



Silence

THE BOOK OF HABAKKUK

Habakkuk

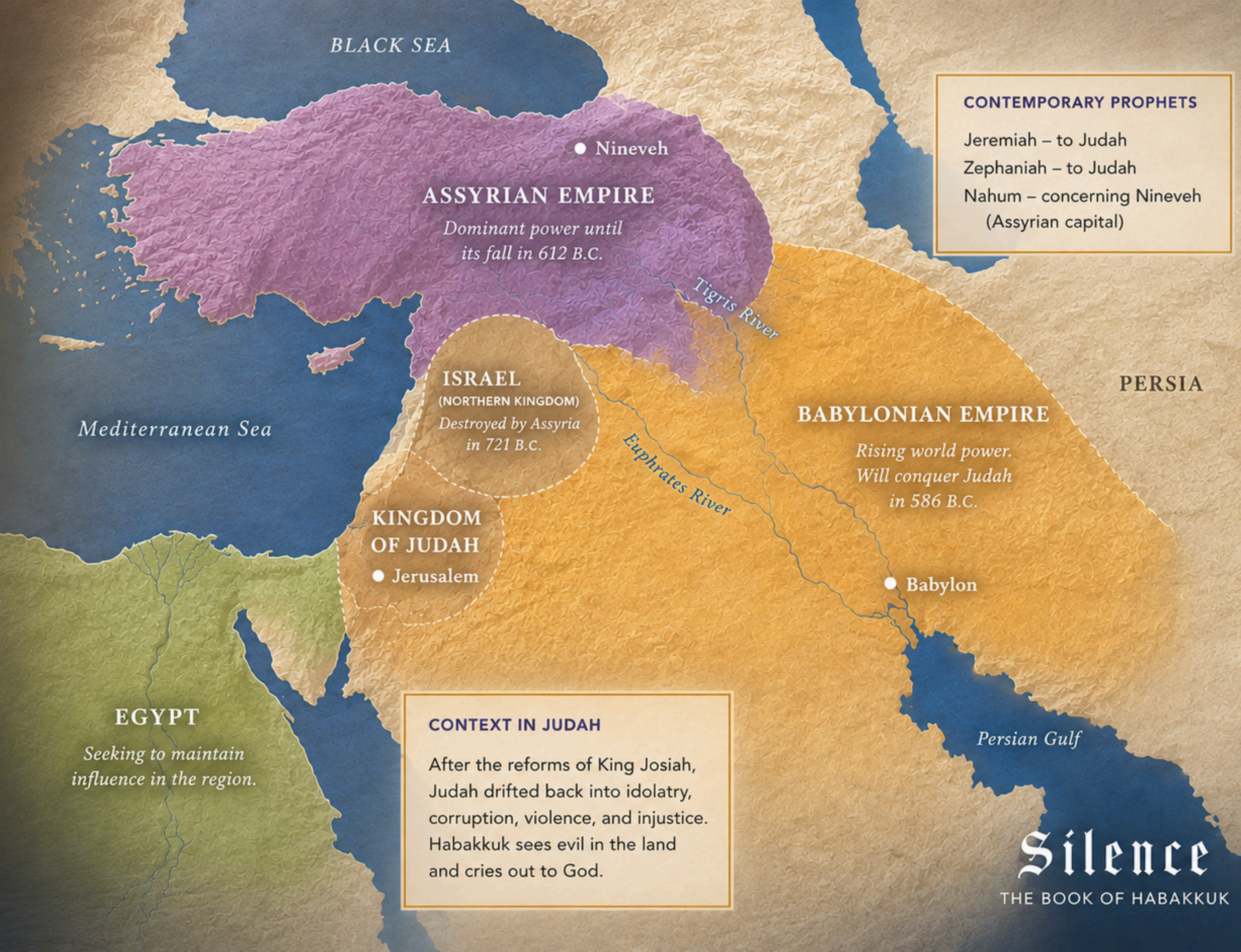
HISTORICAL CONTEXT

HABAKKUK MINISTERED IN JUDAH
LATE 7TH CENTURY B.C.
(APPROX. 620–605 B.C.)

