

A LOOK AT THE BOOK HABAKKUK

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Author and Date

Habakkuk's background is not known.

It is assumed by some that he may have been a Levite.

The use of music in worship was the responsibility of the priest.

The most common view is that the book was written about 606 or 607 B.C., after the death of Josiah, and during the subsequent moral decline.

Background

The book was written shortly before the fall of Judah, probably during the reign of Jehoiakim. The period was noted primarily for the decline which followed the death of Josiah and eventually led to Judah's destruction.

The Chaldeans seem to have been well known already.

The fall of Assyria (612 B.C.) probably occurred prior to writing the book, and possibly even the battle of Carchemish (605 B.C.).

Written against backdrop of sin, injustice, and idolatry.

Purpose and Theme

God is going to use the Chaldeans (Neo-Babylonia) to discipline Judah for sin, and then judge the Chaldeans because the same sins and worse are in them.

It deals with some of the basic issues raised by God's people when they suffer at the hands of the prosperous wicked.

God is in control of history and will at His established time recompense men according to their pattern of conduct.

The book's purpose seems to be dual:

To the unfaithful it is a message of warning concerning coming judgment, to call God's people to repentance.

To those who have been faithful to God and have suffered from the injustice of the wicked it's a word to encourage them to trust God and to remain faithful. God knows their affliction and will repay justly in the end.

What lessons do we learn from our study of this book?

- *About God?*
- *About the unrighteous?*
- *About ourselves?*

HABAKKUK

The righteous live by faith

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DEBATE WITH GOD 1	ANSWER FROM GOD 2	PRAISE TO GOD 3
His Problem	God's Solution	His Response
Introduction 1:1	Clarity of the Judgment 2:1-2	Petition for the Fulfillment of the Plan 3:1-2
His First Complaint 1:2-11	Certainty of the Judgment 2:3	
His question 1:2-4	Comfort from the Judgment 2:4	
God's answer 1:5-11	Criteria for the Judgment 2:5-20	Praise because of God's Intervention 3:3-15
His Second Complaint 1:12-17	Pride 2:5-8	
His question 1:12-17	Covetousness 2:9-11	
His question 1:12-17	Violence 2:12-14	Praise Based on Trust in God 3:16-19
God's answer ==>	Immorality 2:15-17	
	Idolatry 2:18-20	