

Opening to Habakkuk – 8 of the 12 Minor Prophets | [Major vs. Prophets \(Baseball\)](#)

Story of a changed man...relatable man | [Why aren't you listening? Responding?](#) | [God...why!?!?](#)

1 The oracle that Habakkuk the prophet saw. | 'Oracle' = Burden

[Weary...Weary w/ world – Weary w/ society – Weary w/ doing what's right...doesn't seem to matter](#)

[Every been challenged: Is God really just...so much is evil | Is God really good...when so much is wrong](#)

Name – 'One who embraces' – **HE/WE** – Embrace Faith God regardless of confusion about His plan

[Bl – God is Still Near Even When It Seems Like He's Not Listening](#)

²O Lord, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not hear? Or cry to you "Violence!" and you will not save? ³Why do you make me see iniquity, and why do you idly look at wrong? Destruction and violence are before me; strife and contention arise. So the law is paralyzed, and justice never goes forth. For the wicked surround the righteous; so justice goes forth perverted.

Fascinating Book: Most...Prophets = Warning to People | **Habakkuk = Conversation with God**

This book has a little bit of Job – A little bit of Psalms – And a whole lot of reminders for us...

1. **God is Still Near When...Wickedness Surrounds**

³Why do you make me see iniquity, and why do you idly look at wrong? Destruction and violence are before me; strife and contention arise. So the law is paralyzed, and justice never goes forth. For the wicked surround the righteous; so justice goes forth perverted. | [Friend and I...when was it worse?](#)

Prophet crying out - Lord - problems of the day...problems intense [Context: Dates Backwards](#) | [MAP](#)

[Assyrian 900 – 600](#) | [Neo-Babylonian 626 – 539](#) (Nineveh 612) | [Josiah 640 – 609](#) | [Jehoikim 609 – 598](#)

[Habakkuk 609-605 ish](#) | [Jerusalem 586](#) (Fell to Babylon under Nebuchadnezzar)

Habakkuk = sick society – growing crime rate – physical violence rampant – Contention everywhere

- [News](#) – Egypt sends troops North rally w/Assyria against Babylonian – King Josiah to intercept
 - [Live...](#)King Josiah dead battle of Megeeddo Nicho...arrow...slowly | Son Jehoahaz take place
 - [Just in...](#)Egyptian Pharaoh Nicho II appointed Elikaim to throne & changed name Jehoikim...[do that?](#)
 - [Getting world...](#)With weakening forces in Assyria after death of King Ashurbanipal...
- Babylon taken capital city Nineveh – Nebuchadnezzar had say, 'We're coming for you Judah' | [Angry](#)

You can see why Prophet used terms like: 'Destruction – Violence – Strife – Contention' | [Literal](#)
Easy see how relatable the circumstances are...'Destruction – Violence – Strife – Contention' | [Literal](#)
[2 Days - Normative our world...it's become almost white noise | Volcano Vista – Barely made news](#)
[Wickedness isn't just accepted...glamorized](#) | [Wickedness is a way of the world...and God is still near](#)

[God is still near when wickedness surrounds...second...](#)

2. **God is Still Near When...Injustice Abounds**

So the law is paralyzed, and justice never goes forth. For the wicked surround the righteous; so justice goes forth perverted.

- [Law is paralyzed](#) – 'Cooled' = People who should care about the laws of God had stopped
 - [Justice never goes forth](#) = Debauchery goes on everywhere and no one cares
 - [Wicked surround the righteous](#) = The amount of people still committed to Yahweh vs not
 - [Imagine 1 guy yelling 'No' in a room of 10k yelling 'yes' – Only one running away from the cliff](#)
 - [So justice goes out perverted](#) = If wicked people make laws...they will make/enforce wicked laws
[Imagine...the small remnant of those dedicated to the Lord...EVERYWHERE THEY LOOK...injustice](#)
[Kid...sandbox | GI-Joes and Autobots vs. Cobra and the Decepticons](#) | \$\$\$ | [Funnel – too much sand](#)
- Habakkuk's time...there was so much wrong that even if those in power did care...too much to handle
Wickedness in power positions | Godless laws and lawmakers | Overrun judicial systems...[can't relate](#)
[Injustice is a way of the world...and God is still near](#)

[God is still near when wickedness surrounds...Injustice Abounds](#)

3. **God is Still Near When...Doubt Confounds**

²O Lord, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not hear? Or cry to you "Violence!" and you will not save? ³Why do you make me see iniquity, and why do you idly look at wrong?

- [What we have here: Recorded Complaining | Frustration | Doubt...The prophet...is in doubt](#)

How has this happened? This is the Promise Land & Promised People

- Land promised to Abraham – People more numerous than stars...God's holy place & Holy people
- Had their own King for hundreds of years...Jerusalem Temple longer than Mayflower to now
- Now the Chaldeans?!? Nomadic southern Babylonians are going to destroy? [Manitoba Canada](#)
[God...how can this happen? I thought my country was different! I thought my people were protected!](#)
[Here is where the script gets flipped – God is absolutely near...because God IS fulfilling His promise](#)

[Deuteronomy 28 – if...Then | But if...then | READ](#)

Habakkuk's primary question is: How can you allow a more wicked nation to punish our less wicked

God = The sins of my people break my heart more than the sins of fallen society

[I didn't make a covenant with the Chaldeans – Assyrians – Egyptians | I did with you...and you broke it](#)

- Sometimes we see all the evil in our nation...and it is ever growing more wicked...however
[God has not made a covenant with United States – Prosperity or Punish | He has with us...His people](#)
[Baby airplane – Screaming – Kicking – Carrying on | Grown Man – same thing = punished | Knows better](#)
Book is predictive prophecy – God's people turned from Him...He made good on His promise | 25 yrs
- They knew better - Now much more should we know better...in light of Jesus Christ | **GOSPEL**

Have you ever looked around and felt like Habakkuk?

[God...are you listening? God...are you seeing this?!?!](#) [God...where are you...why don't you do something?](#)
He's Not alone – Adam & / Abraham & Sar / Moses / Job / Gideon / David / Elijah / JTB / Thoma | You – Me

When in Doubt

- [Go to God](#)
- [Confess your fears](#)
- [Look inward](#)
- [Hold the line](#)
- [Trust the outcome is for your good](#)

- **WE** – Embrace Faith God regardless of confusion about His plan

[Weary...Weary w/ world – Weary w/ society – Weary w/ doing what's right...doesn't seem to matter](#)

We have a fuller picture...we have the Christ – End of the story...Wickedness will not win

[God is still near even when it seems like He's not listening](#)

[Ps. 34:18 'The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.'](#)

[Prove it...Conversation w/Habakkuk](#)