE CELL PHONES  
& LIMIT DISTRACTIONS**





# THE BOOK OF HABAKKUK

HOW DO YOU  
PRONOUNCE  
THIS???

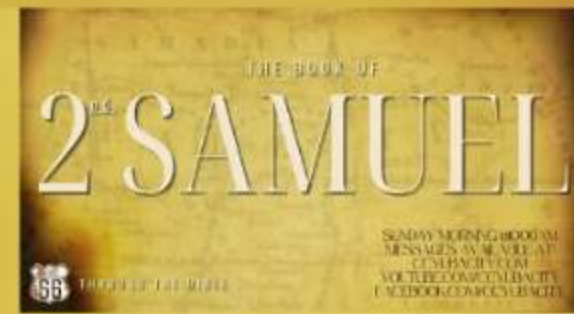


THROUGH THE BIBLE





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## MAJOR PROPHETS:

**Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel**

## MINOR PROPHETS:

**Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah,  
Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai,  
Zechariah, Malachi**

**THE prophets are where a lot  
of people's reading of the  
BIBLE STALLS OUT**



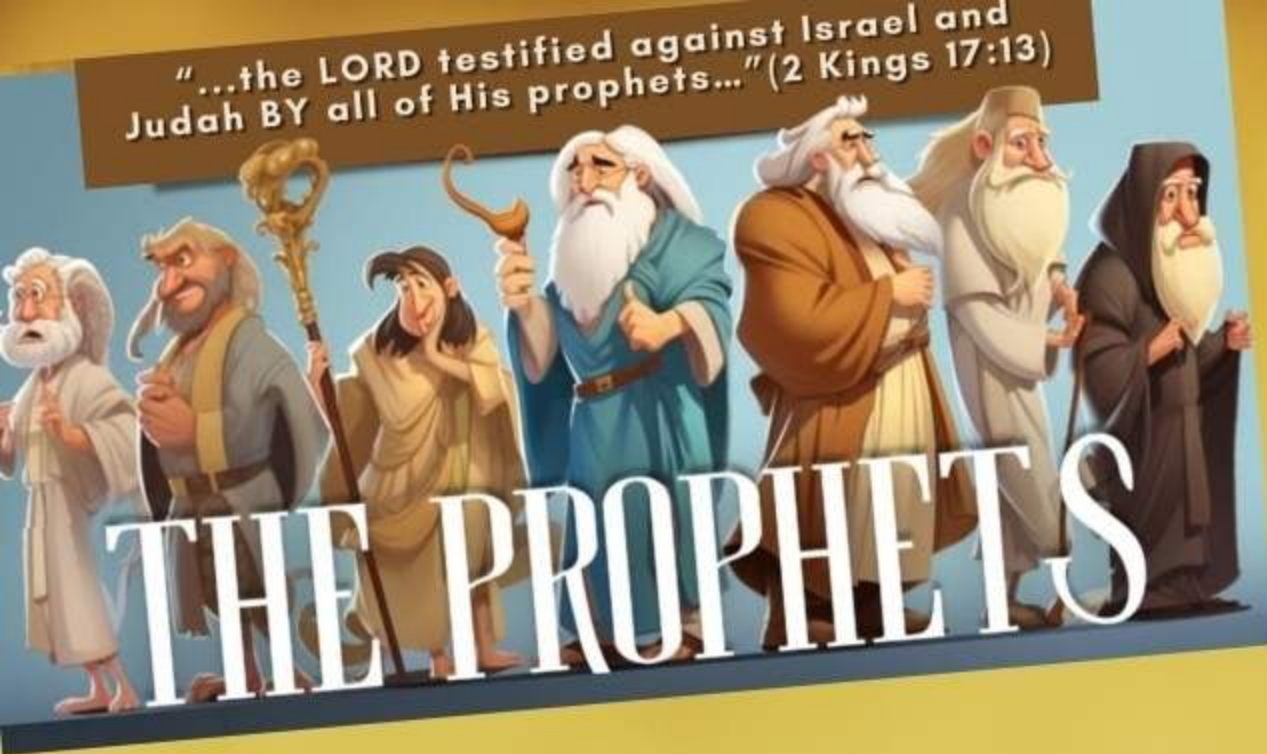
# "THE DIVIDED KINGDOM"



