

# Walking the Ancient Ancient Path

Habakkuk

### **History of Israel**

God's
Covenant
With
Abraham



## **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

Habakkuk Complains

God Responds

Habakkuk Complains God Reveals

> Habakkuk Trusts

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!

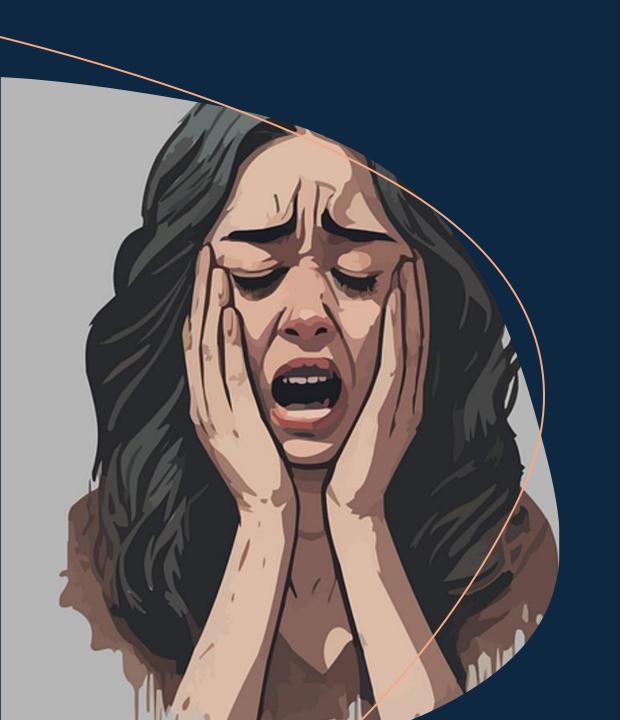
<sup>3</sup> Must I forever see these evil deeds? Why must I watch all this misery? Wherever I look, I see destruction and violence. I am surrounded by people who love to argue and fight.

You force me to witness it!

<sup>4</sup> 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.





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.

<sup>13</sup> 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!



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. <sup>3</sup> 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

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

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

"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,

'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!

2:18-20

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