

Habakkuk: Prophet with a Problem

John Phillips

- I. THE PROPHET IS TROUBLED (1:1–17)
 - A. The Crimes of Judah (1:1–4)
 - 1. A Personal Sorrow (1:1–2a)
 - 2. A Perilous Situation (1:2b–3)
 - 3. A Permissive Society (1:4)
 - a. The Law’s Power Was Curbed (1:4a)
 - b. The Lord’s People Were Careless (1:4b)
 - B. The Coming of Judgment (1:5–17)
 - 1. Its Immense Extent (1:5)
 - 2. Its Impending Execution (1:6–11)
 - a. The Success of the Chaldeans (1:6–10)
 - (1) Their Coming (1:6)
 - (2) Their Character (1:7–8)
 - (a) Their Personal Traits (1:7)
 - (b) Their Powerful Troops (1:8)
 - (3) Their Cruelty (1:9)
 - (4) Their Conquests (1:10)
 - b. The Sin of the Chaldeans (1:11)
 - 3. Its Impossible Explanation (1:12–17)
 - a. Revelation (1:12)
 - (1) The Person of God (1:12a–b)
 - (a) He Is Different from Man in His Existence—He Is Eternal (1:12a)
 - (b) He Is Different from Man in His Essence—He Is Holy (1:12b)
 - (2) The Purposes of God (1:12c–d)
 - (a) God’s Judgment Was Really Consistent (1:12c)
 - (b) God’s Judgment Was Really Corrective (1:12d)
 - b. Reason (1:13)
 - (1) A Simple Declaration of God’s Character (1:13a)
 - (2) A Seeming Denial of God’s Character (1:13b)
 - c. Righteousness (1:14–17)
 - (1) The Fishing of the Foe (1:14–15)
 - (2) The Folly of the Foe (1:16)
 - (3) The Fate of the Foe (1:17)

- II. THE PROPHET IS TAUGHT (2:1–20)

- A. God's Righteousness on the Individual Plane (2:1–4)
 - 1. The Eagerness of the Prophet (2:1)
 - a. His Receptive Attitude (2:1a)
 - b. His Responsive Attitude (2:1b)
 - 2. The Enlightenment of the Prophet (2:2–4)
 - a. Regarding the Truth of God (2:2)
 - (1) To Be Recorded Simply (2:2a)
 - (2) To Be Relayed Swiftly (2:2b)
 - b. Regarding the Timing of God (2:3)
 - c. Regarding the Trustworthiness of God (2:4)
- B. God's Righteousness on the International Plane (2:5–20)
 - 1. The Wars of the Chaldeans (2:5)
 - 2. The Woes of the Chaldeans (2:6–20)
 - The Lord will deal with:
 - a. Their Crimes (2:6–8)
 - (1) The Property They Had Stolen (2:6)
 - (2) The People They Had Slain (2:7–8)
 - b. Their Covetousness (2:9–11)
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 - d. Their Carousing (2:15–17)
 - e. Their Cults (2:18–20)

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- A. Faith Surrenders (3:1–2)
 - 1. Habakkuk's Response to Revelation (3:1–2a)
 - 2. Habakkuk's Request for Revival (3:2b)
- B. Faith Sees (3:3–15)
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- (2) Visible Signs (3:11)
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 - 1. Trembling (3:16)
 - 2. Trusting (3:17–19)
 - a. Irreversible Judgment (3:17)
 - b. Irrepressible Joy (3:18–19)¹

¹ Phillips, J. (1998). *Exploring the Minor Prophets: The Book of the Twelve* (pp. 201-203). Neptune, NJ: Loizeaux Brothers.