
HABAKKUK

in wrath remember mercy

Habakkuk: In Wrath Remember Mercy

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Table of Contents

<i>Habakkuk - Introduction</i>	3
<i>Habakkuk Chapter One</i>	4
<i>Habakkuk Chapter Two</i>	8
<i>Habakkuk Chapter Three</i>	12
<i>Appendix</i>	16

“An astronomer was once exploring, on a clear night, the surface of the moon. His telescope, as he thought, was in perfect order. A new lens had recently been inserted in the tube. With his splendid lens he hoped to make discoveries not seen by any astronomer before him. He was not at first disappointed. He distinctly saw living inhabitants in the moon. He rubbed his eyes with astonishment, and again gazed, and gazed again, with trembling rapture. He certainly saw moving creatures walking with gigantic strides over the valleys and mountains.

At last the mystery was solved. One side of his new lens had not been cleansed. Upon it were a few infinitesimal insects, which, magnified, looked like strange animals, unlike any known to earth. When the lens was rubbed clean, the strange animals vanished.

The principle holds good in the study of the Word of God. Grave errors are foisted into the sacred pages, and hidden truths remain hidden, for the want of undistorted vision in the looker-on.”

(Hints on Bible Study, by John Wattles & Co. 1897)

Habakkuk - Introduction

HABAKKUK: IN WRATH REMEMBER MERCY is an enlightening Bible Study guide that uses a personal study method called Inductive Bible Study. By following the simple steps and using the questions as a guide you will spend your time learning God's Word directly from Him, with the help of the Holy Spirit. As you grapple with the living Word, trust God to open your eyes to His life-changing truths. You will be amazed by how much you learn, and how the truths born in your heart and mind through your own careful study will impact your life in deep and powerful ways.

Always remember to complete your own study before you consult commentaries, the internet, etc. You don't want to spoil the joy and excitement of all that awaits you as you discover on your own.

The focus of this study is on the book of Habakkuk, but you will also have wonderful opportunities to explore other Scriptures that will support, explain, expand upon, or help you understand what is written in it.

Habakkuk, a contemporary of the prophet Jeremiah, was a prophet to the southern kingdom of Judah sometime between 621 BC and 609 BC.

To begin your study of Habakkuk, turn to the Appendix and take out the Habakkuk study worksheets, which are the text of Habakkuk typed out and double-spaced. This will make it easy for you to underline, circle, and write on as you study. You can use your own Bible to look up cross-reference verses. (The worksheets provided in this study are the NASB version. – If you prefer you can use your own Bible for the study.)

For each lesson, simply read the instructions one by one and do what they say. You will find the questions to be very factual and the answers easy to find right from the text. No need to read ahead, just follow the questions step by step and you will unearth the rich depths of God's powerful Word as you go.

And please don't allow yourself to get discouraged; you don't have to "get it all" right away. Just do the best you can. Set your timer for 15-20 minutes each day, pray, think, and study hard. Then praise God for all He has shown you!! (If you get behind pick up where you should be – you can always go back and do the rest later.) Remember, Satan, the enemy of your soul, will try to discourage you, persuade you that it is too hard, or convince you that other things are more important. Don't let him! Fix your eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of your faith. He will help you by the power of His Spirit for the glory of His Name. (Hebrews 12:2-3)

And don't forget to really enjoy spending time at your Lord's feet and listening to Him through His Word. Oh beloved child of the King, He has so much to say to you, and to do in you. Listen intently, hear willingly, and obey quickly. Now **GET EXCITED!!** – The Lord has great things in store for you, and you will never be the same!

Habakkuk Chapter One

how long, O LORD, will I call for help

What do you do when violence abounds, wickedness prevails, and justice is perverted? Where do you turn and what do you expect? Find out what Habakkuk did, what he thought, and what it all means for you as you dig into this powerful little book this week.

Always begin your study times with prayer. Each day ask God to give you understanding and insight as you study His Word. Read Psalm 119:18, and make this verse your prayer.

