MARANATHA GLOBAL BIBLE STUDY THE RETURN OF JESUS // JOEL RICHARDSON

WHEN JESUS MARCHES THROUGH THE DESERT

RATHER THAN PROMISING A SEED, THE DESERT PROPHECIES PROMISE THAT GOD ALMIGHTY WILL COME FROM HEAVEN. INITIALLY THESE TWO PROPHECIES SEEM TO BE CONTRADICTORY, BUT BY THE TIME WE GET TO ISAIAH 63 AND HABAKKUK, IT BECOMES CLEAR THAT YHWH IS THE CRUSHING ONE - AND THAT THE THEME OF THE CRUSHING SEED AND YHWH COMING FROM HEAVEN ARE INTERTWINED. GOD GAVE HABAKKUK ONE OF THE MOST DETAILED, BEAUTIFUL DESCRIPTIONS OF THE RETURN OF JESUS IN THE ENTIRE BIBLE.

I. THE PRAYER OF HABAKKUK

- A. Habakkuk 1:1-4
 - 1) Habakkuk was praying for revival for his nation and lamenting
- B. Habakkuk 1:5
 - 1) this is the Lord's response
 - 2) although this verse is often quoted with a positive connotation, the Lord was actually talking about something dreadful (vs 6-7)
- C. Habakkuk 1:6-7
 - 1) God wanted a holy people, just like Habakkuk was crying out for; but the way He said He'd accomplish it was by chastising them

II. THE GLORY OF THE LORD

- A. Matthew 24:27
 - a better translation for "lightning" may be "beam of light" because, even as the beams of the sun go from east to west, so will Jesus' return be clearly obvious
- B. Deuteronomy 33:2
- C. Isaiah 60:1-2
 - 1) it is always darkest just before the dawn
 - 2) "will rise upon you" it uses the language of the sun, but it's the Lord
 - 3) "the rising," "the dawning," and "the glory of the Lord" are all interchangeable
- D. Malachi 4:1-2
 - 1) it is talking about Jesus and His return

III. HABAKKUK'S VISION

This section is a prayer written as a psalm to be sung in a congregation.

- A. Habakkuk 3:3-4
 - 1) Mount Paran is on the border of Jordan and Saudi Arabia



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- 2) Deuteronomy 33:2
- B. Habakkuk 3:5-7
 - 1) plagues and pestilences is Exodus language
 - 2) Cushan and Midian are near the land of Mount Sinai
- C. Habakkuk 3:12-13
 - 1) He is the crushing one of Genesis 3:15 and Isaiah 63, but here it emphasizes Him crushing the antichrist
- D. Habakkuk 3:16
 - 1) every one of us has the mandate to wait patiently and endure until Jesus' return
- E. Habakkuk 3:17-19
 - 1) despite our circumstances, let us rejoice in the Lord because the day is coming when He will come back and He will vindicate us

