## Why Doesn't God Seem Fair? Habakkuk Part 1

Pastor Ken Ritz \* April 11, 2021 \* New Life Vineyard Church

The oracle that Habakkuk the prophet received.

How long, O Lord, must I call for help, but you do not listen?

Or cry out to you, "Violence!" but you do not save?

Why do you make me look at injustice? Why do you tolerate wrong?

Destruction and violence are before me; there is strife, and conflict abounds. Therefore the law is paralyzed, and justice never prevails. The wicked hem in the righteous, so that justice is perverted.

Habakkuk 1:1-4

## **Habakkuk's Questions**

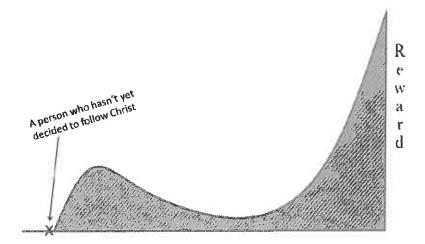
- 1. How long, Lord, must I call for help, but you do not listen?
- 2. When I cry out to you 'violence,' why don't you save?
- 3. Why do you make me look at injustice? Why do you tolerate wrong?

## God's Answer.

"Look at the nations and watch—and be utterly amazed. For I am going to do something in your days that you would not believe, even if you were told.

I am raising up the Babylonians..."

"They are a feared and dreaded people. They are a law to themselves and promote their own honor." Habakkuk 1:5-7



Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

James 1:2-4

| you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. James 1:2-4  |
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| Habakkuk Chapter 1 is about  |
| A deeply committed believer can express simultaneous <u>questions</u> and <u>faith</u> .   |
| "I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief!"<br>Mark 9:24   |
| O Lord, are you not from everlasting? My God, my Holy One, we will not dieWhy then do you tolerate the treacherous? Why are you silent while the wicked swallow up those more righteous than themselves?" Habakkuk 1:12-13 |
| Habakkuk Chapter 2 is about  |
| Habakkuk Chapter 3 is about  |
| * All scriptures from NIV unless otherwise noted   |