



WHY?

THE **BOOK** OF **HABAKKUK**

Habakkuk's Prayer

Background

- Author: Habakkuk the prophet
- Date: Between 612 BC (Babylon conquers Nineveh) and 587 BC (Babylon conquered Jerusalem)
- Habakkuk lived during King Josiah's revival and the fall of Josiah's successors.
- Habakkuk probably means, "He Who Embraces" or "He Who Clings."

Purpose

- To proclaim that God as Judge will punish Judah for its evil by bringing Babylonian invasion and captivity
- To proclaim that God as protector will sustain and eventually deliver His people from the Babylonians
- To proclaim that God as Judge will one day punish the evil of Babylon

From Questions To Songs

- The third chapter of Habakkuk is a song of praise to God.
- In this song Habakkuk changes the attitude of book
 - 1. From complaining to praying
 - 2. From disaster to trust
 - 3. From worry to praise

Complaining to Praying

- No one needs to be taught how to complain
- Complaining puts the focus on the circumstances while praying put the focus on God.
- Habakkuk begins his prayer by focusing on three important aspects of God
 - His character - I have heard of your fame.
 - His work - I stand in awe of your deeds. Renew us.
 - His wrath - Remember mercy

From Disaster To Trust

- Focusing on the disaster takes your eyes off God. When we only see our problems we lose hope and feel helpless.
- In verses 3 - 16 God shows up, He stands up, and He moves out.
- God shows up!
 - His glory covered the heavens, His praise filled the earth
 - His splendor was like the sunrise
 - Power flashed from His hands

From Disaster To Trust

- God stands up!
 - When God stands He is ready to take action
 - He knows all and sees all. Nothing is hidden from Him.
- God moves out!
 - In your path you strode through the earth and in your anger you threshed the nations - v12
 - He saves His people and delivers judgment on His enemies

From Worry To Praise

- In verse 16 we see the switch from worry to praise
- I will wait...
 - God will act in His time according to His plan
 - If I act before God I do no good
- I will rejoice...
 - God will keep me and provide for me no matter what I see in the physical situation

From Worry To Praise

- I will trust...
- I know who God is
- I know what He has done before
- I believe He has the power to overcome anything
- His ways are beyond my understanding

DO THIS IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME

COMMUNION

