

## Quotes to Consider

'Let no one say when he is tempted, 'I am being tempted by God'; for God cannot be tempted by evil, and He Himself does not tempt anyone...'<sup>17</sup> Every good thing given and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shifting shadow. <sup>18</sup> In the exercise of His will He brought us forth by the word of truth, so that we would be a kind of first fruits among His creatures."  
-James 1:13, 17-18

'Therefore we do not lose heart, but though our outer man is decaying, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day. <sup>17</sup> For momentary, light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison, <sup>18</sup> while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal."  
-2 Corinthians 4:16-18

'Then Job arose and tore his robe and shaved his head, and he fell to the ground and worshiped. <sup>21</sup> He said, 'Naked I came from my mother's womb, And naked I shall return there. The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away. Blessed be the name of the LORD.'<sup>22</sup> Through all this Job did not sin nor did he blame God."  
-Job 1:20-22

"'Who shall not fear Thee, O Lord, and glorify Thy name? for Thou only art holy' (Rev. 15:4). He only is independently, infinitely, immutably holy. In Scripture He is frequently styled 'The Holy One': He is so because the sum of all moral excellency is found in Him. He is absolute Purity, unsullied even by the shadow of sin. 'God is light, and in Him is no darkness at all' (1 John 1:5). Holiness is the very excellency of the Divine nature: the great God is 'glorious in holiness' (Ex. 15:11)."  
-A.W. Pink

"There is no question that adversity is difficult. It usually takes us by surprise and seems to strike where we are most vulnerable. To us it often appears completely senseless and irrational, but to God none of it is either senseless or irrational. He has a purpose in every pain He brings or allows in our lives. We can be sure that in some way He intends it for our profit and His glory."  
-Jerry Bridges

"Frequently it is when we are crushed and devastated that the cross speaks most powerfully to us. The wounds of Christ then become Christ's credentials. The world mocks, but we are assured of God's love by Christ's wounds."  
--D. A. Carson



# HABAKKUK

## STUDY GUIDE

GRACE GROUPS  
TOGETHER PURSUING CHRIST

# HABAKKUK 1:

## BACKGROUND:

- The prophet Habakkuk lived in a time when the Babylonians (Chaldeans) were a rising world power. In fact, a few short years after Habakkuk was written, Babylon conquered the southern nation of Judah.
  - Habakkuk prophesies as a prophet from the southern nation of Judah as he witnessed the nation spiraling downward into wickedness and idolatry.
  - The book itself is essentially a conversation between Habakkuk (1:2-4, 1:12-17, 3:2-19) and God (1:5-11, 2:2-20).
  - Read about the background of Habakkuk in a study Bible, Bible dictionary or some other similar resource.
1. Habakkuk 1:2-4 contains Habakkuk's deep and earnest crying out to the Lord. What did Habakkuk witness that stirred him to cry out in anguish the way he did? Be specific.
  2. Why was Habakkuk so disturbed by what he witnessed? What made him get so worked up over what he saw in the lives of people around him? Is this an example we should follow? Explain.
  3. What did Habakkuk do with his distress? What lessons can we learn for our own lives from where he took his distress?
  4. Verses 5-11 contain God's response to Habakkuk's plea. Summarize God's answer to Habakkuk's outrage at the sinfulness of Judah.

5. It has been said that the book of Habakkuk begins with a sob and ends with a song. What brought about this radical change in Habakkuk's perspective from the beginning to the end of the book?
6. Examine Habakkuk's perspective in verses 17-19. Where is Habakkuk's joy found and why?
7. The book of Habakkuk deals with the ultimate questions of evil, God's holiness, and justice. How does what we find in this book apply to the world we see around us?
8. Where is Christ in the book of Habakkuk? How does the person and work of Christ connect to the themes and theology of this book?
9. How has and how will the book of Habakkuk affect the way you think, what you believe, and the way you live?

## HABAKKUK 3:

- Read the entire book of Habakkuk
1. Summarize the dialogue between Habakkuk and God recorded in Habakkuk 1 and 2.
  2. Chapter 3 contains the song of Habakkuk as he responds to the words of God in chapter 2. List out the different attributes and ways of God that you find in this chapter and define them.
  3. What is your view of God like? In what ways might you adjust your view of God in response to the book of Habakkuk?
  4. What are the two main responses of Habakkuk as he contemplates God's character and ways here in chapter 3 (vs. 2-3, 16-19)? How do they fit together?

5. Who is God going to use to punish and discipline Judah? List out in your own words what the text tells us about this people.
6. The words of God in verses 5-11 are essentially a prophecy. Find and write down where in Scripture these words are fulfilled (use cross-references listed in the margin of your Bible).
7. As Habakkuk turns now and responds to God in verses 12 and following what truths about the character of God does he affirm in verses 12-14? Why does he focus in on these particular truths?
8. How does the truth expressed in the first half of verse 13 point us to the gospel? Explain.
9. In verses 12-17 Habakkuk doesn't seem entirely satisfied with God's response to his original plea in verses 2-4. What about God's answer to his original plea troubles Habakkuk (note especially verse 13)?

## HABAKKUK 2:

- Read the entire book of Habakkuk
1. Summarize Habakkuk 1 and the dialogue between Habakkuk and God. What was the core issue Habakkuk was struggling with?
  2. Note verse 4 specifically. What significance does this statement that “the just shall live by faith,” have for Habakkuk’s situation?
  3. What great principle does this phrase speak of that is more fully revealed in the New Testament? Explain. Why is this truth so important for us as believers?
  4. List out as many of the sins that God condemns Babylon for in chapter 2 as you can.

5. What does God promise to do to punish the nation of Babylon? Write down specific verses. What does this tell us about God?
6. What implications does the picture of God’s just wrath in Habakkuk have for our interaction with the world around us?
7. What does verse 14 mean? When will this verse be truly fulfilled? How does this fit into your perspective on life?
8. How does verse 20 fit into the flow of what God has been saying? How is it an apt conclusion to God’s response?
9. How does verse 20 help you view our fallen world and the sinfulness you see around you? Be specific.