THIS IS  
**HUGELY  
IMPORTANT!**

COVERED in 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> KINGS  
Results in ISRAEL to the NORTH  
JUDAH to the SOUTH





## MAJOR PROPHETS:

**Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel**

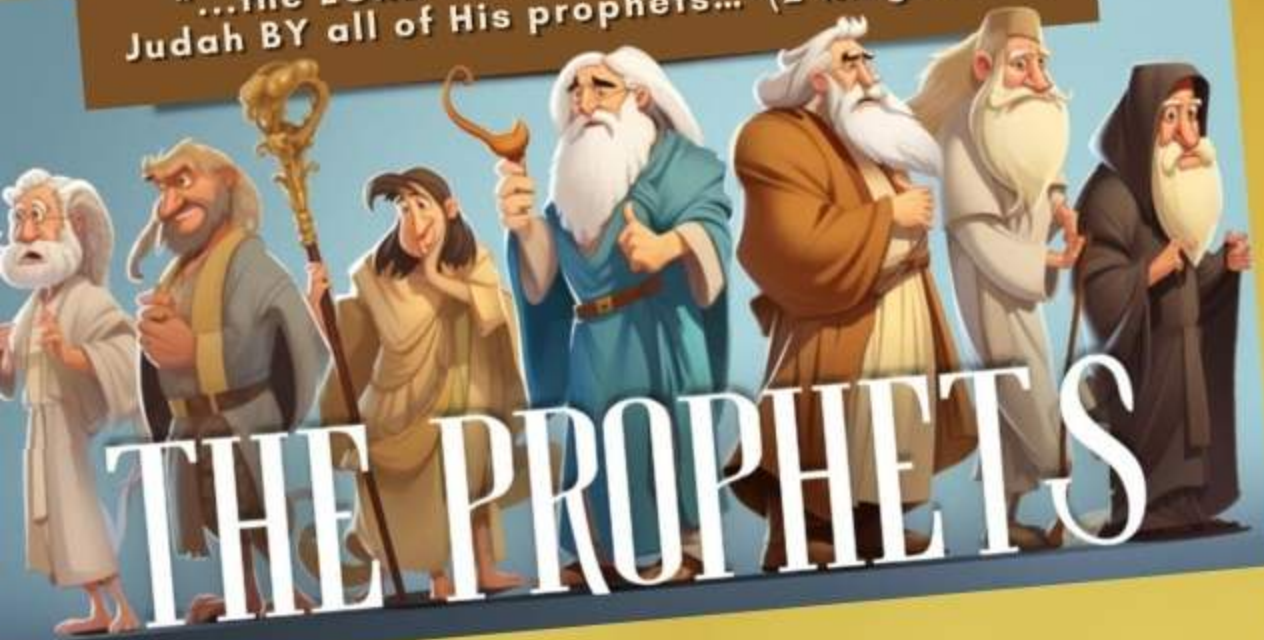
## MINOR PROPHETS:

**Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah,  
Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai,  
Zechariah, Malachi**

**THE PROPHETS PROVIDE MUCH  
INSIGHT INTO THE SIGNIFICANCE,  
TIMING, HISTORY, AND SCOPE OF  
THE BIRTH OF JESUS**



"...the LORD testified against Israel and Judah BY all of His prophets..." (2 Kings 17:13)



## PROPHETS COVERED SO FAR:

**Jonah, Amos, Hosea**  
*(Northern Kingdom)*  
**Isaiah & Micah,**  
**Nahum, Zephaniah**  
*(Southern Kingdom)*

**today:**

THE BOOK OF

# HABAKKUK



THROUGH THE BIBLE

**WHY?**

WHY???

why???

