

Habakkuk

Breakdown

- Habakkuk 1:1 identifies the prophet Habakkuk as the author.
- The book was likely written between 627 and 605 bc.

- We know little about this prophet of faith except that he asked God questions and received answers. He, like many people today, could not reconcile his belief in a good and righteous God with the facts of life as he saw them.

Main Points

Habakkuk, in all his difficulties, went to God in prayer and waited patiently for His answer (see Habakkuk 2:1). He stood on the watchtower and listened to God. G. Campbell Morgan said that when Habakkuk looked at his circumstances, he was confused (see Habakkuk 1:3); but when he waited for God and listened to Him, he sang (see Habakkuk 3:18–19):

- Watch and see—Habakkuk 1
- Stand and see—Habakkuk 2
- Kneel and see—Habakkuk 3

- He was troubled by an eternal *Why*?
Why do the wicked prosper?
Why is God silent in times of disaster?

Did you know?

- Habakkuk was a prophet (see Habakkuk 1:1). He may have been one of the Levitical choristers in the temple (see Habakkuk 3:19) or he may have helped arrange the services.
- We learn much about him as a thinker and a man of faith from his own words. He was a contemporary with Jeremiah at home and with Daniel in Babylon.

Further Thought

- Do you know the story of the young Catholic monk Martin Luther, who was the leader of the Reformation in Germany? As he rose to his feet on the steps of the Scala Sancta in Rome, he remembered these words: “The just shall live by his faith” (Habakkuk 2:4).
- This started him on his great crusade that brought about the Reformation.
- Find where Habakkuk 2:4 is quoted in the New Testament and mark the passages:
 - (*Romans 1:17, Galatians 3:11 and Hebrews 10:38*).

Mears, Henrietta C. 2011. *What the Bible Is All About: Bible Handbook. Revised & Updated*. Ventura, CA: Regal.