

Habakkuk

Habakkuk 1

- ¶1. The burden that Habakkuk the prophet saw.
2. O Jehovah, how long will I cry and you not hear? I cry out to you about violence, but you do not deliver!
3. Why do you make me to see iniquity? Yea, why do you watch trouble? Destruction and violence are before me; strife and contention arise.
4. The law is slacked, and justice never goes forth because the wicked have the righteous surrounded; therefore, perverted judgment goes forth.
5. "Look among the nations, and consider! And be utterly astounded, for I am doing a work in your days which you will not believe when it is reported.
6. For, behold, I am raising up the Chaldeans, that bitter and impetuous nation, which shall go through the breadth of the land to take possession of dwellings not his.
7. He is terrifying and to be feared; His judgment and dignity come from himself.
8. His horses are swifter than leopards and more alert than wolves in the evening. His horses prance about. His horsemen come from afar; they fly like an eagle swooping to devour.
9. All of them are coming for violence. Their faces are as one, forward, and he shall gather captives like the sand.
10. He taunts kings, and rulers are a joke to him. He laughs at every fortified city; yea, he heaps up earth and captures it.
11. Then a spirit will sweep in, and he will transgress and be guilty, he who *attributes* his power to his god."
12. Are you not from ancient time, O Jehovah my God, my Holy One? We will not die, Jehovah, *for* you have set him on the seat of judgment, and you have ordained him, *the* Rock, to judge.
13. *Your* eyes are too pure to behold evil, and they cannot look upon wrongdoing. Why do you watch treacherous men, silent, as a wicked man devours a man more righteous than he?
14. (You make a man like the fish of the sea, like creeping things without a ruler over him.)
15. He takes him all up with a hook, or catches him in his net, or gathers him with his dragnet. For that, he rejoices and shouts for joy,
16. and for that, he sacrifices to his net and burns incense to his dragnet because by them his portion grows fat and his food is plentiful.
17. Will he therefore empty his net and continue to slay the nations without pity?

Habakkuk 2

- ¶1. Let me stand on my watch and station myself on the rampart, and I will keep watch to see what He will say against me, and what I will answer to my reproof.
2. Then Jehovah answered me and said, "Write the vision, and make it plain on tablets so that the one who reads it may run with it.
3. For the vision is yet for an appointed time; it speaks of the end and does not lie. If it tarries, wait for it, for it will surely come; it will not delay.

4. Behold, the soul of him who is puffed up is not upright in him, but the righteous will live because of his faithfulness.
5. Yea, moreover, because wine is treacherous, he becomes proud and does not stay at home. Like Sheol, he enlarges his desire, and like death, he is not satisfied, but gathers for himself all the nations; yea, he collects all peoples for himself.
6. Shall not these all take up a parable about him and a taunting riddle for him? And He will say, 'Woe to him who amasses what is not his (for how long?) and loads himself with goods taken in pledge!'
7. Will not your debtors rise up suddenly, and your oppressors awaken? You will be a spoil for them!
8. You plundered many nations; therefore, all the remnant of the peoples will plunder you because of men's blood and the violence of the land, the city, and all who dwell in it."
- ¶9. Woe to him who violently makes an unjust profit for his house, to set up his nest on high to save himself from the clutches of adversity.
10. You have devised shame for your house by cutting off many peoples, and you have forfeited your soul.
11. A stone in the wall will cry out, and a wooden rafter will answer it:
12. "Woe to him who builds a city by bloodshed and establishes a town by iniquity!"
13. Behold! Is it not from Jehovah of Hosts that the peoples labor for the fire and the nations grow weary for nothing?
14. For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of Jehovah, as the waters cover the sea.
- ¶15. Woe to him who gives his neighbors a drink, mixing in your wrath,¹ and also making them drunk in order to look on their nakedness.
16. You shall be sated with shame instead of glory. You yourself drink and expose your uncircumcision! The cup in Jehovah's right hand will come around to you, and disgrace will come upon your glory.
17. For the violence of Lebanon will cover you; yea, destruction will dismay the beasts themselves because of the bloodshed of men and the violence of the land, the city, and all that dwell in it.
- ¶18. What use is an idol that its maker has formed, a molten image? It teaches deceit, for the maker trusts in what he makes when he produces dumb idols.
19. Woe to him who says to a tree, "Awake!" And to a dumb stone, "Arise! It teaches!" Look at it! Gold and silver, and no spirit in it at all.
20. But Jehovah is in His holy temple. Be silent before Him, all the earth!

Habakkuk 3

- ¶1. The prayer of Habakkuk the prophet, with shiggions:²

¹ Hebrew uncertain.

² Hebrew meaning unknown.

2. “O Jehovah, I have heard your message, and I am in awe. O Jehovah, restore to life in the midst of the years the one you created! In the midst of his years, make *him* known. In wrath, remember mercy!”
 3. God came from Teman; yea, the Holy One from Mount Paran. Selah. His majesty covered the heavens, and his praise filled the earth,
 4. and *his* brightness was like the dawn. He will have a pair of horns by his side, and the hiding place of his strength is there.
 5. Before him went a plague, and a flame went before his feet.
 6. He stood still and shook³ the earth. He looked and dispersed the nations. The perpetual mountains were shattered; the everlasting hills bowed to him. His ways are eternal.
 7. I saw the tents of Cushan in affliction, and the curtains of the land of Midian trembled.
 - ¶8. Was Jehovah displeased with the rivers? Was your wrath against the rivers or your fury against the sea, that you rode on your horses, your chariots of salvation?
 9. Your Bow was manifestly revealed, *according to* the oaths of the tribes, the Word. Selah. You cleaved the earth with rivers.
 10. The mountains saw you and were in anguish; a flood of water passed over; the deep gave its voice, its hand lifted on high;
 11. the sun and moon stood still in their lofty abode for light; your arrows went forth at the flash of your glittering spear.
 12. In fury, you marched through the land; in anger, you threshed nations.
 13. You went forth to save your people, to save them with your Messiah. You severed the head of the house of the wicked one, laying bare the foundation to the neck. Selah.
 - ¶14. With his own arrows, you pierced the head of his warriors who came like a whirlwind to scatter me. Their exultation was like those who devour the poor man in secret.
 15. You trampled the sea with your horses, the mighty waters raging.
 16. I heard, and my inward parts trembled; my lips quivered at the sound. Rottenness came into my bones, and I trembled within. I will quietly wait until the day of distress, when he comes up against *my* people; he will invade us.
 - ¶17. Though the fig tree does not flower and no fruit is on the vines, though the labor of the olive fails and the fields produce no food, though the flock be cut off from the pen and there are no cattle in the stalls,
 18. I will still exult in Jehovah! I will rejoice in the God of my salvation!
 19. Jehovah is my Lord and my strength! He makes my feet like hinds’ feet and makes me to walk upon my high places!
- For the chief musician, with my stringed instruments.

³ Hebrew uncertain.