**HOW**  
**TO LIVE IN**  
**DIFFICULT**  
**TIMES**



# ZEPHANIAH

**Considered one of the 'last' prophets to the Southern Kingdom of Judah before the Babylonian Captivity**

# HABAKKUK

**609 BC - 607 BC ???**

**Believed to have written between the Fall of Nineveh (612 BC) and the Babylonian Captivity (586 BC)**



# HABAKKUK

**609 BC - 607 BC ???**

*"Babylon invaded Judah on three separate occasions before finally carrying the Jews into captivity... in 586 BC."*

**(Jon Courson)**

*"Since Habakkuk speaks of God 'raising up' the Babylonians, we can guess that he wrote in the 25-year period between the time when Babylon conquered [Assyria], and the time when Babylon conquered Jerusalem." **(David Guzik)***



# THE PROPHET HABAKKUK

His name only appears **TWICE** in Scripture:

Habakkuk 1:1: "...the prophet Habakkuk"

Habakkuk 3:1: "...Habakkuk the prophet"

**A  
PROFESSIONAL  
PROPHET???**

*"Trained in the Law of Moses in a prophetic school, an institution for educating prophets that cropped up after the days of Samuel."* (**Charles Swindoll**)

**"sons of the prophets" | "school of the prophets"**

**Mentioned appx. 10 times in Scripture**

[See 1<sup>st</sup> Samuel 10, 2<sup>nd</sup> 2, 2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 4]



# THE PROPHET HABAKKUK

## Musical References in Habakkuk:

Hab. 3:1: "A prayer of Habakkuk the prophet,  
on SHIGIONOTH."

Psalms 7:1: "A Meditation [SHIGGAION] of David."

← WAS HE A  
PRIEST???

THE PRIESTS  
WERE IN CHARGE  
OF MUSIC &  
SONGS IN THE  
TEMPLE

*"A wild, passionate song, with rapid changes of rhythm." –  
Another author writes: "Most commentators think [this... carries]  
the idea of "strong emotion," "erratic wandering," or "wild  
tumult." Thus, the song was composed as a dithyramb  
(a vehement, impassioned poem)."  
(Strong's Exhaustive Concordance)*



# THE PROPHET HABAKKUK

## Musical References in Habakkuk:

Hab. 3:19: **"To the Chief Musician. With my stringed instruments."** – (a MUSICAL INSTRUCTION seen throughout PSALMS)

Much of Habakkuk is **POETRY**  
in the form of a **LAMENT** (like **LAMENTATIONS**)



*"Jeremiah [had] ALSO [been] a priest before he was a prophet. It seems both men were called from a priestly ministry into a prophetic ministry, and both served in the days immediately before the Babylonian invasion." (Jon Courson)*



# BACKGROUND to HABAKKUK

## 2<sup>nd</sup> CHRONICLES 34:1-7:

**"Josiah was eight years old when he became king, and... in the eighth year of his reign... he began to seek the [Lord]... and in the twelfth year... he began to purge Judah and Jerusalem of the high places, the wooden images, the carved images, and the molded images. They broke down the altars of the Baals... [he] made dust of them and scattered it on the graves of those who had sacrificed to them. He also burned the bones of the priests on their altars, and cleansed Judah and Jerusalem."**



# BACKGROUND to HABAKKUK

## 2<sup>nd</sup> CHRONICLES 34:8-19:

**“In the eighteenth year of his reign... Hilkiah, the priest... found the Book of the Law of the Lord given by Moses... in the house of the LORD.”**

“[This Book]... seems to have become misplaced during the apostate administrations of the previous kings...” **(Dr. Philip Payne)**

“It is supposed to be that part of Deuteronomy... which contains the renewing of the covenant... and which contains the most terrible invectives against the corrupters of God’s [worship and] word.”  
**(Adam Clarke)**



# BACKGROUND to HABAKKUK

## 2<sup>nd</sup> CHRONICLES 34:8-19:

**“In the eighteenth year of his reign... Hilkiah, the priest... found the Book of the Law of the Lord given by Moses... in the house of the LORD.”**

**“Hilkiah... said to Shaphan the scribe, ‘I have found the Book of the Law in the house of the LORD.’ And [he] gave the book to Shaphan,” the scribe. – “Shaphan... read it before [King Josiah].” – And when Josiah “heard the words of the Law... he tore his clothes.”**





# BACKGROUND to HABAKKUK

## 2<sup>nd</sup> KINGS 23:21-25:

**“[Josiah] commanded... the people, saying, “Keep the Passover to the LORD your God... [and] Such a Passover... had [not] been held since the days of the judges... nor in all the days of the kings of Israel and the kings of Judah.”**

