



Walking the Ancient Path

Habakkuk

History of Israel

God's
Covenant
With
Abraham

Israel

Israel

Assyria

Judah

Babylon

Exile

Return

Prophets of Israel

Amos
Hosea
Micah

Zephaniah
Isaiah, Jeremiah
Nahum
Habakkuk

Obadiah
Ezekiel

Haggai
Zechariah
Malachi

Joel (?)
Jonah
(Ninevah)



Who is Habakkuk?

- Resident of Judah
- Educated
- Voice of Judah
- Relentless Bulldog
- Cucumber?

The Book At A Glance



The Way Forward 



You Are Not
Alone

Habakkuk's Complaint (1:2-4)

How long, O Lord, must I
call for help?

But you do not listen!

“Violence is everywhere!” I
cry,

but you do not come to
save.

You Don't
Listen!

You Don't
Intervene!

**³ Must I forever see these
evil deeds?**

**Why must I watch all this
misery? Wherever I look,
I see destruction and
violence. I am surrounded
by people who love to argue
and fight.**

**You force
me to
witness it!**

**4 The law has become
paralyzed,
and there is no justice in
the courts.
The wicked far outnumber
the righteous,
so that justice has
become perverted.**

**You allow
the Law to
be
shamed.**



The Way
Forward



Say It

1:12

Lord, are you not from everlasting? My God, my Holy One, you will never die. You, Lord, have appointed **them** to execute judgment; you, my Rock, have ordained **them** to punish.

This
doesn't
make
sense.

13 Your eyes are too pure to look on evil; you cannot tolerate wrongdoing.

Why then do you tolerate the treacherous? Why are you silent while the wicked swallow up those more righteous than themselves?

Outraged

**Says it
out loud!**



Wait

2:1

**I will climb up to my
watchtower and stand at
my guardpost.**

**There I will wait to see what
the Lord says and how he
will answer my complaint.**

A Refusal
to Shrug

A Refusal
to Despair

A Refusal
to Quit



Look

1:5

“Look around at the nations; look and be amazed! For I am doing something in your own day, something you wouldn’t believe even if someone told you about it.”

Eyes off
self

God’s at
Work



Note It

2:2-3

“Write my answer plainly on tablets, so that a runner can carry the correct message to others. ³ This vision is for a future time. It describes the end . . . If it seems slow in coming, wait patiently, for it will surely take place.

Take Note

**Focus on
God's
Character**



Based on
God's
Character,
Ask

3:2

**I have heard all about
you, Lord. I am filled with
awe by your amazing works.**

**In this time of our deep
need, help us again as you
did in years gone by.**

**Now Lord,
Now**

Habakkuk's Reference to Speech/Silence

Your eyes are too pure to look on evil; you cannot tolerate wrongdoing. Why then do you tolerate the treacherous? Why are you **silent** while the wicked swallow up those more righteous than themselves?

1:13

Habakkuk's Reference to Speech/Silence

But by the murders you committed, you have shamed your name and forfeited your lives. The very stones in the walls **cry out** against you, and the beams in the ceilings **echo** the complaint. 2:10-11

Habakkuk's Reference to Speech/Silence

“What good is an idol carved by man,
or a cast image that deceives you?

How foolish to trust in your own
creation—a **god that can't even talk!**

What sorrow awaits you who say to
wooden idols, ‘Wake up and save us!’

To **speechless** stone images you say,

Habakkuk's Reference to Speech/Silence

‘Rise up and teach us!’ Can an idol tell you what to do? They may be overlaid with gold and silver, but they are lifeless inside. But the Lord is in his holy Temple. Let all the earth be **silent** before him.”

2:20 (NET)
The whole earth is **speechless** in his presence!

Habakkuk's Reference to Speech/Silence

I trembled inside when I heard this;
my lips quivered with fear.

My legs gave way beneath me,
and I shook in terror.

I will wait **quietly** for the coming day
when disaster will strike the
people who invade us. 3:16



Sing

3:19

(For the choir director: This prayer is to be accompanied by stringed instruments.)

He Can't
Help But
Sing!

3:17-19

Even though the fig trees have no blossoms, and there are no grapes on the vines; **even though** the olive crop fails, and the fields lie empty and barren; **even though** the flocks die in the

Focused
On Who
God Is

fields, and the cattle barns
are empty, **yet** I will rejoice
in the Lord! I will be **joyful**
in the God of my salvation!
The **Sovereign Lord** is my
strength! He makes me as
surefooted as a deer, able to
tread upon the heights.

Strength
found
character
of God



The Way Forward

- Say It
- Wait
- Look
- Note It
- Ask
- Sing