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## Habakkuk 3

### Habakkuk remembers God's past faithfulness in judgment

*Habakkuk 3:2 LORD, I have heard of your fame; I stand in awe of your deeds, LORD. Repeat them in our day, in our time make them known; **in wrath remember mercy.***

*Hab. 3:3 God came from Teman, the Holy One from Mount Paran. His glory covered the heavens and his praise filled the earth. <sup>4</sup>His splendor was like the sunrise; rays flashed from his hand, where his power was hidden. <sup>5</sup>Plague went before him; pestilence followed his steps. <sup>6</sup>He stood, and shook the earth; he looked, and made the nations tremble...**but he marches on forever.***

*Habakkuk 3:13 You came out to deliver your people, to save your anointed one.*

### Sweet surrender in troubling times

*Hab. 3:16 I heard and my heart pounded, my lips quivered at the sound; decay crept into my bones, and my legs trembled....*

*...Yet I will wait patiently for the day of calamity to come on the nation invading us.*

*Habakkuk 3:17 Though the fig tree does not bud and there are no grapes on the vines, though the olive crop fails and the fields produce no food, though there are no sheep in the pen and no cattle in the stalls, ...*

*yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will be joyful in God my Savior.*

***The Sovereign LORD is my strength;** He makes my feet like the feet of a deer, He enables me to tread on the heights.*

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## Habakkuk

### The Minor Prophets—part 8

November 21, 2021

### Historical background

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## Habakkuk 1

### Dilemma #1: Evil and suffering

*Habakkuk 1:2 How long, LORD, must I call for help, but you do not listen? Or cry out to you, "**Violence!**" but you do not save? <sup>3</sup>Why do you make me look at **injustice?** Why do you **tolerate wrongdoing?** Destruction and violence are before me; there is strife, and conflict abounds. <sup>4</sup>Therefore the law is paralyzed, and justice never prevails. The wicked hem in the righteous, so that justice is perverted.*

*Habakkuk 1:5 "Look at the nations and watch— and be utterly amazed. For I am going to do something in your days that you would not believe, even if you were told. <sup>6</sup>**I am raising up** the **Babylonians**, that **ruthless** and **impetuous** people, who sweep across the whole earth to seize dwellings not their own. <sup>7</sup>They are a feared and dreaded people; they are a law to themselves and promote their own honor.*

### Dilemma #2: When evil appears to win

*Habakkuk 1:12 LORD, are you not from **everlasting?** My God, my **Holy One**, you will never die. You, LORD, have appointed **them** to execute judgment; you, my Rock, have ordained **them** to punish.*

*Habakkuk 1:13 Your eyes are **too pure to look on evil;** you cannot tolerate wrongdoing. Why then do you tolerate the treacherous? Why are you silent while the wicked swallow up those more righteous than themselves?*

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## The character of God:

- God is *from everlasting*.
- God is holy.
- God is sovereign.
- God is faithful.

## Habakkuk 2

### The ways of the world

■ Habakkuk 2:4 “See, the enemy **is puffed up; his desires are not upright**—...

<sup>5</sup> indeed, wine betrays him; he is **arrogant** and **never at rest**. Because he is as **greedy** as the grave and **like death is never satisfied**, he gathers to himself all the nations and takes captive all the peoples.

■ <sup>9</sup> “Woe to him who builds his house by unjust gain, setting his nest on high to escape the clutches of ruin! <sup>13</sup> Has not the LORD Almighty determined that the people’s labor is only fuel for the fire, that the nations exhaust themselves for nothing?

<sup>15</sup> “Woe to him who gives drink to his neighbors, pouring it from the wineskin till they are drunk, so that he can **gaze on their naked bodies!** <sup>16</sup> You will be **filled with shame instead of glory**.

■ <sup>18</sup> “Of **what value is an idol** carved by a craftsman? Or an image that teaches lies? For the one who makes it **trusts in his own creation**; he makes idols that cannot speak. <sup>19</sup> Woe to him who says to wood, ‘Come to life!’ Or to lifeless stone, ‘Wake up!’ Can it give guidance? It is covered with gold and silver; there is no breath in it.”

## The way of faith

*Habakkuk 2:4 ... but the righteous person will live by his faithfulness.*

### • “Righteous”

■ *Romans 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile. <sup>17</sup> For in the gospel the righteousness of God is revealed—a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: “The righteous will live by faith.”*

■ *Phil. 3:8 that I may gain Christ <sup>9</sup> and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith.*

### • “By faith”

■ *Hebrews 10:37 For, “In just a little while, he who is coming will come and will not delay.” <sup>38</sup> And, “But my righteous one will live by faith. And I take no pleasure in the one who shrinks back.”*

### • “Live”

■ *Gal. 3:10 For all who rely on the works of the law are under a curse, as it is written: “Cursed is everyone who does not continue to do everything written in the Book of the Law.” <sup>11</sup> Clearly no one who relies on the law is justified before God, because “the righteous will live by faith.”*