

The Day of the LORD is Near

An investigation into the prophets Zephaniah and
Habakkuk

with Jesse Bridges and Tim Oakleaf

Welcome! We are glad you are here.



How do we get to where we will... enjoy God More?



Trusting God's power
Believing God's promises



How do we get to where we will... know God Better?



Trusting God's power
Believing God's promises



**What are the fruits of enjoying
God more and knowing Him
better?**

Inner peace/joy
Deeper relationship
Greater motivation

What else?

Review of Last Week

2:15-17 Woe #4 of 5: Judgment for their perversions

2:18-20 Woe #5 of 5: Judgment for their idolatry

LESSON 13

Habakkuk 3:1-7

“Habakkuk’s Hymn
of Praise”

AGENDA:

- **V1 The Introduction to Habakkuk’s Hymn**
- **V2 The Request for Revival**
- **V3-7 A Vision of God**
- **What will you take with you?**
- **A Look Ahead**

V1 The Introduction to Habakkuk's Hymn



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- ***"The Book of Habakkuk begins with a sob and ends with a song."*** Baxter, J. Sidlow. *Explore the Book*. 1960. One vol. ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1980, 4:208
- **A Prayer - set to music - Like a psalm**
- **See if you can find parallels in Psalm 7.**
- **"Both [texts] reflect a strong desire for justice against sin."** Dr. Thomas L. Constable
- **"Shigionoth" sigayon [shig-gaw-yone'] = a highly emotional poetic form (dithyramb), a musical instrument, the song's meter, setting, or tone. (As seen in a variety of Psalms.)**
- **Some suggest Chapter 3 might have stood alone at one time.**

V2 The Request for Revival

“heard/speech” sama/sema [shaw-mah’/shay’-mah] = listened to, paid attention to, understood Your speech, Your report, what You said (cf. 2:1)

“I get it!”

“fear/afraid” yare [yaw-ray’] = (stand in) awe, astonished

“I am amazed by it!”

An appropriate, and divinely inspired, response to being highly impacted.

Do we respond this way to the work we see God has done or is doing around, in, or through us?

What was the most awesome thing God has done in or for you lately?

V2 The Request for Revival

- **The only petition in this book:**
- **“revive” haya [khaw-yaw’] = stir up, refresh, activate**
 - **Revive what?**
- **“work” poal [po’-al] = deeds, doings**
 - **Whose work?**
 - **God’s might and mercy applied to God’s people.**
 - **When?**
- **“in the midst” qereb [keh’-reb] = during a given period of time**
 - **Covering the judgments: Israel’s and Babylon’s**
- **“years” sana [shaw-neh’] = division of time or of a lifetime**
 - **These times of disaster, personal and corporate**
 - **In light of the coming exile**
 - **Isaiah 54:8**



V2 The Request for Revival

- **“known” yada [yaw-dah’] = recognized, acknowledged, revealed**
 - **God’s power revealed in discipline and judgment.**
- **“mercy” raham [raw-kham’] = tender affection, compassion**
 - **God’s promises revealed in deliverance and redemption.**

What was it that Habakkuk was requesting be revived?

- **Habakkuk’s response is an example of faith enabling a man to look beyond present frustrations and see a just God at work, fulfilling His promises now and in the future. (*Unger’s Commentary on the Old Testament, paraphrased.*)**

Considering our times, are you ready to follow Habakkuk’s example?

V3-7 A Vision of God

V3 A Faithful Response - from petition to praise!

Begins with a vision of God:

1. The God Who Came

(See Deuteronomy 33:2+3)

Can anyone describe a time God came to you?

“Teman” teman [tay-mawn’] = south

“Paran” paran [paw-rawn’] = Arabian desert and hill country through which Israel traveled after leaving Egypt.

