

LESSON TEN

Habakkuk 615-605 B.C.

Introduction

- We know little about **Habakkuk**.
- Habakkuk's name means "embracer," due to his love for God.
- Habakkuk prophesied just before Nebuchadnezzar's first invasion of Judah in **605 B.C.**
- Habakkuk posed two questions:
 - Why does God allow wicked practices to continue in Judah?
 - Why will God use **wicked** people to punish Judah?
- God answers the first question in 1:5-11 and the second in 2:2-20.



<https://owlcation.com/humanities/The-Formation-of-Ancient-Babylon>

Chapter 1:1-11-Habakkuk's First Question and Answer

- Habakkuk asks why God allows Judah's **wickedness** to continue (1:1-4).
- God answered Habakkuk in 1:5-11 (especially in verse 6).
- God was **preparing** the Chaldeans to conquer Judah.
- In conquering Judah, the Chaldeans would dominate the Babylonian Empire.
- God had to prepare the enemy to complete His punishment.
- Even though God used the Chaldeans to destroy Jerusalem, God would still hold them **accountable**.

Chapter 1:12-2:20-Habakkuk's Second Question and Answer

- Habakkuk's second question asked why God would use wicked people to **punish** Judah (1:12-17-especially verse 13).
- God answered Habakkuk in 2:2-20.
- God told Habakkuk His judgment would come and to **wait** for it (2:3).
- Romans 1:17; Galatians 3:11; and Hebrews 10:38 reference Habakkuk 2:4. This passage shows the contrast between those who place their trust in things and those who place their trust in God.
- Verses 5-13 explain the futility of nations who continually strive for power and wealth. Nations who strive for power and wealth eventually **collapse**.



<https://www.pinterest.com/pin/422071796322413843/>

- God destroyed Babylon by allowing it to succeed.
- Habakkuk 2:14 describes the Millennial kingdom.

Chapter 3-Habakkuk's Praise to God

- Habakkuk heard God's answer to his questions and honored God and **trusted** His ways (3:2).
- Habakkuk 3:4-7 compares God's power to our weaknesses.
- Habakkuk nearly collapsed after seeing God's vision. (3:16).
- Habakkuk gives a powerful song of **praise** to God despite Judah's imminent doom (3:17-19).

Summary

- No matter how dire our circumstances, we must hope and trust in God.
- God is more powerful than any misfortunes or troubles.
- Wait patiently for God to work in your life.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Lesson Ten

1. Habakkuk means “embracer” due to his love for God.
 - A. Why did Habakkuk have such a love for God?
 - B. What establishes a love for God? Can our love wane? Explain. What can we do to keep a loving relationship with God?
 - C. What gave Habakkuk hope for the future?

2. Habakkuk asked God why He allowed wicked practices to continue in Judah?
 - A. How did God answer Habakkuk?
 - B. Have you ever wondered why God allows wickedness today? Do you feel wickedness overtakes goodness? Explain.
 - C. Read Ezekiel 18:21-23. Do these verses explain why God might be slow in punishing of the wicked?

3. Habakkuk asked God why he used wicked people to punish Judah?
 - A. How did God answer Habakkuk?
 - B. Why do terrible things happen to good people? Is it God’s fault for these unfortunate situations?
 - C. What is the ultimate judgment for wickedness? Explain.