- Israel (the northern kingdom) was destroyed by Assyria in 721 B.C.
- Assyria, the dominant empire, was collapsing.
- Babylon was rising as the new world power.
- Egypt still sought influence in the region.
- Judah was caught in the middle—spiritually, morally, and politically.

KEY

- ASSYRIAN EMPIRE
(PEAK: 8TH–7TH CENTURY B.C.)
- BABYLONIAN EMPIRE
(RISES: 7TH–6TH CENTURY B.C.)
- EGYPTIAN INFLUENCE
- KINGDOM OF JUDAH





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¹ The oracle that Habakkuk the prophet saw.

² O Lord, how long shall I cry for help,
and you will not hear?

Or cry to you "Violence!"
and you will not save?

Habakkuk 1:1-2

Silence

PROPHETS: SEE THE
CONDITION OF GOD'S PEOPLE
THROUGH GOD'S EYES AND
SPEAK GOD'S WORD INTO IT.

A HEAVY LOAD
OR BURDEN

¹ The oracle that Habakkuk the prophet saw.

² O Lord, how long shall I cry for help,
and you will not hear?
Or cry to you "Violence!"
and you will not save?

Habakkuk 1:1-2

Silence

GOD IS BIG ENOUGH FOR
YOUR HONEST QUESTIONS
& INVITES YOU TO BRING
THEM TO HIM.

Silence

³ Why do you make me see iniquity, and why do you idly look at wrong? Destruction and violence are before me; strife and contention arise. ⁴ So the law is paralyzed, and justice never goes forth. For the wicked surround the righteous; so justice goes forth perverted.

Habakkuk 1:3-4

Silence

THE SYSTEMS THAT WERE MEANT
TO BRING RIGHTEOUSNESS +
PROTECT THE VULNERABLE

³ Why do you make me see iniquity, and why do you
idly look at wrong? Destruction and violence are before
me; strife and contention arise. ⁴ So the law is
paralyzed, and justice never goes forth. For the wicked
surround the righteous; so justice goes forth perverted.

BY GOD'S
PEOPLE...NOT
OUTSIDE CULTURE

Habakkuk 1:3-4

Silence

WHERE HAVE WE CARED MORE ABOUT PROTECTING
REPUTATIONS THAN PROTECTING PEOPLE?

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WHERE HAVE WE LOVED BEING RIGHT MORE THAN
BEING RIGHTEOUS?

• • • •

WHERE HAVE WE BEEN SHAPED MORE BY POLITICS,
MEDIA, AND CULTURAL OUTRAGE THAN THE WORD +
SPIRIT OF GOD?

Silence



Silence

THE BOOK OF HABAKKUK

⁵ "Look among the nations, and see; wonder and be astounded. For I am doing a work in your days that you would not believe if told. ⁶ For behold, I am raising up the Chaldeans...

"GOD IS TOO GOOD TO BE UNKIND AND
HE IS TOO WISE TO BE MISTAKEN.
AND WHEN WE CANNOT TRACE HIS
HAND, WE MUST TRUST HIS HEART."

- Charles Spurgeon -


Silence

⁵ "Look among the nations, and see; wonder and be astounded. For I am doing a work in your days that you would not believe if told. ⁶ For behold, I am raising up the Chaldeans...

Habakkuk 1:5-6

Silence

⁵ "Look among the nations, and see; wonder and be astounded. For I am doing a work in your days that you would not believe if told. ⁶ For behold, I am raising up the Chaldeans...



THE BABYLONIAN
EMPIRE

Silence

Habakkuk 1:5-6

that bitter and hasty nation, who march through the breadth of the earth, to seize dwellings not their own.⁷ They are dreaded and fearsome; their justice and dignity go forth from themselves.

⁸ Their horses are swifter than leopards, more fierce than the evening wolves; their horsemen press proudly on. Their horsemen come from afar; they fly like an eagle swift to devour.⁹ They all come for violence, all their faces forward. They gather captives like sand.¹⁰ At kings they scoff, and at rulers they laugh. They laugh at every fortress, for they pile up earth and take it.

¹¹ Then they sweep by like the wind and go on, guilty men, whose own might is their god!”

