

# Questions and Answers

## Habakkuk

Lesson #1

### Introduction

The book of Habakkuk was written by a little known prophet thousands of years ago. It tells a story about an ancient people, living in a world so different from ours, and dealing with circumstances that may seem foreign to us. Yet, the lessons of this book are for today and can be applied to today's problems and circumstances.

Habakkuk was an Old Testament prophet who struggled with many of the same questions that you and I may be struggling with today. Is God fair? Is God really sovereign? Why do good people suffer and bad people go unpunished? Habakkuk was not afraid to bring these questions to God and to hear God's answers. Habakkuk was ready to be instructed, corrected, and change. Take a few minutes before the Lord as you begin this homework and ask Him to begin the same work in you. Be ready to be changed...corrected.....and instructed.

## History and Background

Timeline:	621 BC
Location:	Judah
Author:	Habakkuk
Theme:	"The just shall live by faith"

Understanding the background and history of this book will take it from black and white into full color. Although we went over this in our bible study, you may want to do some further research by looking at these references:

2 Kings 22, 23 and 24  
2 Chronicles 34, 35 and 36

Certainly you can now see why Habakkuk was heartbroken for his people and fearful for their future.

Record your thoughts and observations:

# Overview

1. Read through the three short chapters of Habakkuk. Write three things that spoke to you.
  - a.
  - b.
  - c.

## Questions

Read Chapter 1 again.

1. In verse 4, what concerns do you see that Habakkuk has for his people? Describe the situation in your own words.
2. In verse 2 Habakkuk freely and honestly expresses his frustration. What phrases does he use?
3. Have you ever experienced this same frustration? What was the situation? Be honest!
4. What questions are troubling you at this time in your life? Make a list of them below.

5. Read over your list. Be certain you have left nothing out. Habakkuk knew who to go to with his questions. In the same way, we must not be afraid or hesitate to go to our Heavenly Father for the answers we need. Take some time right now and pray through your list. Continue to do this *every day* as we study this book.
  
6. Read Psalm 102:1,2 and make it your prayer.

## Answers

In Habakkuk 1:5,6 God finally answers Habakkuk's questions and reveals to him His plan to deal with the situation that is troubling Habakkuk.

1. Who was God sending and what would they do?
  
2. Habakkuk 1:7-11 describes the Chaldeans (Babylonians) and the terrible destruction they will bring to His people and the nation of Judah. Briefly condense this description into your own words.
  
3. According to Habakkuk 1:11 what is the worst of their offenses?
  
4. Why do you think God would have chosen to use such a horrible means of correction?
  
5. Has God ever answered your prayers in a way that was difficult for you? See the scriptures below to encourage you and help you to understand.

2 Samuel 22:31  
Isaiah 55:9  
Deuteronomy 32:4

# More Questions

He is not finished asking questions. God's answer in Habakkuk 1:5-12 was not the answer Habakkuk was wanting or expecting and prompts Habakkuk to ask even deeper questions. Habakkuk is having trouble aligning God's character with God's actions.

1. How does Habakkuk address and describe God in Habakkuk 1:12? Notice his respect and reverence for the Lord.
  
2. What questions can you find in verses 12-14?
  
3. Describe Habakkuk's conflict.
  
4. In verses 15-17 Habakkuk writes what he himself knows about the Chaldeans. How does he describe them?
  
5. What does God's Word tell us about trusting Him when we don't understand?
  - a. Write out Proverbs 3:5 & 6:
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - b. What three things must we do in order for God to direct our path?
    - 1.
  
    - 2.
  
    - 3.

c. Also read and write out Isaiah 55:8 & 9:

d. Now, read, write and memorize Romans 8:28:

When my prayers are unanswered or when I am in painful and unresolved situations I always turn to Psalm 46 for help and encouragement. Close your homework time by reading this Psalm. Record the verses that ministered to you.

## Prayer

As always, close your study time in prayer. This week take time to commit any areas of unanswered prayer or prayers that have been answered in difficult ways to God. Follow the instruction in I Peter 5:7..... *casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.*