

Major Lessons from the Minor Prophets

Habakkuk: Trusting God When You Don't Understand

Review:

Habakkuk's **complaint***: Why do you _____? (1:3)

Habakkuk's **mistake**: He drew faulty _____ from insufficient _____!

Do we ever do that?

God's **response**: I'm going to _____ you with what I do. (1:5)

(Not only *what* I do, but *how* and through *whom* I do it!)

God's **power**: I will use _____ to accomplish a purpose quite different than it intended!

The **Babylonians** (Chaldeans) – God's unexpected tool:

Habakkuk 1:12-17 (ESV)

¹² Are you not from everlasting, O LORD my God, my Holy One? We shall 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? 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?

Habakkuk's issues:

How does this fit with your _____?

How can you use _____ to punish evil?

The Babylonians are _____ than we are!

How to **trust God when you don't understand what He's doing**:

4 suggestions (adapted from Martyn Lloyd-Jones):

1) Stop and _____ and _____.

We tend to react quickly – often verbally. We also tend to seek advice before seeking _____.

Take some time and think and pray.

2) Restate the _____.

Find 'sound footing' by focusing on what you *do* know, not on what you *don't*.

You may be confused now, but there are times when you have not been. What did you trust in then?

What did Habakkuk know?

God is ...

3) _____ what you know – the basic principles – to the problem at hand.

How do I apply what I _____ (not what I _____) to this situation or circumstance?

What _____ speak to this situation?

How Habakkuk applied truth:

Because God is everlasting ...

Because God is holy ...

Because God is sovereign ...

Because God is faithful ...

Because God is personal ...

What if you are still perplexed? What should you do?

4) If still struggling, commit the problem to God in _____.

Don't ...

Do ...

Habakkuk 2:1 (ESV)

¹I will take my stand at my watchpost and station myself on the tower, and look out to see what he will say to me, and what I will answer concerning my complaint.