

SERMON OUTLINE

I. The Prophet's Petition (vs. 1-2)

- a. Prayer for Revival
- b. Plea for Mercy

II. The Prophet's Praise (vs. 3-15)

- a. Awesome in Splendor
- b. Ruler of Creation
- c. Warrior of Salvation

III. The Prophet's Persistence (vs. 16-19)

- a. Fear of the Future
- b. Firm in Faith

BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, January 15, 2017

Passage: Habakkuk 3:1-19

Memory Passage: Habakkuk 3:17-18

DAY 1 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read Habakkuk 3:1-19** Verse 1 describes this section as a prayer. What specific requests does Habakkuk make in his prayer?

(b) What other elements of prayer do you find in this passage (other than making specific requests to God)?

(c) What are some things we can learn from Habakkuk's prayer that might help us to be more effective in our own prayer life?

DAY 2 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read Habakkuk 3:1-2** In verse 1, we find the word "Shigionoth." The only other time this word is used in the Old Testament is in Psalm 7:1 where the singular form "Shiggion" is found. Although the meaning of this word is rather obscure, most commentators believe it signifies strong feeling or emotion, as in a mournful poem set to music. **Read Psalm 7.** What similarities and/or differences do you find between the two passages?

(b) In what sense did Habakkuk "fear" the work of the LORD (v. 2)?

(c) What does Habakkuk mean by the following statement: "In wrath remember mercy?"

DAY 3 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read Habakkuk 3:3-6** Using the maps in the back of your Bible (or similar resource), find the location of Teman and Mt. Paran. What might be the reason Habakkuk references these two locations in verse 3?

(b) In verse 3 we read "His splendor covered the heavens and the earth was full of his praise". What other Biblical passages can you find that contain a similar theme? How does this statement fit with the themes of "power, pestilence and plague" in verses 4 & 5?

(c) What do you think Habakkuk had in mind when he used the imagery of "measuring, shaking, scattering, and sinking" in v. 6?

(d) What kinds of things do you normally think of within the context of "praise" and God's "splendor"? Do you tend to praise God and acknowledge His splendor when it comes to matters of "pestilence, plague, shaking, scattering" etc. in our world today? Should we praise God for such things?

DAY 4 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read Habakkuk 3:7-15** Within this section we find a good deal of imagery of God as a great warrior. What is the ultimate purpose of this warfare (note specifically vs. 8 & 13)?

(b) How does God's concern for the salvation of His people fit within His stated purpose of sending the Chaldeans as instruments of judgement against Judah (ch.1:5-11)?

(c) **Read 1 Corinthians 15:24-26; Ephesians 6:10-20 & Revelation 12:7-11** What do these New Testament passages teach us about the methods and purpose of spiritual warfare?

DAY 5 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read Habakkuk 3:16-19** What does verse 16 tell us about Habakkuk's state of mind as he anticipates the events to come?

(b) How does Habakkuk's attitude in verses 16-19 of chapter 3 compare to what we found in chapter 1?

(c) How is it that Habakkuk can rejoice when he sees such a dismal future on the horizon?

(d) What can we learn from these verses when facing difficult times in our lives today?

DATE: January 15, 2017
3:1-19

PASSAGE: Habakkuk

A Prophet's Prayer