**I. Habakkuk’s Second Question - Developed From God’s Reply**

**Habakkuk 1:12 Art thou not from everlasting, O LORD my God, mine Holy One? we shall not die. O LORD, thou hast ordained them for judgment; and, O mighty God, thou hast established them for correction.**

**Habakkuk 1:13 Thou art of purer eyes than to behold evil, and canst not look on iniquity: wherefore lookest thou upon them that deal treacherously, and holdest thy tongue when the wicked devoureth the man that is more righteous than he?**

**Habakkuk 1:14 And makest men as the fishes of the sea, as the creeping things, that have no ruler over them?**

**Habakkuk 1:15 They take up all of them with the angle, they catch them in their net, and gather them in their drag: therefore they rejoice and are glad.**

**Habakkuk 1:16 Therefore they sacrifice unto their net, and burn incense unto their drag; because by them their portion is fat, and their meat plenteous.**

**Habakkuk 1:17 Shall they therefore empty their net, and not spare continually to slay the nations?**

**II. Habakkuk’s Stand of Faith**

**Habakkuk 2:1 I will stand upon my watch, and set me upon the tower, and will watch to see what he will say unto me, and what I shall answer when I am reproved.**

**Habakkuk knew God Would Answer – Faith leads to Obedience, and ultimately A Clear Vision**

**III. God’s Reply with Eternal Perspective**

**Habakkuk 2:2 And the LORD answered me, and said, write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it.**

**Habakkuk 2:3 For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry.**

**Notice The words An Appointed Time**

**What was Habakkuk Doing? – The best thing - obedience - He had just heard of an eminent attack:**

**Ezekiel 33:1Again the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,**

**Ezekiel 33:2 Son of man, speak to the children of thy people, and say unto them, When I bring the sword upon a land, if the people of the land take a man of their coasts, and set him for their watchman:**

**Ezekiel 33:3 If when he seeth the sword come upon the land, he blow the trumpet, and warn the people;**

**Ezekiel 33:4 Then whosoever heareth the sound of the trumpet, and taketh not warning; if the sword come, and take him away, his blood shall be upon his own head.**

**Ezekiel 33:5 He heard the sound of the trumpet, and took not warning; his blood shall be upon him. But he that taketh warning shall deliver his soul.**

**Ezekiel 33:6 But if the watchman see the sword come, and blow not the trumpet, and the people be not warned; if the sword come, and take *any* person from among them, he is taken away in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at the watchman’s hand.**

1. **Habakkuk obeyed God and received his answer. Faith brings obedience, then a clear vision**
2. **It is the same today.  When God looks at the world, He still sees only two types.  The person trusting and obeying God, or the prideful not caring about other people or God.**
3. **This is the central idea of Habakkuk, and probably the central theme of the entire Bible.**

**IV. Habakkuk is given a higher plain of vision and is able now to look over and beyond all the drunkenness and violence listed in chapter two and see the vision of God’s glory and temple:**

**Habakkuk 2:14 For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.**

**Habakkuk 2:20 But the LORD is in his holy temple: let all the earth keep silence before him.**

**Yes, Habakkuk was now able to look beyond man’s destruction knowing that God is working in the here and now, and is continuing to work in the affairs of man-kind the future.**

**V. Contrast between the Prideful and the Just**

**Habakkuk 2:4 Behold, his soul which is lifted up is not upright in him: but the just shall live by his faith.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  **The Just** | **Shall Live** | **By Faith** |
| Romans 1: 16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.Romans 1: 17 For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, **The just shall live by faith.** | Galatians 3:11 But that no man is justified by the law in the sight of God, it is evident: for, **The just shall live by faith.**Galatians 3:12 And the law is not of faith: but, The man that doeth them shall live in them.Galatians 3:13 Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree:Galatians 3:14 That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith. | Hebrews 10:38 **Now the just shall live by faith:** but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him.  |
| (The Definition of Faith)Romans 4:20 He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God;Romans 4:21 And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform. | Galatians 2:19 For I through the law am dead to the law, that I might live unto God. Galatians 2:20 I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me. | Hebrews 10:39 But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul.Hebrews 11:1 ¶ Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.(The rest of Chapter 11) |
| Hebrews 11:8 By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went.Hebrews 11:9  By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise:Hebrews 11:10 **For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.** |