**“[He] put away those who consulted mediums and spiritists...”  
– “Before him there was no king like him, who turned to the LORD with all his heart, with all his soul, and with all his might, according to all the Law of Moses; nor after him did any arise like him.”**


**REVIVAL!**



# BACKGROUND to HABAKKUK

**YOU CANNOT  
LEGISLATE  
SPIRITUALITY!**

2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 17:35-36  
"[He] put... spiritists..."  
Passage... had [not] been held since the days of the judges... nor in all the days of... Judah."  
- "Before him there was no king like him, who turned to the...  
and... his...!"





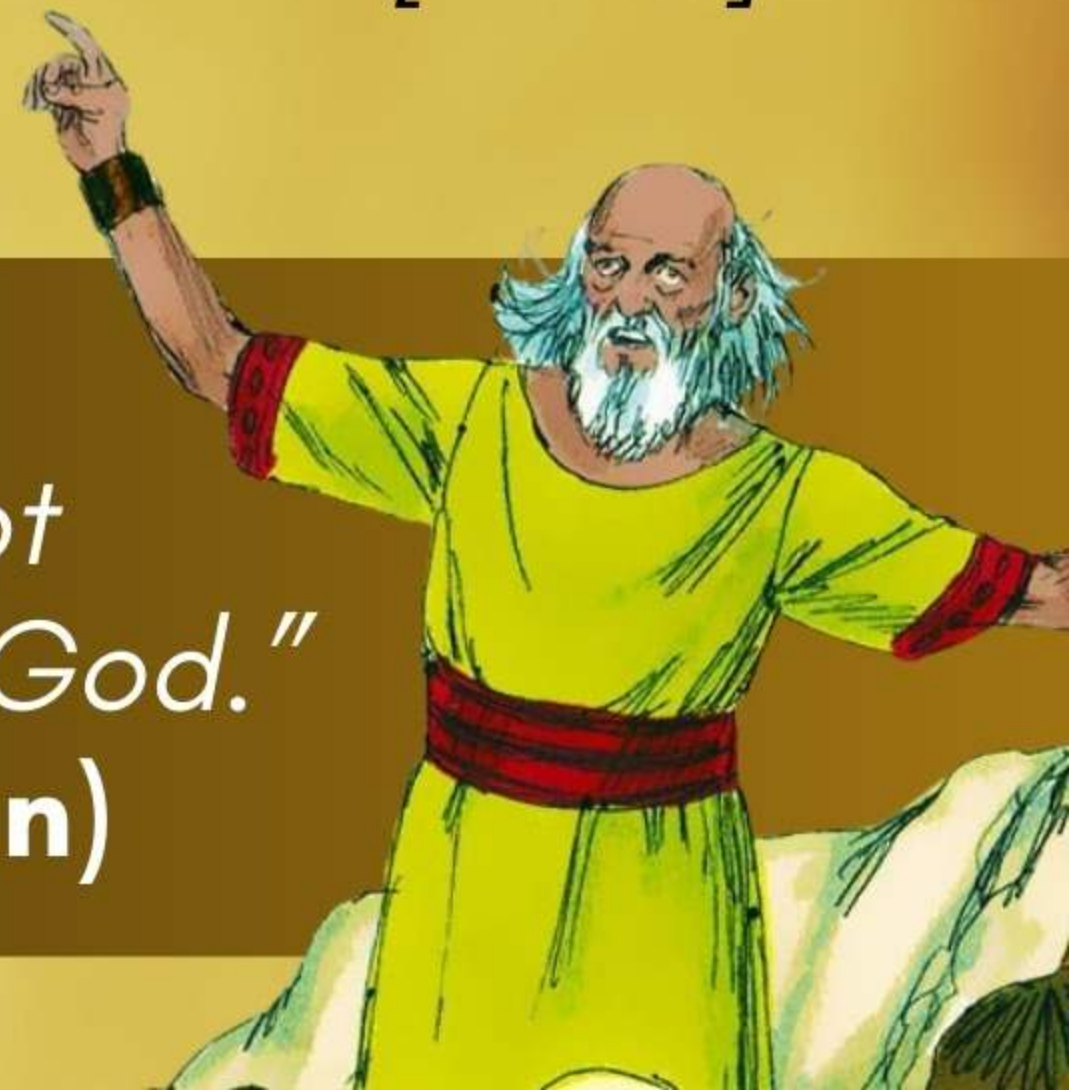
# BACKGROUND to HABAKKUK

## YOU CANNOT LEGISLATE SPIRITUALITY!

*"There [had been national] reformation, but no regeneration. People went through outward motions, but their hearts were not changed. They attended services... But... did not [know] the Lord."*