1. Read through the entire book of Habakkuk (chapters one through three) at a fairly quick pace to get a general idea of what this book is all about.
2. Read through chapter one again, several times, to carefully observe the details. Pay attention to who is speaking and when. As you read look for and circle or highlight the following: Questions that are asked References to iniquity/wickedness References to God

OPTIONAL GO DEEPER: Spend extra time on careful observations as you read through chapter one. Look for repeated words or phrases, contrasts and/or comparisons, names of people/groups, etc. Watch for terms of conclusion or relationship (For/Therefore/Because/But/For this reason/Also/In order that etc.) You may find it helpful to underline, circle or highlight the different words/phrases in distinguishing ways as you study so it easy to go back and evaluate what you have seen.

Reread Habakkuk 1:1-4 to answer the following questions.

3. Whose words are these? Who is he addressing?
4. What is he doing according to verse 2, and what response is he getting?
5. Why is he writing? What is going on?

OPTIONAL GO DEEPER: Use your Hebrew word study tools to look up the following words. Briefly record what you learn:

oracle

saw

iniquity

wickedness

THINK ABOUT IT: *Was it okay for Habakkuk to question God? Does what is going on in Habakkuk's time sound familiar? Are these things happening today? Have you or someone you know ever asked why?*

Now read through Habakkuk 1:5-11 carefully then answer the following questions:

6. Who is speaking in these verses? How does he respond to Habakkuk according to verse 5?

THINK ABOUT IT: Compare verse 2 with verse 5. Are things always the way they seem? When it looks hopeless, feels unbearable and seems like God is not hearing or doing anything what should we remember?

7. What is God going to do? Who is He going to raise up according to verse 6? Make a list of everything you learn about these people and what they are like in Habakkuk 1:6-11. (Note what happens to them in the end.)

8. What is another name for these people? Look up the following verses and record your insights: Isaiah 43:14; 47:1; 48:20

9. Was God serious? Did He really do what He said He would? Look up Jeremiah 21:1-7 to find out what He did and why He did it. Briefly record what you find.

OPTIONAL GO DEEPER: When did these events take place? Which kings were reigning at the time? Look up the following Scripture passages for additional insights:

2 Kings 23:36-24:2, 2 Kings 24:6, 10-17, 2 Kings 25:1-7

10. Did the children of Israel know what to expect from God? Look up the following verses to find out: Deuteronomy 28:1-2, 15, 20, 36, 48-49.

THINK ABOUT IT: Though it may seem like the wicked prosper and injustice prevails does anyone really ever get away with anything? Does God take sin seriously? Does He always mean what He says? Does He always say what He means?

11. Carefully read Habakkuk 1:12-17 paying special attention to the questions asked of God.
12. In verse 12 what does Habakkuk say about God? What fact does he state about his people?

OPTIONAL GO DEEPER: Why does Habakkuk say what he does about his people in verse 12? Look up the following Scripture passages and briefly note what you learn:

Deuteronomy 30:1-3

2 Samuel 7:16-17 (16—29)

Jeremiah 29:11-14

THINK ABOUT IT: There were a lot of things Habakkuk did not understand but he knew what was true about God, and he knew what was true about the future of his people. How did knowing what was true about God relate to what was true about his people? Why was it important for him to remember that, and to proclaim it? How could it help him deal with his circumstances? How can it help you to remember what is true about God and your future when you don't understand?

13. Read Habakkuk 1:13. What contrast and argument does Habakkuk make?

THINK ABOUT IT: What is the basis for his argument? (Check the end of verse 13 if you are not sure) What is the flaw in his reasoning?

14. Read Habakkuk 1:14-17 again and see how Habakkuk makes another argument. What does he compare his people to (verse 14?) Briefly summarize his argument and reasoning in these verses:

THINK ABOUT IT: Habakkuk cried out for justice and the Lord replied. How did Habakkuk like the answer he got? Do God's ways always seem just and right? Do you ever question the way God handles things? Do His ways ever seem harsh or unfair? What fact stated in verse 11 did Habakkuk need to remember? What do we need to remember and where should our focus be?

15. To conclude your study of chapter one in Habakkuk, look back at the questions Habakkuk asks in verses 3, 13, and 14. What word do all those questions begin with?
16. In chapter two we will see how the Lord answers – for now reread verses 5 and 12. What facts from these verses will help Habakkuk while he waits for God to answer?