**This is the “Central Theme” of this book, and maybe the entire Bible.  In fact, Paul directly quotes this verse in three of his Epistles.  This verse is the “central theme” of each Epistle in which Paul quotes.  Each explains the verse in light of one of each of the verses three parts.  (1.) The just (2.) shall live (3.) by faith**

**VI. The Prideful faces Destruction**

1. **The Just walks by faith and possesses the Blessed Hope**

**Titus 2:11For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men,**

**Titus 2:12 Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;**

**Titus 2:13 Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;**

1. **The Prideful faces Destruction Titus 2:11For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men,**

**VII. Some things Habakkuk “over-looked” because of his higher “Vision”**

1. **Description of the Prideful and Wickedness**

**Habakkuk 2:5 Yea also, because he transgresseth by wine, he is a proud man, neither keepeth at home, who enlargeth his desire as hell, and is as death, and cannot be satisfied, but gathereth unto him all nations, and heapeth unto him all people:**

**Habakkuk 2:6  Shall not all these take up a parable against him, and a taunting proverb against him, and say, Woe to him that increaseth that which is not his! how long? and to him that ladeth himself with thick clay!**

**Habakkuk 2:7 Shall they not rise up suddenly that shall bite thee, and awake that shall vex thee, and thou shalt be for booties unto them?**

**Habakkuk 2:8 Because thou hast spoiled many nations, all the remnant of the people shall spoil thee; because of men’s blood, and for the violence of the land, of the city, and of all that dwell therein.**

**Habakkuk 2:9 Woe to him that coveteth an evil covetousness to his house, that he may set his nest on high, that he may be delivered from the power of evil!**

**Habakkuk 2:10 Thou hast consulted shame to thy house by cutting off many people, and hast sinned against thy soul.**

**Habakkuk 2:11 For the stone shall cry out of the wall, and the beam out of the timber shall answer it.**

**Habakkuk 2:12 Woe to him that buildeth a town with blood, and stablisheth a city by iniquity!**

**Habakkuk 2:13 Behold, is it not of the LORD of hosts that the people shall labour in the very fire, and the people shall weary themselves for very vanity?**

1. **Warning Those Who Use Drunkenness to Take Advantage of His Neighbor**

**Habakkuk 2:15 Woe unto him that giveth his neighbour drink, that puttest thy bottle to him, and makest him drunken also, that thou mayest look on their nakedness!**

**Habakkuk 2:16 Thou art filled with shame for glory: drink thou also, and let thy foreskin be uncovered: the cup of the LORD’S right hand shall be turned unto thee, and shameful spewing shall be on thy glory.**

**Habakkuk 2:17 For the violence of Lebanon shall cover thee, and the spoil of beasts, which made them afraid, because of men’s blood, and for the violence of the land, of the city, and of all that dwell therein.**

1. **Warning To The Maker Of Molten Idols**

**Habakkuk 2:18 What profiteth the graven image that the maker thereof hath graven it; the molten image, and a teacher of lies, that the maker of his work trusteth therein, to make dumb idols?**

1. **Warning to Those Who Put Faith In Wood Idols**

**Habakkuk 2:19 Woe unto him that saith to the wood, Awake; to the dumb stone, Arise, it shall teach! Behold, it is laid over with gold and silver, and there is no breath at all in the midst of it.**

1. **Why? The Lord Is In His Holy Temple in heaven Today – And We, having assurance of faith, can come boldly to the throne:**