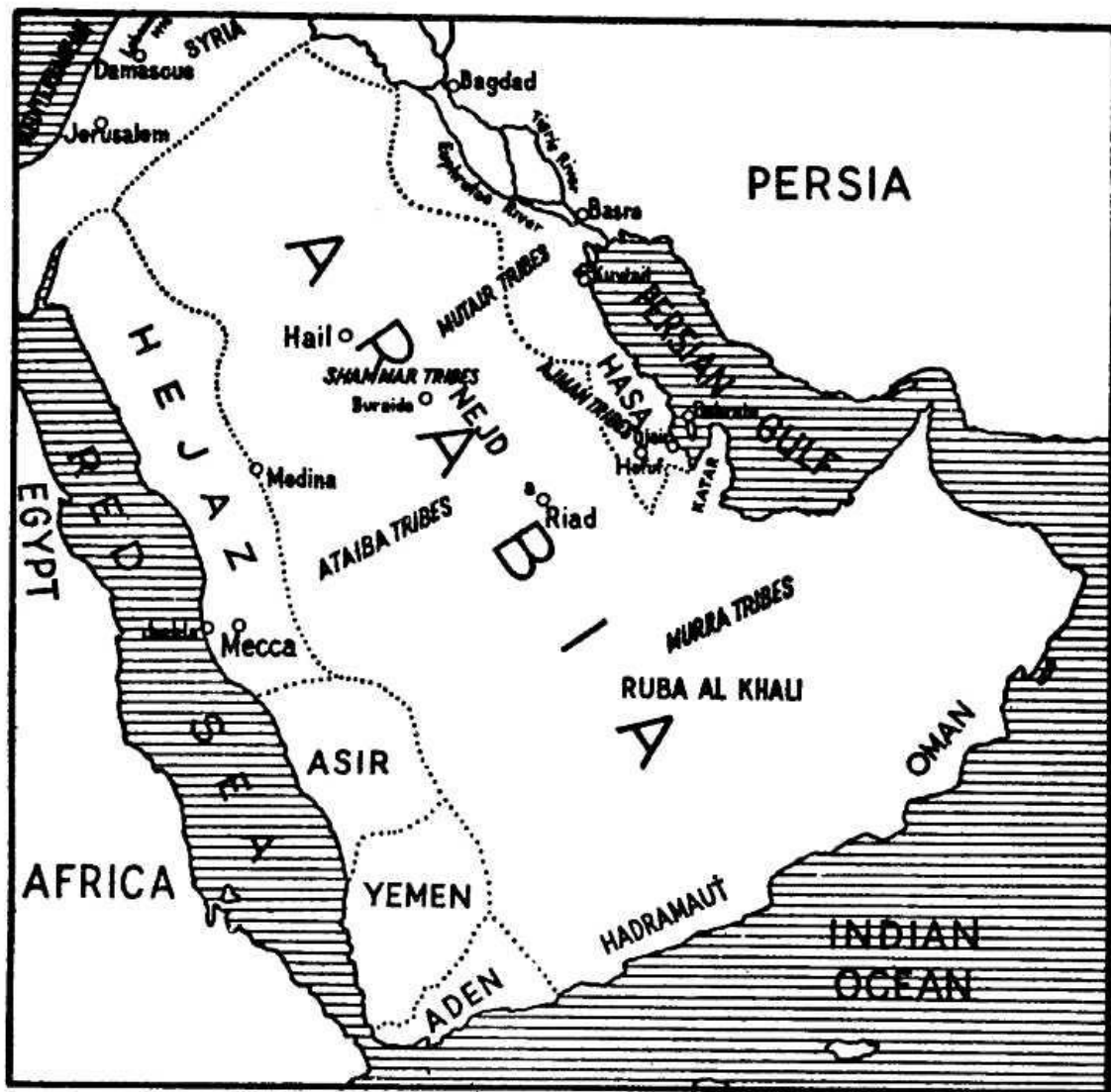


V3 A Faithful Response

"It may be of some significance that God's appearance to Moses was in the region south of Judah while the Babylonians came from the north. [Think end times battles.] Furthermore, it was in this area to the south that God performed many wonders as He led His people into the Promised Land from Egypt." [Think pillar of fire, water from a rock, a serpent on a pole, etc.]

The Bible Knowledge Commentary Old Testament, Walvoord & Zuck, 1985

[Isaiah 63:1-14](#)



Map of Arabia in 1900



V3 A Faithful Response

“Selah” sele [seh'-law] = ???

(See also v9+13)

Most likely a musical term meaning to lift up (elevate voices or key), exalt, accentuate, increase volume or pitch, pause (to reflect or praise), or possibly a fanfare to draw attention to what comes next...



