

Habakkuk

“Pain insists upon being attended to. God whispers to us in our pleasures, speaks in our conscience, but shouts in our pain: it is His megaphone to rouse a deaf world.”

The Problem of Pain by C. S. Lewis

For here we have no lasting city, but we are seeking the city which is to come. Hebrews 13:14 AMP

I. Perplexity of the prophet, Chapter 1

- A. First problem of the prophet, vv. 1-4
Why does God permit evil?
- B. God's answer, vv. 5-11
God was raising up Chaldeans to punish Judah (v. 6).
- C. Second problem of the prophet (greater than first), vv. 12-17
*Why would God permit His people to be punished by a nation more wicked than they?
Why did He not destroy the Chaldeans?*

II. Perspicuity of the prophet, Chapter 2

- A. Practice of the prophet, v. 1
He took the secret problem to the secret place.
- B. Patience of the prophet, vv. 2, 3
He waited for the vision.
- C. Pageant for the prophet, v. 4
The great divide in humanity: One group, which is crooked, is flowing toward destruction; the other group, by faith, is moving toward God. This is inevitable.

- D. Parable to the prophet, vv. 5-20
*The application is self-evident from the vision. The Chaldeans, in turn, would be destroyed.
God was moving among the nations.*

III. Pleasure of the prophet, Chapter 3

- A. Prayer of the prophet, vv. 1, 2
The prophet, who thought God was doing nothing about evil, now asks Him to remember to be merciful. Was he afraid that God was doing too much?
- B. Program of God, vv. 3-15
God rides majestically in His own chariot of salvation (v. 8).
- C. Position of the prophet, vv. 16-19
He will rejoice (v. 18). He has come from pain to pleasure.

Outline from Thru The Bible

Dr. J. Vernon McGee

Perspicuity: the ability to think, write, or speak clearly

“O LORD God of Israel, the One who dwells between the cherubim, You are God, You alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth. You have made heaven and earth. Incline Your ear, O LORD, and hear; open Your eyes, O LORD, and see; and hear the words of Sennacherib, which he has sent to reproach the living God. Truly, LORD, the kings of Assyria have laid waste the nations and their lands, and have cast their gods into the fire; for they were not gods, but the work of men’s hands—wood and stone. Therefore, they destroyed them. Now therefore, O LORD our God, I pray, save us from his hand, that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that You are the LORD God, You alone. 2 Kings 19:15-19 NKJV

And it came to pass on a certain night that the angel of the LORD went out, and killed in the camp of the Assyrians one hundred and eighty-five thousand; and when people arose early in the morning, there were the corpses—all dead. So Sennacherib king of Assyria departed and went away, returned home, and remained at Nineveh.

2 Kings 19:35-36 NKJV

Sennacherib Prism



In those days Hezekiah was sick and near death, and he prayed to the LORD; and He spoke to him and gave him a sign. 25 But Hezekiah did not repay according to the favor shown him, for his heart was lifted up; therefore, wrath was looming over him and over Judah and Jerusalem. 26 Then Hezekiah humbled himself for the pride of his heart, he and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that the wrath of the LORD did not come upon them in the days of Hezekiah. 2 Chronicles 32:24-26 NKJV

Ezekiel 33:11 - NKJV

Say to them: 'As I live,' says the Lord GOD, 'I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live. Turn, turn from your evil ways! For why should you die, O house of Israel?'

Why?

Why did Adam and Eve do math every day?

- They were told to be fruitful and multiply.

What did the classmate say when asked **why** they kept walking next to the same person at school?

- "I was told I'm supposed to walk by *Faith!*"

Habakkuk 1:5 - NKJV

Look among the nations and watch- Be utterly astounded!
For I will work a work in your days Which you would not
believe, though it were told you.

Acts 13:38-41 - NKJV

Therefore let it be known to you, brethren, that through this Man is preached to you the forgiveness of sins; and by Him everyone who believes is justified from all things from which you could not be justified by the law of Moses. Beware therefore, lest what has been spoken in the prophets come upon you:

'Behold, you despisers,

Marvel and perish!

For I work a work in your days,

A work which you will by no means believe,

Though one were to declare it to you.'

Genesis 3:1-5 - NKJV

Has God indeed said, 'You shall not eat of every tree of the garden?'

... You will not surely die. For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.

Romans 3:9-18 - NKJV

What then? Are we better than they? Not at all. For we have previously charged both Jews and Greeks that they are all under sin.

As it is written:

“There is none righteous, no, not one;

There is none who understands;

There is none who seeks after God.

They have all turned aside;

They have together become unprofitable;

There is none who does good, no, not one.”

“Their throat is an open tomb;

With their tongues they have practiced deceit”;

“The poison of asps is under their lips”;

“Whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness.”

“Their feet are swift to shed blood;
Destruction and misery are in their ways;
And the way of peace they have not known.”
“There is no fear of God before their eyes.”

Psalm 73:2-3 - NKJV

But as for me, my feet had almost stumbled;

My steps had nearly slipped.

For I was envious of the boastful,

When I saw the prosperity of the wicked.

Ecclesiastes 8:11 - NKJV

Because the sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil.

2 Peter 3:9 - NIV

The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead, he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

Habakkuk 2:4 - NKJV

Behold the proud,
His soul is not upright in him;
But the just shall live by his faith.

Galatians 3:10-14 - NKJV

For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse; for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who does not continue in all things which are written in the book of the law, to do them.” But that no one is justified by the law in the sight of God is evident, for “the just shall live by faith.” Yet the law is not of faith, but “the man who does them shall live by them.” Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree”), that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

Romans 1:16-17 - NKJV

For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. 17 For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, “The just shall live by faith.”

Hebrews 10:36-38 - NKJV

For you have need of endurance, so that after you have done the will of God, you may receive the promise:

“For yet a little while,

And He who is coming will come and will not tarry.

Now the just shall live by faith;

But if anyone draws back,

My soul has no pleasure in him.”

Through faith in the righteousness of God,
the just shall live

Summary

- It's OK to question God and plead with Him.
- God is merciful wanting everyone to repent versus bringing judgment on them.
- God is a holy God. He will bring judgment to those who don't repent.
- There is much evil in the world and our response is to live by faith in God's holiness.

Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid. - John 14:27 NKJV