

Calvary Chapel of El Cajon Women's Bible Studies

HABAKKUK 1:5-11

Lesson 3

Habakkuk accused God of not hearing, of not saving, of exposing him to trouble and not doing anything about it - all false accusations. How do you handle being falsely accused? How does God? Although Habakkuk hadn't seen it yet, God was listening, He was doing something. In our lesson this week we will study God's response to Habakkuk's cries. Although God's response is specifically to Habakkuk and the nation of Israel, ask Him to reveal to you, through this week's study, His heart and intentions for all of His people.

DAY ONE: Read Habakkuk Chapter 1

1. The three main characters of Habakkuk are *God*, *Habakkuk* and the *Chaldeans*. Last week you marked all of the references to the *Chaldeans*. This week mark each reference in chapter 1 to God, including pronouns that refer to Him such as *I* and *you*. Now, from the words you marked, make a list of what Habakkuk reveals about *God*. Next to each item, record the verse reference in parenthesis. The first one is done for you.

1. Habakkuk cried to the LORD and it seemed like He did not hear or save. (2)

a. Go back over your list about *God*. Next to each item, draw a circle if it relates to *what God has done*, a square if it relates to something *God said He is going to do*, or a triangle if it describes *God's character*.

DAY TWO: Read Habakkuk 1:5

1. In the opening verses of Habakkuk, the prophet asks God some questions. Habakkuk 1:5-11 is God's reply. Notice, God did not specifically answer Habakkuk's questions. Rather He spoke to Habakkuk's fears and concerns. From Habakkuk 1:5, what did God tell Habakkuk to do?

a. From the same verse, what did God tell Habakkuk **He** would do?

2. Acts 13 reveals the account of Paul and Barnabas preaching the gospel in the synagogue in Antioch. At the close of his message, Paul warns them: *Beware therefore, lest what has been spoken in the prophets come upon you:* He then quotes from a portion of Habakkuk 1:5. Record Paul's warning from Acts 13:41.

a. It is believed that Paul's intention, knowing that the Jews were well aware of the fulfillment of Habakkuk's prophesy and the judgment of the Chaldeans, was reminding them that God did indeed judge rejection of Him in ways beyond their understanding. Why do you think some people have the idea that God winks at sin and unbelief?

1.) What does the Word of God say about this?

1 Corinthians 6:9

Galatians 6:7

b. Rather than reap the consequences of sin, what is a better alternative?

Proverbs 28:13

2 Chronicles 7:14

Isaiah 55:7

c. According to Isaiah 55:7, to what degree does God pardon the one who *forsakes his way and returns to the Lord*?

1.) What does it mean to *forsake sin*?

*I have swept away your sins like the morning mists.
I have scattered your offenses like the clouds.
Oh, return to Me, for I have paid the price to set you free.*
- Isaiah 44:22 NLT

DAY THREE: Read Habakkuk 1:6-11

1. In Habakkuk 1:6-11, God explains the *work* He foretold in verse 5. What did He say He was doing? (vs. 6)

2. The Chaldeans were the Babylonians. List a few things that God said about them.

3. The Chaldeans thought they were acting in their own strength. According to Habakkuk 1:6, Who was *raising them up*?
 - a. The Chaldeans were an evil people. What do you think God meant when He said that **He** was *raising them up*?

4. God is not quick to punish. He is long-suffering. He warned the Israelites of impending judgment over and over again. Look up the following Scriptures and record just three of God's numerous warnings to Israel:
 - a. Jeremiah 21:4
 - b. Jeremiah 25:9
 - c. Jeremiah 37:8-10

*For thus says the Lord GOD, the Holy One of Israel:
"In returning and rest you shall be saved;
In quietness and confidence shall be your strength."
But you would not...
-Isaiah 30:15*

DAY FOUR: Read Habakkuk 1:10

1. *They scoff at kings, and princes are scorned by them. They deride every stronghold, for they heap up earthen mounds and seize it* (Habakkuk 1:10). The Chaldeans took Zedekiah, the very last king of Judah and killed his sons right in front of him. Then they put out his eyes (2 Kings 25:7). The fulfillment of the last part of Habakkuk 1:10 was recorded in Jeremiah 32:24. Write the last phrase of that verse below.

2. God is not only faithful to perform His promised judgments, but He is true to all of His promises to us. What do the following verses reveal that confirms this?

Joshua 23:14

1 Kings 8:56

Luke 21:33

2 Corinthians 1:20

3. How have you been personally impressed with the reliability of God's Word?

DAY FIVE: Read Habakkuk 1:11

1. Although God had raised the Chaldeans up and allowed them to defeat Israel, who, according to Habakkuk 1:11 did they *ascribe this power to*?

2. According to Psalm 115:1, Who are we to *give glory to*?

3. Read the story of the ten lepers in Luke 17:11-19. According to verse 16, *besides falling down on his face and feet*, what did the Samaritan do that *glorified God*?
 - a. In what way is *giving thanks* a way to *glorify God*?

*Not unto us, O LORD, not unto us, but unto Thy name give glory,
for Thy mercy, and for Thy truth's sake.
-Psalm 115:1*

DAY SIX: Review Habakkuk 1:5-11

1. God is not done answering the problem of pain. However, we can already glean some truths from Habakkuk 1:5-11. God is omniscient (all knowing); He is in control; He judges sin; and He is long-suffering. How does knowing these things about God encourage you when you are facing difficult times?

Challenge: Find Scripture that describes each of these attributes of God.

*Remember the former things of old, for I am God, and there is no other;
I am God, and there is none like Me, declaring the end from the beginning,
and from ancient times things that are not yet done,
saying, 'My counsel shall stand, and I will do all My pleasure,
-Isaiah 46:9-10*