

**BOOK OF HABAKKUK**  
**GOD'S ANSWER TO HABAKKUK'S BURDEN**  
**HABAKKUK 1:5-11**

**Introduction**

Last time we took a look at the first four verses here and we examined **HABAKKUK'S BURDEN**. Habakkuk was a **confused, bewildered**, man of God that was burdened by what he saw in his nation, the nation of Judah. There was **strife, contention, violence, and spoiling**. There was **lawlessness and a lack of justice and judgment**. And top all of that off **the wicked were oppressing the righteous!**

**And Habakkuk not only could not come to grips with that happening, but it appeared to him that the LORD was oblivious to what was happening!** He was wrong! The LORD was not oblivious! Longsuffering, but not oblivious!

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Some of us are **confused and bewildered and burdened** for what we see happening in our own dear nation! God is not oblivious to what is happening now either or the plight of those of us that are His children!

In fact, what we see happening is exactly what Paul described to Timothy about what would happen in these last days! What are we expecting?  
*2 Timothy 3:1-5—"1 This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. 2 For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, 3 Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, 4 Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; 5 Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away."*

*2 Timothy 3:12-13—"12 Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution. 13 But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived."*

*2 Timothy 4:3-4—"3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; 4 And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables."*

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**In our minds and in our hearts we knew that this time was going to come before the LORD comes back! Nevertheless, we still are confused, bewildered, and burdened!**

**I. GOD REVEALED THAT HE WAS ABOUT TO DO SOMETHING IN HABAKKUK'S DAY THAT HE MIGHT FIND HARD TO BELIEVE! (Vs 5)**

**A. God Said That Was Going To Intervene!**

God graciously answers Habakkuk and tells him that **He is going to do something!** ("*...for I will work a work...*")

**B. God Said That Habakkuk Was Going To See God Intervene! ("*...for I will work a work in your days...*")**

Not only was God going to do something, but He said **He was going to do it in Habakkuk's lifetime!**

**Now understand that this was one of those GOOD NEWS/BAD NEWS scenarios for Habakkuk!**

**The GOOD NEWS was that God was going to do something and Habakkuk would see it!**

**The BAD NEWS was that Habakkuk was going to see it because he was going to experience it first hand!**

**C. God Said That Habakkuk Was Going To Have A Hard Time Believing What The LORD Was Doing!**

This thing that the LORD would do would cause Habakkuk to "*wonder marvelously*".

That means that he would be **awed by it, he would be amazed** by it, he would **wonder** or **marvel** at it, he would be **astonished** by it!

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But it was going to be such a happening that **it was also going to be unbelievable even though the LORD was telling him that it was coming!**

Can't you just imagine that after the LORD revealed *verse 5* to Habakkuk that he was sitting on the edge of his seat with anticipation **wondering already about what this great thing the LORD was about to do?**

The unveiling of this Prophecy was a mystery that Habakkuk was about to find out!

**II. GOD REVEALED HIS PLAN TO JUDGE THE NATION OF JUDAH AT THE HANDS OF THE CHALDEANS! (Vs 6-11)**  
*(The Chaldeans, the Babylonian Empire, King Nebuchadnezzar)*

**A. The LORD Raised Up The Chaldeans For His Purposes!**

The language of *verse 6* justifies the conclusion that at the time of this prophecy, Babylon was not thought of as the great world power!

**B. We See The Chaldeans Described By The LORD!**

**1. They Were Bitter! (Vs 6a)**

This can point to their *lack of mercy*. They were **ferocious...not sparing...without pity!**

**2. They Were Hasty! (Vs 6b)**

**They were swift! They were on you "before fast!"**  
*Deuteronomy 28:49-50—"49 The LORD shall bring a nation against thee from far, from the end of the earth, as swift as the eagle flieth; a nation whose tongue thou shalt not understand; 50 A nation of fierce countenance, which shall not regard the person of the old, nor shew favour to the young:"*

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*Jeremiah 5:15—"Lo, I will bring a nation upon you from far, O house of Israel, saith the LORD: it is a mighty nation, it is an ancient nation, a nation whose language thou knowest not, neither understandest what they say."*

**3. They Were Thorough! (Vs 6c)**

*Habakkuk 1:6c "...which shall march through the breadth of the land, to possess the dwellingplaces that are not theirs."*

**4. They Were Terrible! (Vs 7a)**

The word "*terrible*" means they were "*frightful*"!

**5. They Were Dreadful! (Vs 7b)**

The word "*dreadful*" means "*to frighten or to cause to fear*"!

**6. They Were Proudful And Arrogant! (Vs 7c)**

The *judgment* they would carry out would be because of their pride and desire to maintain their *dignity* (*i.e. their reputation!*) They honored no god but themselves!

Pride makes wicked men to be even more wicked!

**7. Their Horsemen Were Especially Swift And Fierce! (Vs 8)**

Like a wolf that has hunted all day without finding any prey would be ravenous in the evening and exceedingly more fierce!  
*Zephaniah 3:3—"...evening wolves; they gnaw not the bones till the morrow."*

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Like an eagle diving for its prey is swift and fierce!

*Jeremiah 4:13—“Behold, he shall come up as clouds, and his chariots shall be as a whirlwind: his horses are swifter than eagles. Woe unto us! for we are spoiled.”*

*Jeremiah 5:6—“Wherefore a lion out of the forest shall slay them, and a wolf of the evenings shall spoil them, a leopard shall watch over their cities: every one that goeth out thence shall be torn in pieces: because their transgressions are many, and their backslidings are increased.”*

- 8. They Shall Come All For Violence! (Vs 9a)**  
They are all about being violent! **“Psychopathic”** *i.e. They enjoyed inflicting pain and misery!*
- 9. Their Faces Shall Sup Up As The East Wind! (Vs 9b)**  
In that area the east wind blows in from the desert, gathering sand in its path. Such winds were a terror to the inhabitants because they blasted the crops and were very destructive!
- 10. Kings And Princes And Strongholds Are No Match For Them! (Vs 10)**
- 11. He Will Be Used Of The One True God To Punish God's People, But He Will Attribute It To The Power Of His God! (Vs 11)**

**III. GOD BROUGHT HIS WORD TO PASS!**  
*(2 Chronicles 36:14-21)*

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- A. All The Chief Priests Transgressed God's Law And Polluted God's House! (Vs 14)**
- B. The People Sinned Against The Goodness And Compassion Of God Until There Was No Remedy! (Vs 15-16)**
  - 1. By Mocking His Messengers!**
  - 2. By Despising His Words!**
  - 3. By Misusing His Prophets!**
- C. The LORD Brought Nebuchadnezzar And His Army, Who Had No Compassion, Down On His People! (Vs 17)**
- D. All The Vessels And Treasures Of The House Of God As Well As The Treasures Of The King And His Princes Were Carried Away To Babylon As Well! (Vs 18)**
- E. They Burned Down The House Of God And All The Palaces With Fire And Brake Down The Wall Of Jerusalem! (Vs 19)**
- F. Those Who Were Not Killed Were Carried Away Captive To Babylon To Serve The King And His Sons! (Vs 20)**
- G. All Of This Was Done To Fulfill The Word Of The LORD By The Hand Of Jeremiah! (Vs 21)**

**Conclusion**

The LORD will fulfill His Word! Listen, the LORD is about to do something in our day that many find hard to believe! Amen!

The Rapture will be unbelievable...

The Tribulation Period will also be unbelievable...