OPTIONAL GO DEEPER: Look up the following verses and record the facts will help you while you wait for God:

Psalm 9:10

Psalm 10:17

Psalm 34:19

1 Peter 5:9-10

APPLY IT

What about you? When the wicked prosper and injustice prevails do you wonder if God notices or really cares? Have you ever wondered “how long?” when your prayers go unanswered? What do you do then? Do you let your soul become discouraged and your countenance angry? Do you grumble, complain, and become bitter? Does your light grown dim and your heart grow cold? Or do you cry out to God? Do you come to Him with your questions and doubts? Do you choose to remember that God is at work even when you can’t see it? Do walk by faith and not by sight? Will you remember that God is El ROI, the God who sees, and that He has not forgotten you? Do you encourage others to trust God when strife, destruction and violence are before them?

How do you look on sin? Do you realize that God takes sin seriously? Do you always remember that sin has serious consequences? Is all sin intolerable to you like it is to God? Are you greatly offended by sin in your own life or in the lives of those around you? Does it grieve your soul to see iniquity and wickedness? Do refuse to tolerate sin? Are you consistently and increasingly growing in holiness? Or do you make light of sin, excuse it, and tolerate it? Are you willing to warn others and take a stand or would you rather stay silent to keep the peace?

What will you do about the things God has shown you, and who will you ask to hold you accountable?

PRAY IT

Close your time with the Lord in prayer. Reread Habakkuk 1:12 and turn it into a prayer of petition and praise to your Lord, the Rock, who is from everlasting.

Habakkuk Chapter Two

then the Lord answered me

What will happen to the proud and haughty man? How is the righteous man to live? What will the earth be filled with, and where is the Lord, when all hell breaks out on earth? Find out this week as you study Habakkuk chapter two.

Read Psalm 119:27 and make this verse your prayer. Ask the Lord to give you insight, a teachable spirit, and a heart of worship as you study this week.

1. Begin by reading through Habakkuk chapter two at a fairly quick pace to get a general idea of what this chapter is all about.

Reread Habakkuk 2: 1-2 and answer the following questions:

2. How does this chapter relate to chapter one? What does Habakkuk do?
3. In one simple phrase or sentence state the main event of this chapter:
4. Read through chapter two again several times to carefully observe the details. As you read circle all the references to the *Lord*. Also underline or highlight the phrases “woe to you/him,” “you will be/become,” and “will not.”

OPTIONAL GO DEEPER: Spend extra time on careful observations as you read through chapter two. Look for repeated words or phrases, contrasts and/or comparisons, names of people/groups, etc. Watch for terms of conclusion or relationship (For/Therefore/Because/But/For this reason/Also/In order that etc.) You may find it helpful to underline, circle or highlight the different words/phrases in distinguishing ways as you study, so it easy to go back and evaluate what you have seen.

***THINK ABOUT IT:** At the close of chapter one Habakkuk was questioning God’s method of judgment. Does he know his God? Is he really concerned or just being difficult? How does his attitude relate to the way God answers him? When is it okay to question God?*

5. Read through Habakkuk 1:12-2:5 again to put yourself into context. Underline every reference to the vision in Habakkuk 2:2-5.
6. According to verse 2:2 what is Habakkuk told to do with the vision and why?

OPTIONAL GO DEEPER: Use your Hebrew Word study tools to look up the following words used in verse 2. Briefly summarize what you learn:

Reads

Run

7. Read Habakkuk 2:3 and list out everything you learn about the vision.

***THINK ABOUT IT:** What was the Lord assuring Habakkuk of? Why was this important? What were the dangers Habakkuk faced spiritually, emotionally, and physically?*

8. Reread Habakkuk 2:4. How does it relate to verse 3?
9. What two groups of people are contrasted in verse 4, and what is true of each one?

***OPTIONAL GO DEEPER:** Look up the following Scriptures. Note how they tie in with Habakkuk 2:4:*
2 Corinthians 5:7
Hebrews 11:1-6

10. Read Habakkuk 2:5 and list what you learn about the “haughty man”:
11. Who is the “haughty man” in 2:5 referring to? (If you are not sure go back and read Habakkuk 1:13-17 to review the issue Habakkuk was troubled over).

