

---




---

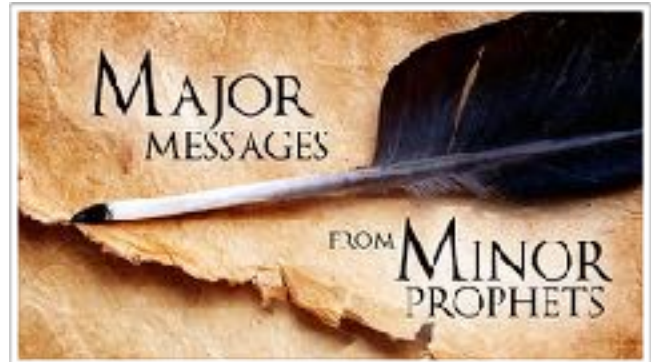
We know next to nothing about the man Habakkuk in biographical terms. His name appears in the Bible only in Habakkuk 1:1 and 3:1, with no biographical details provided other than his title "the prophet." Habakkuk was a contemporary of Jeremiah and Zephaniah, and since he speaks of a Babylonian invasion, he probably

lived toward the end of Josiah's reign.

Habakkuk's words come after the fall of Assyrian rule and Nahum's prophecy, but before the Chaldean/Babylonian invasion (cf. 3:16). Israel was forewarned long before (**Deut.**

**8:1, 7-14, 19-20**) that such a consequence would come should they prove unfaithful, and now Habakkuk is one of many to deliver the message of judgement. But Habakkuk is

unusual among the prophets in that he openly questions the working of God, and in each case God answers him. The book can be broken down into a series of exchanges as follows:



**Habakkuk's First Complaint & God's Response (1:1-11)**

**Habakkuk's Second Complaint & God's Response (1:12-2:1)**

**Evil Punished, Faith Rewarded (2:2-20)**

**Habakkuk's Trust & Joy in God (3)**

Through Habakkuk we're reminded of the value of faithfulness and hope. Though we may not have all the answers to life's disappointments and frustrations, and although none can trace the hand of God, what we discover in Habakkuk is that we don't need to. We simply need to live by faith, trusting that a righteous God will bring into judgement all evil and that, in the end, those faithful to Him will overcome and live forever.

---

1. What was Habakkuk’s solution to the disappointments and frustrations of life? (1:1-2, 5-6, 12-13; 2:4-5, 9-10; cf. 2 Tim. 2:8-13)

---

---

---

---

2. What are the five woes pronounced against Babylon? (2:5-20) What does God have in store for the arrogant and ruthlessly cruel? How would the Lord be glorified in this context? (2:14)

---

---

---

---

3. What similar teaching do we find in Ez. 38:23; 39:12-13, 21-23? Why should this give us hope? cf. Rev. 17:3-6, 14; 18:4-7; 19:1-6

---

---

---

---

4. What does it mean that the righteous shall live by faith? (2:4) Using a lexicon or other appropriate language tool, find the meaning of the word translated “faith” in this text, what does it mean? How do Rom. 1:16-17 and Heb. 10:36-39 help us understand what it means to live by faith?

---

---

---

---