

Major Lessons from the Minor Prophets

Habakkuk 2:2-20 Trusting God by Faithfulness

Review:

Habakkuk was a prophet who lived between the invasions and occupations of the Assyrians and the Babylonians

The book is a dialogue between the prophet and God.

So far we have studied...

Habakkuk's complaint: Why do you tolerate evil?

"Why do you make me see iniquity, and why do you idly look at wrong?" ***Habakkuk 1:3***

God's response: I will judge evil Judah through the "more" evil Babylonians.

"For behold, I am raising up the Chaldeans," ***Habakkuk 1:6a***

Habakkuk's second complaint: How can you use evil to punish evil? What about them?

"Is he then to keep on emptying his net and mercilessly killing nations forever?" ***Habakkuk 1:17***

Habakkuk resigns himself to take up his post and wait on the Lord's answer.

The Lord's Response:

The Lord reminds Habakkuk why he can wait on the Lord

1. He is _____
2. He is _____
3. God has _____
4. An answer is _____

The Lord explains his calculus for judgment...Trust man or Trust God

1. The arrogant man is not upright (v. 4a, 5)
2. The righteous shall live by his faith. (v. 4b)
 - a. A _____ answer
 - b. "The righteous" –

Who is justified before a holy God? No one. We learn this in Romans. Paul explains that we cannot earn righteousness because we are by definition, unrighteous. We all have sin and there is nothing we can do to right our unrighteousness.

How do we get it then? It is God's _____

"But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it—the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus."
Romans 3:21-24

c. "Shall Live" –

The idea here is not eternal life. The idea here is _____ living. The Apostle Paul quotes this verse in Galatians as he admonishes them for leaving the grace gift of salvation and beginning to practice the Jewish law again.

"O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you?"

Galatians 3:1a

"Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh?"

Galatians 3:3

d. "By his faith" –

According to the book of Hebrews, faith is believing God and acting upon that belief. The word could be translated here as _____

Martin Luther's Key Verse

The Lord judges the Babylonians.

1. A taunt song – It is the kind of song that a once-oppressed people might direct against its former oppressor.
2. Five Woes
 - a. (verses 6-8) Judgment against _____
 - b. (verses 9-11) Judgment against _____
 - c. (verses 12-14) Judgment against _____
 - d. (verses 15-18) Judgment against _____
 - e. (verse 19) Judgment against _____
3. In the Lord's description of the sins of the Babylonians, he reminds us that he is already judging them in that they are captive to these sins. Remember Romans 1, where part of God's wrath comes when God gives the unrighteous up to their sin. (Romans 1:18, 24, 26, 28)

The Lord remains.

"...but the righteous shall live by his faith"

Habakkuk 2:4b

"For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD as the waters cover the sea."

Habakkuk 2:14

"But the LORD is in his holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before him."

Habakkuk 2:20

From D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones' sermon series

- a. History is under God's Control
- b. History follows a divine plan
- c. History follows a divine timetable
- d. History is bound up with the divine kingdom