***THINK ABOUT IT:** Were Habakkuk’s questions valid? Did the Lord rebuke him for questioning? How did the Lord’s response validate his concerns? Does the Lord care about our concerns?*

12. Read through Habakkuk chapter two again to put yourself into context. Note all the places you marked the phrase “woe to him/woe to you”. How many “woes” are in this chapter?
13. Who is the subject of these woes? Who is the “him” that is being referred to?
14. Look at verses 8, 12, 17- What words are used in all these verses to summarize his sins?
15. According to verses 5-6, who is taking up the taunt-song of woes against him?

OPTIONAL GO DEEPER: Use your Old Testament Hebrew Word study tools to look up the following words used in verse 6 and briefly record what you learn:

Taunt-song

Mockery

Insinuations

16. Woe #1: Habakkuk 2:6-8. What is his sin against the nations? What will happen to him?

17. Woe #2: Habakkuk 2:9-11. What is he guilty of doing? What is the result?

OPTIONAL GO DEEPER: Compare these verses with the following passages. How does the Lord continuously respond to such evil scheming? Briefly note your insights:

Jeremiah 22:13-17

Jeremiah 49:16-17

Obadiah 1:4

THINK ABOUT IT: The Israelites had been guilty of inflicting the same evil upon each other that they had to suffer under the rule of their enemies. Their enemies tried it and brought the same judgment upon their heads. Will people ever learn? Do people today refuse to take God seriously as they spend their life in futility fueling the fire for their own judgment?

18. Woe #3: Habakkuk 2:12-14 What are the Chaldeans charged with in these verses? What will they have toiled for in the end, and what will it all have been for?

OPTIONAL GO DEEPER: Compare what Habakkuk wrote with the following verses.

Jeremiah 50:32; Jeremiah 51:58

19. Woe #4: Habakkuk 2:15-17 What are they guilty of according to these verses? What will their judgment be?

20. Compare Habakkuk 2:14 with 2:16 and note the contrast.

***THINK ABOUT IT:** The Lord paints a sober picture of the sinner here: a contemptible naked drunk that has lost self-control and the respect of everyone. The Chaldeans sought to bring shame upon others so as to glorify themselves, but they end up exposed, disgraced and shamed. Is there any sin that can stay hidden? Can anything good ever come of following the lusts of the flesh?*

21. Woe #5: Habakkuk 2:18-20 What folly is exposed in these verses? Who is the contrast to lifeless, speechless idols? What is all the earth to do?

***OPTIONAL GO DEEPER:** Read Psalm 115 and briefly note any parallels or insights you gain:*

APPLY IT

What about you? When you don't understand what God is doing how do you respond? Do you turn to His Word and put your trust in it? Will you remember that His ways are always right and true, and that in the end justice will prevail? Do you walk by faith and not by sight? Are you influenced more by what you see, or more by what you know to be true? Do you believe that God will judge sin and that no one will get away with anything?

Are you willing to warn others that God will deal with sin? Will you warn them not to spend their life toiling in futility to bring about their own judgment? Do you remember that all glory belongs to the Lord, or do you find yourself desiring your own glory?

Are there any idols in your life? What does your heart treasure most? On what do you willingly and joyfully spend your energy, talents and time? What do you really find yourself trusting in when times are difficult and uncertain? Your own abilities? Your friends? Your position, talents, or possessions?

Though the wicked trample, oppress, and seem to prevail, will you choose to remember that the Lord is on the throne? Will you remember that He never condones evil or approves of those who commit evil? How often do you stop and be still before the Lord and praise Him, acknowledging that in the midst of it all He is in His holy temple, He is faithful, and He is at work, and He loves you abundantly?

What will you do about the things God has shown you, and who will you ask to hold you accountable?

PRAY IT

Close your time with the Lord in prayer. Read Habakkuk 2:20 and turn it into a prayer of praise to your Lord.

Habakkuk Chapter Three

in wrath remember mercy

His lips quiver, his insides tremble. Judgment is coming and there is no escape. What will Habakkuk do now? How will he respond? Where will he turn and how does it all apply to you? Find out this week as you conclude your study in Habakkuk.

Read Psalm 119:33 and make this verse your prayer. Ask the Lord teach you, give you understanding, and help you live according to His Word as you study.

1. Read through Habakkuk chapter three to get a general idea of what this chapter is all about.
2. According to verse 1 what is this chapter?

