

# WHEN THE WICKED JUDGE

Pastor Lucas Almeida—Central Baptist Church—March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022

## Habakkuk 1:12-2:1

ESV

[12] Are you not from everlasting,  
O LORD my God, my Holy One?  
We shall not die.  
O LORD, you have ordained them as a judgment,  
and you, O Rock, have established them for reproof.  
[13] You who are of purer eyes than to see evil  
and cannot look at wrong,  
why do you idly look at traitors  
and remain silent when the wicked swallows up  
the man more righteous than he?  
[14] You make mankind like the fish of the sea,  
like crawling things that have no ruler.  
[15] He brings all of them up with a hook;  
he drags them out with his net;  
he gathers them in his dragnet;  
so he rejoices and is glad.  
[16] Therefore he sacrifices to his net  
and makes offerings to his dragnet;  
for by them he lives in luxury,  
and his food is rich.  
[17] Is he then to keep on emptying his net  
and mercilessly killing nations forever?  
  
[1] I will take my stand at my watchpost  
and station myself on the tower,  
and look out to see what he will say to me,  
and what I will answer concerning my complaint.

## INTRODUCTION

**Main thought:** When our theology and our experience in life don't seem to match, Habakkuk reminds us to prayerfully wait on the Lord.

## 1) HABAKKUK'S THEOLOGICAL TURMOIL

When we don't understand why God is allowing us to go through hardship, we need to go back to the basics. What do we know is true about God?

What is Habakkuk's theology?

- God is eternal
- God is personal
- God is faithful
- God is just

More than ridding us of our sufferings, God wants us to find purpose in our suffering.

**Romans 12:19**—*Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord."*

**Romans 3:10-11** says, *"None is righteous, no, not one; no one understands; no one seeks for God."*

## (2) HABAKKUK'S EXPERIENTIAL TURMOIL

God's love is transforming; his love does not leave us to our own devices, but it leads us to a place where our confidence leans on nothing else but on God himself.

**Job 5:17-18**—*[17] "Behold, blessed is the one whom God reproves; therefore despise not the discipline of the Almighty. [18] For he wounds, but he binds up; he shatters, but his hands heal."*

**Psalms 119:71**—*It is good for me that I was afflicted, that I might learn your statutes.*

**1 Peter 1:6-7**—*[6] In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, [7] so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.*

## 3) HABAKKUK WAITS ON THE LORD

**Exodus 14:14**—*The Lord will fight for you, and you have only to be silent.*

**Psalms 37:7**—*Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him...*

**Deuteronomy 7:9**—*Know therefore that the LORD your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant...*

"I realized that the deepest spiritual lessons are not learned by His letting us have our way in the end, but by His making us wait, bearing with us in love and patience until we are able to honestly to pray what He taught His disciples to pray: Thy will be done." —**Elizabeth Elliot**