V3 A Faithful Response

2. The God of Splendor

“splendor” hod [hode] = kingly
authority, majesty, glory

“covers” kasa [kaw-saw'] = spread
over, overwhelms

“heavens” samayim [shaw-mah'-yim]
= 1. our sky = the vault of the clouds

2. the universe = the vault of the stars

3. heaven = the vault of God's throne

Who is therefore...



V3 A Faithful Response

3. The God Who is Worthy of Worshipful Praise

“full” mala [maw-lay'] = to fill abundantly

“praise” thilla [the-hil-law'] = adoration, fame

His reputation, His revelation of Himself, is present everywhere.

Romans 1:20, Isaiah 45:23, Philipians 2:9-11



V4 God's Radiance

"radiance" nogah [no'-gah] = brightness, shining, 1 John 1:5, 1 Timothy 6:16 (Think of Moses in the cleft of the rock.)

"rays" qeren [keh'-ran] = horns (corners of the altar) = "projecting from His hand" = strength, power, and the outshining of His essential glory. (Think "glory" as in splendor, per a previous slide.)



V4 God's Radiance

"there" = therein, referring to this display of God's essential glory and the great power coming from His hand in the previous phrase. (Nearest antecedent.)

"hiding" hebyon [kheb-yone'] = covering, concealed (cleft of the rock, because finite humans cannot survive exposure to the full brilliance of our infinite God. Exodus 34:29-35)



V5 God's Pestilence

**"pestilence" deber [deh-ber] =
plague**

**"plague" reseph [reh'-shef] =
flames, bolts of fire =
agents of judgment =**

**As a courier going before and a
servant following in His
footsteps, under divine
direction.**

What's the message they bring?



V6 God's Repercussions

The repercussions of God's power displayed, (versus a lifeless image of wood and clay, 2:18+19!):

"surveyed" mud [mood] = lit. to shake the earth

"startled" ("drove asunder") natar [naw-thar'] = to shake the nations, so violently that their old, mountainous terrains (peoples) were...

"shattered" pus [poots] = scattered



V6 God's Repercussions

The repercussions of God's power displayed:

"hills" giba [ghib-aw'] = lower (easier to access) than the mountains, places of illicit worship

"collapsed" sahad [shaw-khakh'] = bow down, prostrated, humbled (Like idols , see 1 Samuel 5:1-5.)

In contrast to God's "ways" halika [hal-ee-kaw'] = doings, which are everlasting (and which Habakkuk requested be revived.)



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V7 A Faithless Response

Cushan - site unknown but probably a desert tribe in light of "tents" ohel [o'-hel] = nomad's tent, symbolic of transience.

"distress" aven [aw-ven'] = affliction, iniquity, wickedness, idolatry

"Midian" = the territory of the tribe descended from Midian, located in the desert north of the Arabian peninsula, to which Moses fled from Pharaoh, where he met and married Zipporah.

"trembling" ragaz [raw-gaz'] = quake, quiver, disturb

Why this response? (Exodus 14:28)

Summary

- **Trusting God's power and believing His promises produces inner peace/joy, a deeper relationship with Him, increased motivation to abide, submit, obey, and an increasing quantity of spiritual fruit.**
- **Revival is more than our response to God. It also refers to God's activity in the world increasing.**
- **Seeing God answer our prayers should cause us to worshipfully praise Him.**
- **Our getting a vision of God's splendor, His might and mercy, should result in our worshipping, praising, honoring and obeying Him.**
- **We should be forever thankful that we are His children and not the objects of His wrath!**

What will you take with you?

Am I looking to God's power and promises such that my spiritual fruit will increase?

How do I respond when I get a fresh vision of God?

How do I respond to the work I see God doing in, around, or through me?

Am I ready to follow Habakkuk's example of a faithful response?

How can I do a better job of sharing with others God's plan for our future?

What idols do I need to crush and scatter in the wind?

A Look Ahead...

Read	Chapter 3
Look	Into v. 8-19
Do	<i><u>Not</u> come to class on Easter Sunday!</i> Homework, if so inclined
List	Words for next week: rage, bow, cleave, trample, devour, hind's feet



Thanks for coming!



Hope to see you another time...