***THINK ABOUT IT:** Habakkuk has cried out to God, he has questioned God, he has heard from God, he has believed God. What does he do then? Does it mean he understands all God's ways, or that he doesn't have any more questions? When it is all said and done what will be your response?*

***OPTIONAL GO DEEPER:** Use your Hebrew word study tools to look up the word Shigionoth, then briefly record what you learn:*

3. Go back and reread Habakkuk 1:1-6 and 1:12 to review what was happening and what God was going to do about it.
4. According to Habakkuk 3:2, what does Habakkuk say he has heard, how does it affect him, and what does he ask of God?

***THINK ABOUT IT:** What do Habakkuk's requests reveal about him and his understanding of God?*

5. Look up the following cross-references for additional insight into Habakkuk's prayer requests, and briefly note what you learn:

Psalm 44:1-3; 9-11; 23-26

Psalm 85:4-7

OPTIONAL GO DEEPER: After King Solomon's reign Israel became a divided nation. (See 1 Kings 11:9-13, 31) The ten northern tribes were then called Israel with Samaria as the capital. The two southern tribes were called Judah, and Jerusalem remained its capital. As the nation fell deeper into sin and idolatry the Lord sent His prophets to call them to repentance and warn of His coming judgment. Read the following Scripture passages for additional insight into Habakkuk and what he said:

2 Kings 17:1-18

Ezekiel 23:1-31

Jeremiah 3:6-20

6. Read through Habakkuk chapter three again carefully to observe the details. As you read watch for geographical references, references to the *Lord* and references to *wrath/anger*.

OPTIONAL GO DEEPER: Spend extra time on careful observations as you read through chapter three. Look for repeated words or phrases, contrasts and/or comparisons, names of people/groups, etc. Watch for terms of conclusion or relationship (For/Therefore/Because/But/For this reason/Also/In order that etc.) You may find it helpful to underline, circle or highlight the different words/phrases in distinguishing ways as you study, so it easy to go back and evaluate what you have seen.

7. Read Habakkuk 3:3-15 and use the chart to record what you learn about the Lord and what He does. Be sure to include the verse references. The first one is done to get you started:

ABOUT THE LORD	WHAT THE LORD DOES
(3) His splendor covers the heaven	(3) Comes from Teman

THINK ABOUT IT: *God is the same yesterday, today, and forever. His ways indeed are everlasting as Habakkuk declares. In light of chapter 3 how is this an encouraging and sobering truth?*

8. There are 2 different views regarding Habakkuk chapter three. Some believe it is an account of what the Lord did in the past, while some believe it is a prophecy of what God has yet to do in the future. Look up the following cross references to gain additional insights. Briefly note if the event is past or future, and any similarities to Habakkuk 3:

Exodus 15:1-19

Isaiah 63:1-6

Revelation 19:11-21

OPTIONAL GO DEEPER: Look up these additional cross references for more insights:

Joshua 3:14-17; 10:12-14

Psalms 18:14 and Psalm 77:17

Revelation 6:7-14

Revelation 16

9. According to Habakkuk 3:13 why did the Lord go forth?

THINK ABOUT IT: In indignation He marches through the earth! In anger He tramples the nations! Why? Because of sin! How does sin affect you? Are you angry over it? Do you go forth for the salvation of those around you with boldness and courage? Or do you sit silently knowing what you do about the coming judgment of the Lord?

10. Read Habakkuk 3:16-19. Compare verse 16 with verse 2. How does Habakkuk respond to what he hears?
11. Why does he respond this way according to Habakkuk 3:16?
12. Underline *though, yet, and I will* in Habakkuk 3:17-18, then read the passage out loud.
13. How can Habakkuk do this according to verse 19?
14. Could he have had Psalm 18:30-33 in mind? Look it up and note your insights:

15. Compare Habakkuk's words to those of David in Psalm 40:1-3 and briefly note the similarities:
16. When your inward parts tremble and your lips quiver what truths can you hold on to? Look up the following passages and record what you learn:

Psalm 66:9

Psalm 121:3

1 Corinthians 15:58

OPTIONAL GO DEEPER: Use your Hebrew word study tools to look up the following words and briefly record what you learn:

Hinds

High places

APPLY IT

What about you? How will you benefit from Habakkuk's example when rough times come your way? When you have cried out to the Lord and brought Him your questions, but your circumstances do not change, what will you do? How will you respond? Will you exult in the Lord and praise Him anyway?