*"Habakkuk... Jeremiah, and others were on the scene, calling people to TRUE SPIRITUALITY. Not just religiosity, but a genuine relationship with God."*

**(Jon Courson)**





# BACKGROUND to HABAKKUK

## 2<sup>nd</sup> KINGS 24:1-2:

**“[Jehoiakim] He did EVIL in the sight of the LORD... according to all that his fathers had done.”**

**“In his days Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came up, and Jehoiakim became his vassal for three years. Then he turned and rebelled against him. And the LORD sent against [Jehoiakim] raiding bands of Chaldeans... Syrians... Moabites, and... people of Ammon...”**



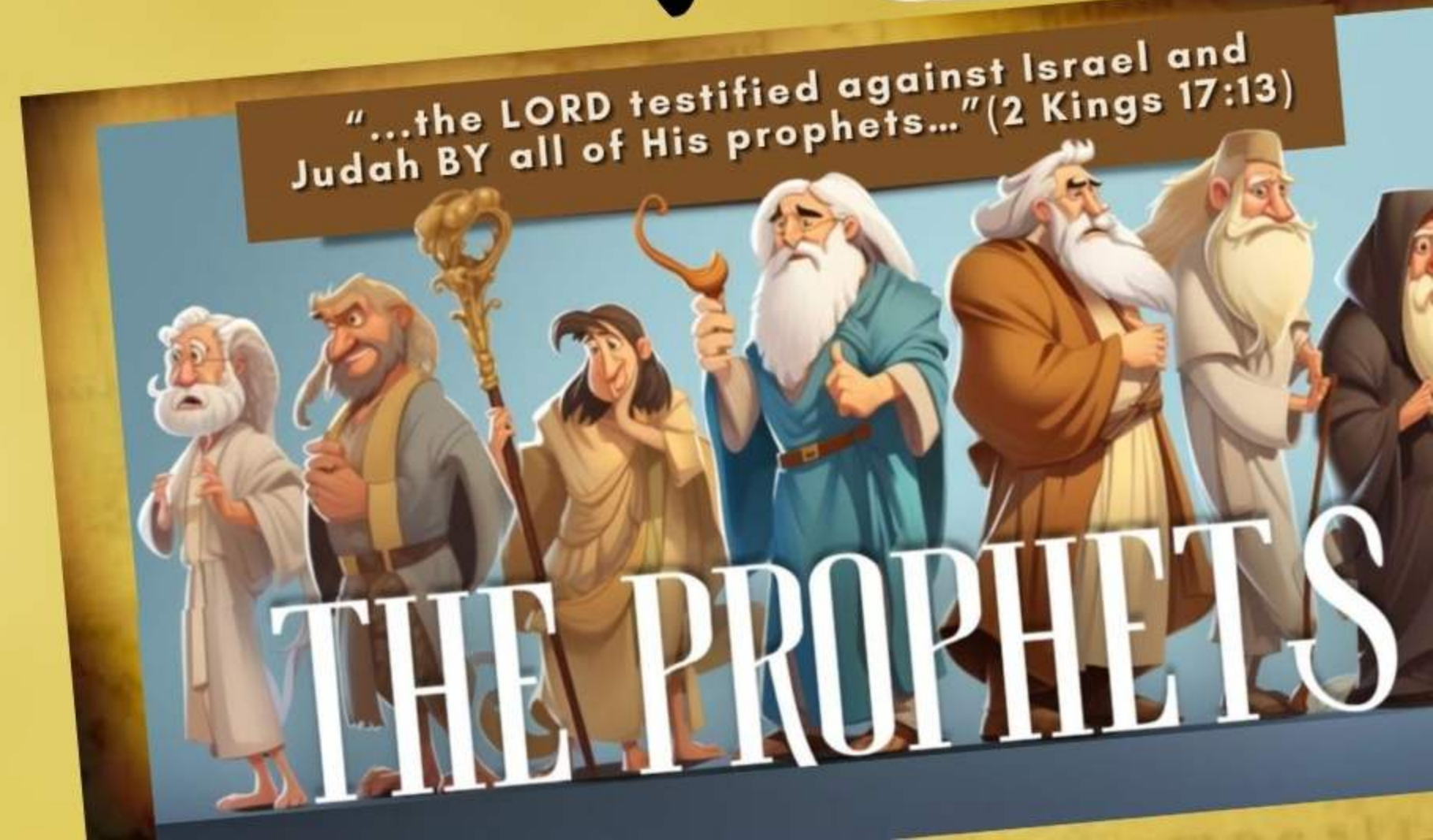
# BACKGROUND to HABAKKUK

## 2<sup>nd</sup> KINGS 24:1-3:

"...[the Lord] sent them against Judah to destroy it, according to the word of the LORD which... He had spoken by His servants the prophets."

*this is what we have been studying!*

"At the commandment of the LORD this came upon [the Southern Kingdom of] Judah..."





# OCCASION of HABAKKUK

*"The world AROUND [Habakkuk] was at war, and—  
with Babylon rising to [defeat] Assyria & Egypt—the  
threat of invasion... adds to Jerusalem's inner turmoil."*

**Words/Phrases that TYPIFY the OPENING  
CHAPTERS of Habakkuk are:**

**"...iniquity, trouble, plundering, violence,  
strife, contention, law is powerless,  
justice never goes forth..."**



# FORM of HABAKKUK

This Book is **NOT** a MESSAGE  
Habakkuk Has a **CONVERSATION** with God

*"Habakkuk pictures a frustrated prophet..."*  
**(Charles Swindoll)**

*"[Habakkuk] believes God has removed Himself from the earthly scene. [He feels] His words are forgotten, His hand is not manifest, [and] God is nowhere to be found."*



**Why?  
Where  
ARE  
You?**



