

WRATH

Hab. 2:5-11

FROM PASTOR MARK

The prophet Habakkuk STRUGGLED with the wickedness around him and then, with God's answer that God would bring a more wicked nation to judge his country. Habakkuk and all godly people in this wicked world need to know that "the Judge of all the earth will do right" (Gen. 18:25, Romans 1:18).

- I. Remember that **JUDGMENT WILL BE DEFINITE (2:5)**.
 - A. Pride Will not Stop Judgment (2:4a-5a).
 - B. Greed Will not Stop Judgment (2:5b).
 - C. Success Will not Stop Judgment (2:5c).
 - D. Deuteronomy 30:7 promised that enemies who were the instruments of God's "curse" would themselves be "cursed."
 - E. God's people need to remember this when the wicked seem so successful (Ps. 73:11-20)

- II. Remember that **JUDGMENT WILL BE DESERVED (2:6-8)**.
 - A. Public Justice (2:6a)
 - B. Proportionate Justice (2:7-8; Romans 2:5-6, Romans 12:18)
 - C. Babylon experienced this (Daniel 5).

- III. Remember that **JUDGMENT MAY BE DELAYED (2:9-11)**
 - A. The Delay of Human Security (9)
 - B. The Delay of Human Victory (10)
 - C. The Delay of Human Luxury (11; Daniel 4:30-31)

IMPORTANT LESSONS FROM WRATH:

1. It teaches us the proper fear of our holy Lord (Psalm 111:10, Heb. 10:28-29).
2. It impresses our hearts with God's hatred of sin.
3. It brings proper appreciation for God's mercy (1 Thes. 1:10).
4. It exalts the wonder of the cross and our salvation.

FOR NEXT TIME—Read Habakkuk 2:12-20, "The Glory of the Lord"

TO DISCUSS WITH FAMILY OR FRIENDS:

1. Read Psalm 111:10. Why is "the fear of the Lord" the beginning of wisdom?
2. Which of the important lessons from wrath in today's message impacts your heart most deeply?
 - a. It teaches us the proper fear of our holy Lord (Psalm 111:10, Heb. 10:28-29).
 - b. It impresses our hearts with God's hatred of sin.
 - c. It brings proper appreciation for God's mercy (1 Thes. 1:10).
 - d. It exalts the wonder of the cross and our salvation.
3. Read Romans 12:19-21. Why is leaving wrath in God's hands helpful to how we respond to those who may wrong us?
4. Read Romans 5:8-9. Spend time in prayer thanking God for saving us from wrath through Christ.

5. Finalize your plans for attending Life Group Report night next Sunday at 6:30 and make plans for who will report for your group.