God's Word tells us the day of the Lord draws near on all nations. The time of judgment cannot be prevented and will not be delayed. How do you deal with troubling emotions and thoughts while you wait for the day of distress? Are you overwhelmed by your fears? Do they render you ineffective and unfruitful for the work of the kingdom? Will you choose to trust God?

Review Habakkuk 3:17- What are the "thoughts" in your life? Is there anything you need to let go of? Anything out of your control that threatens to hinder you from rejoicing in the Lord, and is causing you to wrestle with God? Will you choose to set your mind on things above no matter your circumstances? Or will you let your circumstances keep you from rejoicing in the Lord?

Do you believe that He is your strength? Do you trust Him to keep your feet from slipping when the road is rocky, steep, and treacherous? When others observe you "walking" the difficult roads in life do they wonder how you can be so sure-footed, swift, and stable? Do you point them to the Rock, the Holy One, the everlasting God whose splendor is like the heavens? Do they want to know Him because of the testimony of your life?

What will you do about the things God has shown you, and who will you ask to hold you accountable?

PRAY IT

Close your time with the Lord in prayer. Read Habakkuk 3:18 and turn it into a prayer of praise to your God.

Habakkuk

Appendix

Habakkuk Text Worksheets

Habakkuk Chapter 1

1. The oracle which Habakkuk the prophet saw.
2. How long O LORD, will I call for help,
And You will not hear?
I cry out to You, “Violence!”
Yet You do not save.
3. Why do You make me see iniquity,
And cause me to look on wickedness?
Yes, destruction and violence are before me;
Strife exists and contention arises.
4. Therefore the law is ignored
And justice is never upheld
For the wicked surround the righteous;
Therefore justice comes out perverted.
5. “Look among the nations! Observe!
Be astonished! Wonder!
Because I am doing something in your day-
You would not believe if you were told.
6. “For behold, I am raising up the Chaldeans,
That fierce and impetuous people
Who march throughout the earth
To seize dwelling places which are not theirs.

7. “They are dreaded and feared;
Their justice and authority originate with themselves.
8. “Their horses are swifter than leopards
And keener than wolves in the evening.
Their horsemen come galloping,
Their horsemen from afar;
They fly like an eagle swooping down to devour.
9. “All of them come for violence.
Their horde of faces moves forward.
They collect captives like sand.
10. “They mock at kings
And rulers are a laughing matter to them.
They laugh at every fortress
And heap up rubble to capture it.
11. “Then they will sweep through like the wind and pass on
But they will be held guilty,
They whose strength is their god.”
12. Are You not from everlasting,
O LORD, my God, my Holy One?
We will not die.
You, O LORD, have appointed them to judge;
And You, O Rock, have established them to correct.

13. Your eyes are too pure to approve evil,
And You cannot look on wickedness with favor.
Why do You look with favor
On those who deal treacherously?
Why are You silent when the wicked swallow up
Those more righteous than they?
14. Why have You made men like the fish of the sea,
Like creeping things without a ruler over them?
15. The Chaldeans bring all of them up with a hook,
Drag them away with their net,
And gather them together in their fishing net.
Therefore they rejoice and are glad.
16. Therefore they offer a sacrifice to their net
And burn incense to their fishing net;
Because through these things their catch is large,
And their food is plentiful.
17. Will they therefore empty their net
And continually slay nations without sparing?

Habakkuk Chapter 2

1. I will stand on my guard post
And station myself on the rampart;
And I will keep watch to see what He will speak to me,
And how I may reply when I am reproved.
2. Then the Lord answered me and said,
“Record the vision
And inscribe it on tablets,
That the one who reads it may run.
3. “For the vision is yet for the appointed time;
It hastens toward the goal and it will not fail.
Though it tarries, wait for it;
For it will certainly come, it will not delay.
4. “behold, as for the proud one,
His soul is not right within him;
But the righteous will live by his faith.
5. “Furthermore, wine betrays the haughty man,
So that he does not stay at home.
He enlarges his appetite like Sheol,
And he is like death, never satisfied.
He also gathers to himself all nations
And collects to himself all peoples.

