

Habakkuk

Habakkuk was a man who sought answers.

Troubled by what he saw in the world, the questions were not merely intellectual exercises or bitter complaints.

Habakkuk saw a world dying in great pain and it broke his heart.

Why is there so much evil in the world?

Why do the wicked seem to be winning?

Habakkuk boldly and confidently took his questions to the Only One whom he trusted to give a true answer, the Creator God.

God answered with an avalanche of proof and prediction, which are recorded in the Book of Habakkuk.

Habakkuk 1:2-4 [New King James] *“O LORD, how long shall I cry, and You will not hear? Even cry out to You, ‘Violence!’ And You will not save. Why do You show me iniquity, and cause me to see trouble? For plundering and violence are before me; there is strife, and contention arises. Therefore the law is powerless, and justice never goes forth. For the wicked surround the righteous; therefore perverse judgment proceeds.”*

Most of this first chapter is full of questions, seeking to prompt an answer from the Eternal God.

Habakkuk 2:1 [New King James] *“I will stand my watch and set myself on the rampart, and watch to see what He will say to me, and what I will answer when I am corrected.”*

Habakkuk declares that he will wait to hear God’s answers before he asks more.

The Creator God then begins to answer Habakkuk, telling him to write the answers down very clearly so that all will see and understand, [**Habakkuk 2:2-3**].

God’s first reply is that His response will be at a time that He in His perfect wisdom will know it is the best time for the people, [Habakkuk 2:3].

Habakkuk 2:4 [New King James] *“Behold the proud, his soul is not upright in him; but the just shall live by his faith.”*

God divides humanity into two types of people, the proud who are self-reliant and the humble who trust Him for their lives and future.

God then expands on the character of the wicked to prove why the Creator God will need to apply painful correction, [**Habakkuk 2:5-19**]. This includes physical, mental and spiritual wickedness.

Habakkuk concludes his book with a thankful prayer to the Creator God he loves and worships.

With questions answered and new understanding of God’s power and love, Habakkuk rejoices in who God is and in what He will do, [**Habakkuk 3:18-19**].

Habakkuk’s example is one that should encourage us as we struggle from doubt to faith.

We do **not** have to be afraid to ask questions of God.

The problem does not lay with the Creator God and His ways of life and thought, but with our limited understanding of Him.

Isaiah 55:8-13 [New King James] “*For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways,’ says the LORD. ‘For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts. For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, and do not return there, but water the earth, and make it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it. For you shall go out with joy, and be led out with peace; the mountains and the hills shall break forth into singing before you, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress tree, and instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle tree; and it shall be to the LORD for a name, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.’”*

Even if our thoughts are **not** as pure and holy as the Creator God, He desires that our seeking to understand Him more, through the study and meditation on His Word, the Christian Bible, will allow Him to give us eternal life in which to improve on our knowledge of Him, [**Romans 6:23; John 17:3**].

1 John 5:11 [New King James] “*And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son.*”

With an active indwelling of the Holy Spirit we can experience now an increase of our knowledge and intimacy of relationship with our Creator God, [John 16:13].