

A Tour Through the Divine Library
(Habakkuk)

I. General Introduction to Habakkuk

- Title/Author: named after Habakkuk, the prophet whose words it records (1:1: 3:1)
- Date: ~ 610 BC, shortly before the Babylonian exile of the southern kingdom of Judah (1:6)
- Theme/Purpose: How do we harmonize the presence of evil and injustice with the existence of a God who is sovereign, good, and loving? In spite of all appearances to the contrary, God is still on His throne as the Lord of history and Ruler of nations.
- Structure:
 - I. Habakkuk's Problems (chs. 1, 2)
 - II. Habakkuk's Prayer (ch. 3)

II. General Overview of Habakkuk

- Habakkuk's Problems: Habakkuk's First Complaint (1:2-4); God's Reply (1:5-11); Habakkuk's Second Complaint (1:12-2:1); God's Reply (2:2-20)
- Habakkuk's Prayer: Petition for God's Mercy (3:1, 2); Praise for God's Power (3:3-15); Acknowledgment of God's Sufficiency (3:16-19)

III. Prominent Themes in Habakkuk

- God's Character: justice, holiness, wrath, sovereignty, power, glory
- God's Method of Judgment (Gen. 15:13-16; Is. 10:5-7, 12, 15, 16)
- The Centrality and Importance of Worship (3:17-19)
- Justification by Faith: Hab. 2:4 → Rom. 1:17; Gal. 3:11, Heb. 10:38

IV. Christ in Habakkuk

- Hab. 2:3 → Heb. 10:37 (OT: a vision; LXX: a person; NT: Christ)
- Three Comings of Christ: 1st Advent; 70 AD (Luke 21:28); 2nd Advent
- Lesson: No matter when they live in history, God's people must wait patiently for the destruction of their enemies.

V. Practical Lessons in Habakkuk

- 1) Be worshiping God.
- 2) Be waiting upon God.
- 3) Be trusting God.