# HABAKKUK asks 'WHY?'

**Hab. 2:2-4: "O LORD, how long shall I cry, and You will not hear? Even cry out to You, "Violence!" and You will not save. Why do You show me iniquity, and cause me to see trouble? For plundering and violence are before me; there is strife, and contention arises... the law is powerless, and justice never goes forth. For the wicked surround the righteous; therefore perverse judgment proceeds."**



# HABAKKUK asks 'WHY?'

"Habakkuk starts out **wrestling** with God... [but] he ends-up **worshipping** God." (**Jon Courson**)

"[This is] one man's pilgrimage from complaining to confidence... doubt to trust... MAN-centeredness, to GOD-centeredness..."

"[Habakkuk's] FIRST complaint is [against] the apostasy of Judah..." – Which we talked about already... "His second is that the Lord would use—as an instrument of chastisement—such a wicked people as the Babylonians."  
(**Dr. Graham Scroggie**)



# ‘WOE’ to BABYLON:

“God [proceeds to pronounce]... five ‘woes’ [against]... the forms of oppression... perpetrated by nations like Babylon. The first two target unjust economic practices—how wealthy people charge interest to keep others trapped in debt... The third... is a critique of... those who treat humans like animals, threatening them... if they are not productive enough. The fourth... targets the abuse of alcohol by irresponsible leaders... The last woe exposes idolatry [behind] such nations—[who make] money, power, & national security [their] gods, offering allegiance... at all costs and becoming slaves to their own empire.”

**(The Bible Project)**

**TRAPPING  
PEOPLE IN  
DEBT**

**SLAVERY  
(HUMAN  
TRAFFICKING)**

**IRRESPONSIBLE  
LEADERSHIP**

**“NATION  
WORSHIP”**



# ‘WOE’ to BABYLON:

“[These] practices... aren’t UNIQUE to [the literal nation of] Babylon... Given the human condition...

**MOST NATIONS EVENTUALLY  
BECOME BABYLON.**

God’s answer to Habakkuk becomes  
God’s answer to all later generations,  
to anyone who lives in a world ruled  
by [the spirit of] BABYLON.”

