

Habakkuk - Life's Questions

The Question of Evil

Habakkuk 1:1 - 2:4

Every thinking believer must wrestle with the question of evil in the world

Since evil exists is evil from God? Did God create it?

If God is almighty and good should He not stop evil from happening?

How are we to respond to evil?

Intro to Habakkuk - A prophet (tradition says also a priest)

Name means "embracer or maybe wrestler - he wrestled with God

He prophesied during the reign of King Jehoikim - evil times

Just before Babylon took Judah captive (Israel already in captivity)

Three questions and God's Answers

I. Why God are you not doing anything about the sinfulness around us? Habakkuk 1:1-1:4

Law is ignored, justice is never upheld, and the wicked surround the righteous, justice is perverted

Today we could point out - Terrorist, mass shooting, gross immorality, murder of babies...

Answer Habakkuk 1:5-11 I am working and will bring punishment

It is something you will not believe

God is raising up the Fierce and Impetuous Chaldeans: **1:6**

Dreaded because They Make Their Own Justice: **1:7**

A Mighty Military--Horses: **1:8**

Violent Captures: **1:9**

Mock at like the Wind: **1:11a**

Today it would be like a violent country conquering Germany

II. How can you, a Holy God, use these ungodly people to conquer?

Habakkuk 1:12-17

Are you not good? How can this be true?

Why would you be silent when the wicked swallow up those more righteous than they are?

Chaldeans abuse people as if they were fish in a net **1:14-15**

They will never stop their destruction **1:16**

Today why are evil regimes and dictators controlling lands?

III. How long will this continue? Habakkuk 1:17-2:4

Will this last forever? I will watch for your reply **2:1**

Today we ask the same question.

Answer - I have a plan and you must trust me **2:2**

This relates to the end times and His plans **2:3**

The proud trust only themselves to their destruction **2:4**

Today man seeks his own explanation and fails

The righteous will live by faith in God

Some lessons we need to acknowledge

God has revealed Himself clearly in history and scriptures

He is Holy - Isaiah 6:3

He is Righteous - Psalm 7:11

He is Just - Deuteronomy 32:4

He is Sovereign - Daniel 4:17-25

God is clearly seen in Christ **Hebrews 1:1-3**

Habakkuk's perspective of God

God does not always immediately answer, even his prophets **1:2**

God's answers sometimes are unbelievable **1:5**

God is from everlasting **1:12**

God is the prophet's personal Holy One **1:12**

God is the Rock **1:12**

God is of purer eyes than to behold evil **1:13**

How are we to wrestle with the evil in our world today?

Some ways man try:

1. Some withdraw from God and hide from evil
This leads to depression - a major problem today
2. Some rage against God and curse Him
This leads to bitterness and fouls all of life
3. Some deny the existence of God
This leads to hopelessness and emptiness

How should we deal with the question of evil?

Admit your confusion - open up to God

Talk to God about your feelings

Listen - Give God time to reply

Remember who God is and how He has dealt with you

Recognize that we do not understand all God's ways

Commit your path to faith in a faithful God

What about the evil we see in us

Confess your sins to God

Believe Him to be a God of love and forgiveness

Accept His forgiveness and love