



Minor Prophets

Lesson 10

Habakkuk Chapters 1-3

As the political and spiritual conditions in Judah continue to deteriorate, the doom foretold by the prophets was swiftly coming upon them. Despite clearly receiving warnings and then watching the process of spiritual adultery destroy the northern kingdom of Israel, Judah had fallen into the same spiritual corruption. Jerusalem had escaped destruction by the Assyrians due to Hezekiah's humble prayer for God's deliverance. Unfortunately, that did not mean that they would escape completely. Micah had prophesied that Babylon would be the instrument of discipline used by God for the southern kingdom. The prophet Habakkuk spoke no prophecy. It seems he is well aware of his nation's coming fate at the hands of

the Babylonians. He, like Job, simply brings his frustrations to God and asks the age old question, "Why?" He wants a divine perspective or explanation of the terrible events that are coming on his people; especially since it is coming by the extremely wicked nation of Babylon. But, like Job, he doesn't get the response he is seeking. God made numerous appeals for change, but His people ignored Him. There will be no more discussion, no more explanations, no more prophetic warnings. God will judge His people, and Habakkuk's only appropriate response is to worship.



READ HABAKKUK CHAPTERS 1-3

1. *Explain Habakkuk's frustration in 1:1-4.*

2. *Explain some ways in which you have experienced this same frustration.*

3. *How does the Lord respond to Habakkuk's confusion? 1:5*



Chaldea is the name of a district in Southern Babylonia. It later was applied to a dynasty which included all Babylonia. The use of the term "Chaldean" is correctly used as a synonym for "Babylonia." Zondervan Pictorial Encyclopedia

4. *How does God describe the Chaldean's in verses 6-11?*

5. *What 3 questions does Habakkuk ask God in 1:13-14?*
 - 1)

 - 2)

 - 3)

6. *God never directly answers these questions for Habakkuk. If someone came to you expressing these frustrations with God, wondering how a good and holy God could allow evil, how would you respond to each question?*

7. *Fill in the chart from Habakkuk 2:6-20.*

<i>Woe</i>	<i>Explanation given</i>
1. <i>vs. 6</i>	<i>vs. 7-8</i>
2. <i>vs. 9</i>	<i>vs. 10-11</i>
3. <i>vs. 12</i>	<i>vs. 13-14</i>
4. <i>vs. 15</i>	<i>vs. 16-17</i>
5. <i>vs. 19</i>	<i>vs. 18,20</i>

8. *According to Habakkuk 2:20, Zephaniah 1:7, and Zechariah 2:13, what should be the state of all the earth before God? Why?*
9. *From Habakkuk 3:1-6, give some statements that reveal Habakkuk's realization of God's sovereignty.*
10. *Although Habakkuk doesn't get the answers he is seeking, what statements does he make in 3:16-19 that reveal his true heart of faith? How has his attitude changed since the beginning of his book?*
11. *Habakkuk came to the place all believers must come to. He asked the "why" questions but rested on the sovereignty of God for the answers. Are you willing to do this, and how can Philippians 4:4-7 apply?*

Prayer requests:

Group time notes:
