
BOOK OVERVIEW

Habakkuk

Author: The prophet Habakkuk (means “embrace”)

Date: 610-599 B.C. (Just before the Babylonian captivity)

Recipients: Not indicated, but probably Judah.

Summary: The book shows the holiness and righteousness God, Who must and will punish sin.

Key verses: Habakkuk 2:4

Notes:

The Bible tells us nothing else about Habakkuk and his life.

Habakkuk 2:4 contains the classic theme of the Reformation, “the just shall live by faith.” (Romans 1:17)

Jehoiakim was probably king in Judea as Habakkuk was prophesying.

Habakkuk asks God two questions: First, “Why aren’t the wicked men of Judah punished?”(1:1-4) God answers by saying He will use the Chaldean’s to punish Judah. (1:5-11) Second, “Why use a wicked nation like the Chaldeans to punish Judah?” (1:12-2:1) God answers that in the end the Chaldeans will also be judged. (2:2-20)

The book concludes with Habakkuk’s declaration of his complete trust in God, in spite of what was to come. (3:18-19).

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