Habakkuk 1:11

Silence

⁵ "Look among the nations, and see; wonder and be astounded. For I am doing a work in your days that you would not believe if told. ⁶ For behold, I am raising up the Chaldeans...

EVEN BABYLON
IS NOT OUTSIDE
THE SOVEREIGN
RULE OF GOD

Habakkuk 1:5-6

THE BABYLONIAN
EMPIRE
Silence

GOD CAN...

USE WICKED PEOPLE WITHOUT BECOMING WICKED.

GOVERN EVIL WITHOUT BEING GUILTY OF EVIL.

ALLOW WHAT HE HATES IN ORDER TO
ACCOMPLISH WHAT HE LOVES.

Silence

GOD CAN...

USE WICKED PEOPLE WITHOUT BECOMING WICKED.

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³⁸ Let it be known to you therefore, brothers, that through this man forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you, ³⁹ and by him everyone who believes is freed from everything from which you could not be freed by the law of Moses. ⁴⁰ Beware, therefore, lest what is said in the Prophets should come about:

⁴¹ ""Look, you scoffers, be astounded and perish; for I am doing a work in your days, a work that you will not believe, even if one tells it to you.""

Acts 13:38-41

Silence

ECHOES OF CALVARY

⁵ "Look among the nations, and see; wonder and be astounded. For I am doing a work in your days that you would not believe if told. ⁶ For behold, I am raising up the Chaldeans...

EVEN BABYLON
IS NOT OUTSIDE
THE SOVEREIGN
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Habakkuk 1:5-6

THE BABYLONIAN
EMPIRE
Silence

RECEIVING GOD'S ANSWER MEANS...

REMEMBERING THAT JUST BECAUSE GOD'S WAYS ARE
UNEXPECTED DOESN'T MEAN THEY ARE WRONG.

• • • •

REMEMBERING THAT JUST BECAUSE WE CAN'T UNDERSTAND HIS
METHODS DOESN'T MEAN HE HAS LOST CONTROL.

• • • •

REMEMBERING THAT JUST BECAUSE WE CAN'T SEE WHAT HE
IS DOING DOESN'T MEAN HE ISN'T WORKING.

Silence

¹² Are you not from everlasting,
O LORD my God, my Holy One? You will not die.
O LORD, you have ordained them as a judgment,
and you, O Rock, have established them for reproof.

Habakkuk 1:12

Silence

EVEN WHILE WRESTLING WITH WHAT HE
DOESN'T UNDERSTAND, HABAKKUK ROOTS
HIMSELF IN WHAT HE KNOWS TO BE TRUE.

¹² Are you not from everlasting,
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EVEN WHILE WRESTLING WITH WHAT HE DOESN'T UNDERSTAND, HABAKKUK ROOTS HIMSELF IN WHAT HE KNOWS TO BE TRUE.

MOVE FROM ASKING "WHY", "HOW", & "WHAT" QUESTIONS TO RECITING "WHO" STATEMENTS ABOUT GOD'S CHARACTER.

¹² Are you not from everlasting,
O LORD my God, my Holy One? You will not die.
O LORD, you have ordained them as a judgment,
and you, O Rock, have established them for reproof.

¹³ You who are of purer eyes than to see evil
and cannot look at wrong,
why do you idly look at traitors
and remain silent when the wicked swallows up
the man more righteous than he?

Habakkuk 1:13

Silence

¹⁴ You make mankind like the fish of the sea, like crawling things that have no ruler. ¹⁵ He brings all of them up with a hook; he drags them out with his net; he gathers them in his dragnet; so he rejoices and is glad. ¹⁶ Therefore he sacrifices to his net and makes offerings to his dragnet; for by them he lives in luxury, and his food is rich. ¹⁷ Is he then to keep on emptying his net and mercilessly killing nations forever?



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This Week

BRING YOUR QUESTIONS TO GOD
INSTEAD OF SUPPRESSING THEM.

PREACH THE TRUTH OF GOD'S
CHARACTER TO YOURSELF.

OFFER WORSHIP TO GOD RATHER
THAN YOUR OWN "NETS."

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