

## Habakkuk's Conversation with God

Tonight, we will study from the book of Habakkuk. Like the rest of the Bible, this short Old Testament book is also the inspired word of God and extremely useful (2 Timothy 3:16-17). Habakkuk was one of God's prophets. He did his work shortly before Judah was taken into Babylonian captivity (maybe 612 B.C). The Babylonians would begin to invade Judah in 605 B.C.

What is a prophet?

- He is a spokesman for God.
- He speaks to people on the behalf of God.
- He is a mouth piece for God.
- He speaks as he is inspired by the Holy Spirit (2 Peter 1:20-21).

The book of Habakkuk is essentially a record of conversation that Habakkuk had with God. The prophet had some questions that he wanted God to answer.

### I. Habakkuk's conversation with God:

- A. Habakkuk: "What will you do about the sins of my people?"
  1. Habakkuk is discouraged by the sins of Israel.
  2. He wants to know if and when God will intervene.
- B. God: "I will use the Chaldeans to punish them." See Habakkuk 1:5-11.
  1. God was not oblivious to the wickedness of Israel.
  2. God was getting ready to send a foreign nation into Judah to take the people into captivity.
- C. Habakkuk: "I don't like that." See Habakkuk 1:12-17.
  1. The prophet does not like that God was going to use the Chaldeans to punish Israel.
  2. He felt that the Chaldeans were even worse than Israel!
- D. God responds to Habakkuk's complaint by saying two things:
  1. "I am still going to do it." See Habakkuk 2:1-3.
  2. "But I will also punish the Chaldeans!" See Habakkuk 2:4-20.

### II. Lessons to take home:

- A. God knows everything that is going on. The sins of men had not escape His notice. The same is also true today (Proverbs 15:3; Hebrews 4:13).
- B. God cares. The wicked actions of men have a tremendous impact on Him (Genesis 6:5; Ephesians 4:30).
- C. God is just. God punished both Israel and the Chaldeans for their actions. Judah was no better than the heathen nations during this time!
- D. We must accept God's will. This was something that Habakkuk had to do (Habakkuk 3:2). Fighting and complaining against God will do no good!
- E. We must stick with God no matter what! Despite all the bad things that were coming, Habakkuk continued to trust in God and have faith (Habakkuk 3:16-19; 2:4b).

**Conclusion:** Will you always walk with the Lord like Habakkuk?