6. “Will not all of these take up a taunt-song against him,
Even mockery and insinuations against him,
And say, “Woe to him who increases what is not his-
For how long-
And makes himself rich with loans?”
7. “Will not your creditors rise up suddenly,
And those who collect from you awaken?
Indeed, you will become plunder for them.
8. “Because you have looted many nations,
All the remainder of the peoples will loot you-
Because of human bloodshed and violence done to the land,
To the town and all its inhabitants.
9. “Woe to him who gets evil gain for his house
To put his next on high,
To be delivered from the hand of calamity!
10. “You have devised a shameful thing for your house
By cutting off many peoples;
So you are sinning against yourself.
11. “Surely the stone will cry out from the wall,
And the rafter will answer it from the framework.

12. “Woe to him who builds a city with bloodshed
And founds a town with violence!
13. “Is it not indeed from the LORD of hosts
That peoples toil for fire,
And nations grow weary for nothing?
14. “For the earth will be filled
With the knowledge of the glory of the LORD,
As the waters cover the sea.
15. “Woe to you who make your neighbors drink,
Who mix in your venom even to make them drunk
So as to look on their nakedness!
16. “You will be filled with disgrace rather than honor.
Now you yourself drink and expose your own nakedness
The cup in the LORD’S right hand will come around to you,
And utter disgrace will come upon your glory.
17. “For the violence done to Lebanon will overwhelm you,
And the devastation of its beasts by which you terrified them,
Because of human bloodshed and violence done to the land,
To the town and all its inhabitants.

18. “What profit is the idol when its maker has carved it,
Or an image, a teacher of falsehood?
For its maker trusts in his own handiwork
When he fashions speechless idols.
19. “Woe to him who says to a piece of wood, ‘Awake!’
To a mute stone, ‘Arise!’
And that is your teacher?
Behold, it is overlaid with gold and silver,
And there is no breath at all inside it.
20. “But the LORD is in His holy temple.
Let all the earth be silent before Him.”

Habakkuk Chapter 3

1. A prayer of Habakkuk the prophet, according to Shigionoth.
2. LORD, I have heard the report about You and I fear.

O LORD revive Your work in the midst of the years,

In the midst of the years make it known;

In wrath remember mercy.
3. God comes from Teman,

And the Holy One from Mount Paran

His splendor covers the heavens,

And the earth is full of His praise.
4. His radiance is like the sunlight;

He has rays flashing from His hand

And there is the hiding of His power.
5. Before Him goes pestilence,

And plague comes after Him.
6. He stood and surveyed the earth;

He looked and startled the nations.

Yes, the perpetual mountains were shattered,

The ancient hills collapsed.

His ways are everlasting.
7. I saw the tents of Cushan under distress,

The tent curtains of the land of Midian were trembling.

8. Did the LORD rage against the rivers,
Or was Your anger against the rivers,
Or was Your wrath against the sea,
That You rode on Your horses,
On Your chariots of salvation?
9. Your bow was made bare,
The rods of chastisement were sworn.
You cleaved the earth with rivers.
10. The mountains saw You and quaked;
The downpour of waters swept by.
The deep uttered forth its voice,
It lifted high its hands.
11. Sun and moon stood in their places;
They went away at the light of Your arrows,
At the radiance of Your gleaming spear.
12. In indignation You marched through the earth;
In anger You trampled the nations.
13. You went forth for the salvation of Your people,
For the salvation of Your anointed.
You struck the head of the house of evil
To lay him open from the thigh to the neck.

14. You pierced with his own spears
The head of his throngs.
They stormed in to scatter us;
Their exultation was like those
Who devour the oppressed in secret.
15. You trampled on the sea with Your horses,
On the surge of many waters.
16. I heard and my inward parts trembled,
At the sound my lips quivered.
Decay enters my bones,
And in my place I tremble.
Because I must wait quietly for the day of distress,
For the people to arise who will invade us.
17. Though the fig tree should not blossom
And there be no fruit on the vines,
Though the yield of the olive should fail
And the fields produce no food,
Though the flock should be cut off from the fold
And there be no cattle in the stalls,
18. Yet, I will exalt in the LORD,
I will rejoice in the God of my salvation.
19. The Lord GOD is my strength,
And He has made my feet like hind's feet,
And makes me walk on my high places.