**Hebrews 10:19 Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus,**

**Hebrews 10:20 By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh;**

**Hebrews 10:21 And *having* an high priest over the house of God;**

**Hebrews 10:22 Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.**

**Hebrews 10:23 Let us hold fast the profession of *our* faith without wavering; (for he *is* faithful that promised ;)**

**VIII. Yes, Our High Priest is in His Holy Temple today – Others saw this same vision:**

1. **Ezekiel Saw This Future Event In A Vision:**

**Ezekiel 43:4 And the glory of the LORD came into the house by the way of the gate whose prospect is toward the east.**

**Ezekiel 43:5 So the spirit took me up, and brought me into the inner court; and, behold, the glory of the LORD filled the house.**

**Ezekiel 43:6 And I heard him speaking unto me out of the house; and the man stood by me.**

**Ezekiel 43:7 And he said unto me, Son of man, the place of my throne, and the place of the soles of my feet, where I will dwell in the midst of the children of Israel for ever, and my holy name, shall the house of Israel no more defile, neither they, nor their kings, by their whoredom, nor by the carcases of their kings in their high places.**

**Ezekiel 43:8 In their setting of their threshold by my thresholds, and their post by my posts, and the wall between me and them, they have even defiled my holy name by their abominations that they have committed: wherefore I have consumed them in mine anger.**

**Ezekiel 43:9 Now let them put away their whoredom, and the carcases of their kings, far from me, and I will dwell in the midst of them for ever.**

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1. **Isaiah Also Prophesied about the Lack of Knowledge of God’s People:**

**Isaiah 5:11 Woe unto them that rise up early in the morning, that they may follow strong drink; that continue until night, till wine inflame them!**

**Isaiah 5:12 And the harp, and the viol, the tabret, and pipe, and wine, are in their feasts: but they regard not the work of the LORD, neither consider the operation of his hands.**

**Isaiah 5:13 Therefore my people are gone into captivity, because they have no knowledge: and their honourable men are famished, and their multitude dried up with thirst.**

**Isaiah 5:14 Therefore hell hath enlarged herself, and opened her mouth without measure: and their glory, and their multitude, and their pomp, and he that rejoiceth, shall descend into it.**

**Isaiah 5:15 And the mean man shall be brought down, and the mighty man shall be humbled, and the eyes of the lofty shall be humbled:**

**Isaiah 5:16  But the LORD of hosts shall be exalted in judgment, and God that is holy shall be sanctified in righteousness.**

**Habakkuk 2:20 But the LORD is in his holy temple: let all the earth keep silence before him.**

**Psalm 2 explains this very well and takes us to the 2nd Coming**

**Psalm 2:1 Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing?**

**Psalm 2:2 The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD, and against his anointed, saying,**

**Psalm 2:3 Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us.**

**Psalm 2:4 He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh: the Lord shall have them in derision.**

**Psalm 2:5 Then shall he speak unto them in his wrath, and vex them in his sore displeasure.**

**Psalm 2:6 Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion.**

**Psalm 2:7 I will declare the decree: the LORD hath said unto me, Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee.  (Look at Acts 13:33)**

**Psalm 2:8 Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession.**

**Psalm 2:9 Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter’s vessel.**

**Psalm 2:10 Be wise now therefore, O ye kings: be instructed, ye judges of the earth.**

**Psalm 2:11 Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling.**

**Psalm 2:12 Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and ye perish from the way, when his wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all they that put their trust in him.**

**The World Is Not filled With God’s Knowledge Now, but Will Be at the Second Coming**

**IX. Habakkuk’s Psalm of Faith**

**Habakkuk 3:1 A prayer of Habakkuk the prophet upon Shigionoth. (A Musical Instrument) (Habakkuk was also involved in Temple worship as well as being a prophet)**

**Habakkuk 3:2 O LORD, I have heard thy speech, and was afraid: O LORD, revive thy work in the midst of the years, in the midst of the years make known; in wrath remember mercy.**

1. **Poetic Description of God’s Judgment – The 2nd Advent**

**Habakkuk 3:3 God came from Teman, and the Holy One from mount Paran. Selah. His glory covered the heavens, and the earth was full of his praise.**

