

Sermon Notes:

Series: Minor Prophet, Major Message, # 6

Habakkuk

This brief book stands out among the Minor Prophets, in that the message is a dialogue between Habakkuk and God. This is in contrast with the words of rebuke and warning usually given to Israel or Judah, or foreign nations.

In chapters 1 and 2 the prophet lodges two complaints against the Lord, and then records how the Lord responded. Chapter 3 is the prayer Habakkuk wrote, after listening to God's answers.

The book is written to the inhabitants of Judah, around the year 630 BC. So that is still well over 100 years before the invasion by Babylon and the Exile.

He complains about the sin of Judah – 1:2-4

He complains about the sins of Babylon – 1:12-17

Reflection:

1) How much time do you spend stressing about the wrongs that others commit? That could be complaining about other believers (Judah in this case), or about the sins of those who do not know God (Babylon). Hopefully it seems clear to you from the Bible, that our first call is to recognize and repent of our own sins, and not spend time detailing to God how others are doing wrong. Write a prayer to the Lord about this >

2) Read the prayer in Ch. 3 and write out a prayer of praise to God, based on how Habakkuk responded to God >

Some well-known and beloved verses from Habakkuk:

1:4 I am going to do something in your days that you would not believe, even if you were told.

2:4 The righteous will live by faith.

2:14 For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

2:20 The Lord is in his holy temple; let all the earth be silent before him.

3:2 I have heard of your fame, I stand in awe of your deeds, Lord. Repeat them in our day, in our time make them known; in wrath remember mercy.

3:17-18 Though the fig tree does not bud and there are not grapes on the vines, though the olive crop fails and the fields produce no food, though there are no sheep in the pen and no cattle in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will be joyful in God my Savior.

3:19 The sovereign Lord is my strength; he makes my feet like the feet of a deer, he enables me to tread on the heights.