**TRAPPING  
PEOPLE IN  
DEBT**

**SLAVERY  
(HUMAN  
TRAFFICKING)**

**IRRESPONSIBLE  
LEADERSHIP**

**“NATION  
WORSHIP”**



# THE COMING BABYLON:

*these things are  
already rampant  
in the world.*

## FROM REVELATION 18:

"Babylon the great... All the nations [will drink] of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, the kings of the earth [will] commit fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth [become] rich through the abundance of her luxury..." - "merchandise of gold and silver, precious stones and pearls, fine linen and purple, silk and scarlet, every kind of citron wood... of ivory... most precious wood, bronze, iron, marble; cinnamon and incense, fragrant oil and frankincense, wine and oil, fine flour and wheat, cattle and sheep, horses and chariots, and bodies and souls of men."

TRAPPING  
PEOPLE IN  
DEBT

SLAVERY  
(HUMAN  
TRAFFICKING)

IRRESPONSIBLE  
LEADERSHIP

"NATION  
WORSHIP"



# GOD'S INSTRUCTIONS to HABAKKUK:

Hab. 2:3: **"Write the vision and make it plain on tablets, that he may run who reads it."**

VS. 4: **"Behold the proud, his soul is not upright in him, but...**



**THE JUST SHALL LIVE BY HIS FAITH."**



# AN IMPORTANT TRUTH:

Romans 1:17: “The JUST shall live by faith...”

Galatians 3:11: “The just shall live by FAITH...”

Hebrews 10:38: “The just shall LIVE by faith.”

“...one of the most important—and most quoted—Old Testament statements in the New Testament.” (David Guzik)



## THE JUST SHALL LIVE BY HIS FAITH.”



HABAKKUK REMINDS US:

**IT'S OKAY TO ASK  
WHY?**

(AS LONG AS IT IS AN HONEST QUESTION)



HABAKKUK REMINDS US:

IT'S OKAY TO ASK

WHY?



**IF YOU'RE GONNA ASK, ASK GOD!**





# GOOD COUNTERPART to HABAKKUK:

Colossians 3:2: **“Set your mind on things above,  
not on things on the earth.”**

*(like YouTube, Nightly News, Podcasts,  
Politics, the Economy, etc.)*

VS. 3: **“For you died, and your life is  
hidden with Christ in God.”**



# GOOD COUNTERPART to HABAKKUK:

***"The Christian can be so HEAVENLY MINDED  
that he's no EARTHLY GOOD."***



*"The **best** Christian living comes from minds that are fixed on heaven. [People who] realize that their lives are now hidden with Christ in God, and since Jesus is enthroned in heaven, their thoughts and hearts are connected to heaven also."  
(David Guzik)*

*"The believer is to 'seek the things... above.' The word 'seek' marks aspiration, desire, and passion... In order to seek these things the mind must be set on them."  
(G. Campbell Morgan)*

*"Love heavenly things; study them; let your hearts be engrossed by them. Now that you are converted to God, act in reference to heavenly things as you formerly did to earthly things." (Adam Clarke)*



# SET YOUR MIND on THINGS ABOVE:



**"THINK ON  
THESE THINGS"**

## **"COGNITIVE DISSONANCE"**

"A state of mental discomfort that occurs when a person holds beliefs or opinions that are inconsistent, or that conflict with an aspect of their behavior."

What the Bible Calls  
**"Double Mindedness"**  
[See James 1:8, 4:8  
Psalm 119:113]

**MORTGAGE  
ECONOMY  
NEWSFEED  
POLITICS  
WEALTH  
HOBBIES**



# GOD'S MESSAGE to HABAKKUK:

Habakkuk. 2:4: **"The just shall live by his faith."**

Hebrews 11:6: **"Without faith it is impossible to please [God]."**

*"Some Christians live by devotions. Some Christians... by [good] works. Some Christians... by feelings. Others... by circumstances. Each of these is meaningless—and... dangerous—without faith."*

