

# **“WHEN FAITH IS PUT TO THE TEST”**

## **HABAKKUK**

**Satilla Baptist Church**

**Wray, GA**

**Sunday October 13, 2019 AM Service**

**Pastor William Pope**

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### **I. INTRODUCTION**

- a. Have you ever felt that God was not fair?
- b. Has it ever seemed to you that your life was spinning out of control?
- c. The Whole world was falling apart?
- d. There was a man in the OT, Habakkuk (one who embraces) who faced that same problem.
- e. Setting:
  - i. Late 7<sup>th</sup> Century BC (625-600BC)
  - ii. Final Days of the Assyrian Empire and the Beginning of the Babylonian Empire
  - iii. Babylonian's conquered:
    - 1. Nineveh 612BC (capital of Assyrian Empire)
    - 2. Haran 609BC (chasing Assyrian nobility)
    - 3. Carchemish 605BC (chasing Assyrian nobility)
    - 4. Jerusalem (605BC)
  - iv. Good King Josiah under whose reign a great revival swept Israel
  - v. The Egyptians marched through Judah in 609BC and King Josiah was killed in battle (2 Chr. 35)
  - vi. Jehoiakim, his successor would undo much of what Josiah had accomplished.
  - vii. Habakkuk lived in a time of injustice, corruption, and wickedness, and a lack of true spiritual worship of God.

### **II. HABAKKUK'S 1<sup>ST</sup> QUESTION TO GOD – “WHY DON'T YOU DO SOMETHING?” (1:1-4)**

- a. God's Seeming Indifference (v. 1-2)
- b. God's Seeming Inactivity (v. 3-4)
  - i. Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel, and Zephaniah, all lived the same time as Habakkuk
    - 1. *12 Were they ashamed when they had committed abomination? No! They were not at all ashamed, Nor did they know how to blush. Jer 8:12 (NKJV)*

### **III. GOD'S ANSWER TO HABAKKUK'S 1<sup>ST</sup> QUESTION (1:5-11)**

- a. Paul quotes 1:5 at the end of his sermon in the synagogue at Antioch in Acts 13:40-41
- b. God is going to raise up the Babylonian's to come in and invade Israel

### **IV. HABAKKUK'S 2<sup>nd</sup> QUESTION TO GOD – “WHY ARE YOU DOING THAT?” (1:12-17,2:1)**

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- a. Habakkuk does not like God’s answer to his 1<sup>st</sup> question. The Babylonians are a wicked and cruel people and he can not understand how God can use them to judge and conquer his people, even though his people have sinned, Habakkuk believes they are a better people than the ones God has chosen to use to bring judgement upon them.
- b. Habakkuk has stopped shouting at God and now listens to God (2:1)
- V. **GOD’S ANSWER TO HABAKKUK’S 2<sup>ND</sup> QUESTION (2:2-20)**
  - a. God gives Habakkuk 3 anchors for his faith to hold in difficult times:
  - b. **The Reliability of the Scriptures (v. 2-3)**
    - i. Quoted in Hebrews 10:37-38
    - ii. *F. D. Meyer said this, and I love what F. D. Meyer had to say. He said, "If any promise of God should fail, the Heavens would clothe themselves with sackcloth. The sun, moon and stars would reel from their courses. The universe would rock and a hollow wind would moan through a ruined creation, the awful message that God can lie."*
    - iii. (2:4) Quoted 3 times in the NT.
      - 1. Romans 1:17 focuses on “the just”
      - 2. Galations 3:11 focuses on “faith”
      - 3. Hebrews 10:38 focuses is on “shall live”
      - 4. *“Have faith in God. He's on His Throne. Have faith in God. He watches over His own. He cannot fail. He must prevail. Have faith in God. Have faith in God*
  - c. **The Retribution of the Sinner (v. 5-17)**
    - i. God will Judge the Babylonians (5 Woes)
      - 1. Dishonest Gain, Plunder (6-8)
      - 2. Greed (9-11)
      - 3. Violence (12-13)
      - 4. Debauchery, Drunkenness, Immorality (15-17)
      - 5. Idolatry (19)
  - d. **The Reign of the Savior (v. 14 and 20)**
    - i. There will come a “Day of the Lord” when God will rule and reign on this earth.
- VI. **HABAKKUK HAS A VISION OF THE LORD (Chapter 3).**
  - a. His Vision of The Lord (1-15)
  - b. His Reaction to the Vision (16)
  - c. His Response to the Vision (17-19)