**Habakkuk 3:4 And his brightness was as the light; he had horns coming out of his hand: and there was the hiding of his power.**

**Habakkuk 3:5 Before him went the pestilence, and burning coals went forth at his feet.**

**Habakkuk 3:6 He stood, and measured the earth: he beheld, and drove asunder the nations; and the everlasting mountains were scattered, the perpetual hills did bow: his ways are everlasting.**

**Habakkuk 3:7 I saw the tents of Cushan in affliction: and the curtains of the land of Midian did tremble.**

**Habakkuk 3:8 Was the LORD displeased against the rivers? was thine anger against the rivers? was thy wrath against the sea, that thou didst ride upon thine horses and thy chariots of salvation?**

**Habakkuk 3:9 Thy bow was made quite naked, according to the oaths of the tribes, even thy word. Selah. Thou didst cleave the earth with rivers.**

**Habakkuk 3:10 The mountains saw thee, and they trembled: the overflowing of the water passed by: the deep uttered his voice, and lifted up his hands on high.**

**Habakkuk 3:11 The sun and moon stood still in their habitation: at the light of thine arrows they went, and at the shining of thy glittering spear.**

**Habakkuk 3:12 Thou didst march through the land in indignation, thou didst thresh the heathen in anger.**

**Habakkuk 3:13 Thou wentest forth for the salvation of thy people, even for salvation with thine anointed; thou woundedst the head out of the house of the wicked, by discovering the foundation unto the neck. Selah.**

**Habakkuk 3:14 Thou didst strike through with his staves the head of his villages: they came out as a whirlwind to scatter me: their rejoicing was as to devour the poor secretly.**

**Habakkuk 3:15 Thou didst walk through the sea with thine horses, through the heap of great waters.**

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**Deuteronomy 33:2 And he said, The LORD came from Sinai, and rose up from Seir unto them; he shined forth from mount Paran, and he came with ten thousands of saints: from his right hand *went* a fiery law for them.**

**Isaiah 34:6 The sword of the LORD is filled with blood, it is made fat with fatness, *and* with the blood of lambs and goats, with the fat of the kidneys of rams: for the LORD hath a sacrifice in Bozrah, and a great slaughter in the land of Idumea.**

**Isaiah 63:1 Who *is* this that cometh from Edom, with dyed garments from Bozrah? this *that is* glorious in his apparel, travelling in the greatness of his strength? I that speak in righteousness, mighty to save.**

**Isaiah 63:2 Wherefore *art thou* red in thine apparel, and thy garments like him that treadeth in the winefat?**

**Isaiah 63:3 I have trodden the winepress alone; and of the people *there was* none with me: for I will tread them in mine anger, and trample them in my fury; and their blood shall be sprinkled upon my garments, and I will stain all my raiment.**

**Zechariah 14:2 For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; ….**

**Zechariah 14:4 And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which *is* before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, *and there shall be* a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south.**

**Zephaniah 3:8 for my determination *is* to gather the nations, that I may assemble the kingdoms, to pour upon them mine indignation, *…* 9 For then will I turn to the people a pure language, that they may all call upon the name of the LORD, to serve him with one consent.**

**Habakkuk Living By Faith**

**Habakkuk 3:16 When I heard, my belly trembled; my lips quivered at the voice: rottenness entered into my bones, and I trembled in myself, that I might rest in the day of trouble: when he cometh up unto the people, he will invade them with his troops.**

**Habakkuk 3:17 Although the fig tree shall not blossom, neither shall fruit be in the vines; the labour of the olive shall fail, and the fields shall yield no meat; the flock shall be cut off from the fold, and there shall be no herd in the stalls:**

**Habakkuk 3: 18 Yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation.**

**Habakkuk 3:19 The LORD God is my strength, and he will make my feet like hinds’ feet, and he will make me to walk upon mine high places.**

**To the chief singer on my stringed instruments.**