

Habakkuk, PROPHET OF FAITH
GOD'S ANSWER
(Habakkuk 2:2-20)

- I. God's INSTRUCTIONS Concerning the Message (Hab. 2:2-3)
 - A. It would come in the form of a VISION
 - B. Habakkuk must WRITE what he learns
 - C. The message was URGENT
 - 1. The message needed to be BROADCAST in great haste
 - 2. God had ESTABLISHED the TIME for its fulfillment
 - 3. It was coming SWIFTLY and WITHOUT FAIL
- II. God's EXPLANATION for His Actions (Hab. 2:4-5)
 - A. He contrasts the WICKED and the RIGHTEOUS
 - 1. Those who live by their PRIDE are UNRIGHTEOUS
 - 2. Those who are RIGHTEOUS live by their FAITH
 - B. He describes the PROUD as a DRUNKARD, as SHEOL, and as DEATH, whose appetites are never SATISFIED
- III. God's PRONOUNCEMENT of Woes upon the Wicked (Hab. 2:6-20)
 - A. Woe upon them for THEFT (2:6b-8)
 - 1. They ENRICHED themselves by stealing the WEALTH of others
 - 2. They would be forced to REPAY with INTEREST what they had stolen

- B. Woe upon them for EXTORTION (2:9-11)
 - 1. They made themselves SECURE by stealing the RESOURCES of others
 - 2. Their homes and fortresses would testify to their SHAME
- C. Woe upon them for RUTHLESS TYRANY (2:12-14)
 - 1. They built PALACES and CITIES with forced LABOR and BLOODSHED
 - 2. What they built would be BURNED and come to NOTHING
 - 3. The KNOWLEDGE and GLORY of the Lord would FILL THE EARTH
- D. Woe upon them for DEBAUCHERY and EXPLOITATION (2:15-17)
 - 1. They intentionally make others DRUNK so they can GAZE at their NAKEDNESS
 - 2. They would be DISGRACED by their own DRUNKEN NAKEDNESS
- E. Woe upon them for IDOLATRY (2:18-20)
 - 1. God MOCKS the practice of IDOLATRY
 - 2. One who expects a wooden image to AWAKEN or a stone one to ARISE is DOOMED
 - 3. The Lord is in His TEMPLE, so all on earth should be SILENT

IV. Lessons

- A. God's kingdom will be UNIVERSAL and ETERNAL
- B. God's rule on EARTH is ABSOLUTE
- C. Self-centered PRIDE ends in DEATH and DESTRUCTION
- D. Trust in God leads to LIFE and BLESSING
- E. FAITH is not a one-time act, but a WAY OF LIFE