**(David Guzik)**



# THE CHANGE in HABAKKUK:

*"The difference between the beginning of this book & the end... is striking. All has changed. The prophet is no longer controlled by—or anxious over—his circumstance... his sights have been raised. Temporal affairs no longer fill his thoughts; his thoughts are on things above. Instead of being ruled by worldly considerations, Habakkuk has fixed his hopes on God, and declares: **"He will make me walk on my high hills."** – We [read] phrases like **"rejoicing in the Lord, joy in the God of my salvation, God is my strength, feet like deer's feet."***



## THE CHANGE in HABAKKUK:

**“If the heart of the gospel is change & transformation, the book of Habakkuk demonstrates evangelical renewal.”**



# A REFERENCE to MESSIAH?

## **HABAKKUK 3:13:**

**“You went forth for the salvation of Your people...”**

- **“FOR SALVATION... ('Jesus' = 'salvation')**
- **with YOUR ANOINTED... ('Christ' = 'Anointed')**
- **you STRUCK THE HEAD... (Genesis 3:15)**
- **from the HOUSE OF THE WICKED”... (Satan = 'wicked one')**



# HABAKKUK: A CHANGED MAN

*"One of the finest things in the Bible."*

## **HABAKKUK 3:17-19:**

**"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—Yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation."**



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**"I will rejoice" = Over 100 Times in the Bible**



# HABAKKUK: A CHANGED MAN

*“Habakkuk [found] no joy in the fig tree or... the vines or... the fields or... the flock... [but] God was unchanged... [He] didn't just practice positive thinking and shut-out the [reality] of the barren fig tree and the empty... stalls. Instead... he saw those problems for what they were... [but] remembered that God was greater than them all.”*

**(David Guzik)**

**“I will rejoice” = Over 100 Times in the Bible**



# A POWERFUL TRUTH

# JOY

v/s.

A Supernatural  
By-product of the Spirit  
of God Working in  
a Person's Heart

Connected  
to  
Circumstance

# Happiness



# THE ANSWER for ANXIETY

## PHILIPPIANS 4:6-7:

**"Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God..."**

*THIS IS WHAT  
HABAKKUK DID!*



*PEACE BEYOND  
UNDERSTANDING*



**"...and the peace of God,**

**which surpasses all understanding,  
will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."**



# THE ANSWER for ANXIETY

*it's not a*  
**WHY**  
*it's a*  
**WHO**

## PHILIPPIANS 4:6-7:

**"Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God, and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."**

## COLOSSIANS 3:2-3:

**"Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God."**



# THE ANSWER for ANXIETY

*it's not a*  
**WHY**  
*it's a*  
**WHO**

**"I will rejoice in the  
LORD, I will joy in the  
God of my salvation."  
(Not "from")**

**The phrase "in Christ Jesus"  
appears over 50 times in Scripture!**



# A WONDERFUL PROMISE

**“You will keep him in perfect peace,  
Whose mind is stayed on You, Because  
he TRUSTS in You.” (Isaiah 26:3)**

**“The just shall live by FAITH” (Hab. 2:4)**





# THE MESSAGE of HABAKKUK

**“[By the end of the Book, the prophet] recognizes how dark and chaotic the world—and our lives—can become... but he also sees how this invites us into the journey of faith, trusting that God LOVES this world more than we can imagine and that He will one day deal with its evil.”**



**HAVE YOU  
GIVEN YOUR  
LIFE TO CHRIST?**

**DON'T LEAVE TODAY WITHOUT SPEAKING WITH SOMEONE**



**PRAYER PARTNERS AVAILABLE IN  
THE REAR OF THE SANCTUARY**

**THANKS FOR WORSHIPPING AT CCYC**

**JOIN US FOR MIDWEEK 'DEEPER'  
WEDNESDAYS AT 10:30AM**



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# WHAT'S AHEAD on 'ROUTE 66:'

## REMAINING O.T. BOOKS:

October 5— Ezekiel

October 12— Daniel

October 19— Esther

October 26— Joel & Obadiah

November 16— 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Chronicles

November 23— Ezra

November 30— Haggai & Zechariah

December 7— Nehemiah

December 14— Malachi

**NEXT SUNDAY MORNING:**



**WE'RE MORE  
THAN HALFWAY  
THROUGH THE  
OLD TESTAMENT!**