

# Because the Days Are Evil

## Habakkuk 1:1-17

Isaiah 5:8-24

Romans 13:8-14



22 March 2026

**Lie #30** There is no eternal absolute standard of righteousness (Part 3).

## 2026 Goals

- Growing in an intimate relationship with God. (John 17:1-3)
- Losing our lives to serve God and serve others. (Luke 9:23)
- Walking (living) a life that is fully pleasing in God's sight. (1 Thess 4:1)
- Doing what God requires. (Deuteronomy 10:12-14)
- Being good stewards of God's gift of time. (Ephesians 5:16)

► **BECAUSE THE DAYS ARE EVIL**

**Romans 15:4** - The book of Habakkuk is for our learning! Will we learn?

## The Burden of Habakkuk (Habakkuk 1:1)

- Contemporary of Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel, Zephaniah, Nahum.
- He was witnessing the **decline** of a nation(s).
- God's vision (burden) made Habakkuk **sick**. See Habakkuk 3:16.

## The Decline of a Nation(s) (Habakkuk 1:2-4)

- Habakkuk **cries** (שִׁירָע) "to cry out for help") and "**screams**" (קָרָע) "to shriek from anguish or danger" ) to God. (Consider: Hebrews 5:7)
- Habakkuk sees the evil that is overtaking his country. He uses words like "violence" (vv. 2, 3); "trouble" (v. 3) "iniquity" (v. 3); "plundering" (v. 3); "strife" (v. 3); "contention" (v. 3); "powerless" (v. 4); "injustice" (v. 4); "wicked" (v. 4); "perverse judgment" (v. 4).
- Habakkuk is crying out for REVIVAL but God does not answer!
- A lesson for us: READ 2 Chronicles 36:14-21

## Questions Habakkuk Asked; Questions We Ask Ourselves

- "Where is the justice of God?"
- "Why doesn't God do something?"
- "If God was all powerful could He not stop all evil?"
- "If God is all loving why does He allow righteous people to suffer?"

- “Why do the wicked prosper and the righteous suffer?”
- “Where is God?”
- “Why doesn’t God answer my prayers?”
- “Why when I am doing my best do I experience difficulties?”
- ★ **God answers all of these questions in His Word! To ask these questions is SIN!**
  - Refusal to “**live** on every word . . .” (Deut. 8:3; Matt. 4:4; 2 Tim. 3:16-17)
  - Rejecting the “**knowledge**” of God. (Hosea 4:1, 6; 6:6)

## SIX WOES of Isaiah’s Days and Today - Isaiah 5

- **WOE #1:** (vv. 8-10) Covetousness and greed.
- **WOE #2:** (vv. 11-17) Pursuing pleasures of the world and disregarding the work of the Lord. (2 Timothy 3:2-5)
- **WOE #3:** (vv. 18-19) Willful sin and irreverence towards God. (2 Peter 3:3; 2:10)
- **WOE #4:** (v. 20) Gross wickedness - calling evil good, and good evil. (Romans 1:24-32)
- **WOE #5:** (v. 21) Choosing our wisdom over God’s. (Romans 1:22; Proverbs 26:12; **Isaiah 47:10**)
- **WOE #6:** (vv. 22-23) Neglecting God’s given responsibilities; justifying the wicked.

## FOUR THEREFORE’S in Isaiah 5

- (v. 13) MY people go into captivity (**lose their freedom**) because of the lack of knowledge.
- (v. 14) **Death** comes.
- (v. 24) People are **consumed**.
- (vv. 25-26) God brings **calamity** upon the people. **NOTE:** “whistle” in verse. 26.

## God’s Answer to Habakkuk (Habakkuk 1:5-11)

- God is **always** at work! (Isaiah 40:28; Psalm 121:3-4; John 5:17)
- **God is sovereign over good and evil** (Isaiah 45:7; Lamentations 3:37-38).
- According to Christ we are to “**WATCH**” (Luke 12:35-40; **21:34-36**) for His second coming and the things that will come before!
- God tells Habakkuk to “**LOOK** among the nations and **WATCH!**” (v. 5)
- “**BE UTTERLY ASTOUNDED!**”
- God is at **work** in **HIS** world. To ignore the work of God is sin (Isaiah 5:12; Psalm 28:5; **Psalm 92:5-6**).
- God is at work in the weather, politics, governments, calamities, militaries, the economy, etc..
- To attribute the work of God to another is **blasphemy**.
- The nations of the world are God’s and God **uses** them to execute His purpose, plan, desire, counsel and will. Consider: Isaiah 40:15, 17; Job 12:23; Isaiah

10:5-6, 15; Daniel 4:35; Jeremiah 25:8-9; 27:5-11; 28:14; 29:21; Ezekiel 30:20-26; Isaiah 13:2-5, 17; 1 Chron 5:26; 2 Chron 33:11; 1 Kings 11:14, 23;  
**Prov 21:1; Rev 17:17.**

- “**I AM** raising up Chaldeans (Babylonians)” God raises up nations; makes them great, enlarges them, guides them and destroys them (Job 12:23).
  - ★ Throughout history God has raised up **empires**, used them, and then destroyed them. This is clearly taught in the book of Isaiah.
- Here in Habakkuk 1, God tells Habakkuk that HE was raising up a “bitter and hasty” (v. 6); “terrible and dreadful” (v. 7); “fierce” (v. 8); “violent” (v. 9); arrogant (v. 10); prideful (v. 10); idolatrous (v. 10) nation **to do His will!** (See Ezekiel 7:24; 21:31; 28:7) God would be the MOVER! **Is this YOUR God?**

## **We Are Living in Perilous Times** (2 Timothy 3:1-5)

- (1 Timothy 4:1) **THESE ARE PERILOUS TIMES**
- (Romans 1:18-32) WE are NOW under the judgment of God. God has handed us over to our stubborn hearts. Consider 2 Thessalonians 2:7-12.
- MANY believe they are Christians and are NOT! (Matthew 7:21-29)
- We are ignorant of who God is and refuse to be DISCIPLES by God’s definition (Consider carefully - Hebrews 6:11-12).
- We ignore God’s Word/Law/Commandments (1 John 2:3-4).
- We have set our own standard of righteousness. (Luke 6:46)
- **We have been conformed to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Christianity.** (Romans 12:1-2)
- We are comfortable in “our Christianity” and we believe that God accepts us!
- We are living in a time of NO MORALS - in and out of the “Church”.
- We hear and do not do! (Ezekiel 33:30-33; James 1:22; Luke 6:46)
- Consider how “christianity” has changed just in 200 years! And **we** believe that **we** are right?!?!?! (Proverbs 14:12; 16:25; **30:12**)
- **The call of the pastor:** Ezekiel 3:16-27; Isaiah 58:1. Shall I not do what God says? Shall I remain silent? Shall we continue to believe lies?
  - Consider God speaking through **Jeremiah: 7:2-11; 23:14-17; 6:16-17.**

## **What About Us?**

- Ours is a **perverse** and **crooked** generation. (Acts 2:40; Philip 2:15)
- A generation has grown up with **no** morals (Isaiah 5:20; Mal 2:17; ), **no** sense of responsibility (Matt 13:33-37), **no** love (Matt 24:12), **no** hope (Eph 2:12), **no** respect (2 Tim 3:1-5), **no** wisdom (Prov 1:7; Rom 1:21, 22, 28; 1 Cor 1:19-21; 3:19; **Job 12:17, 20, 24**); **no** light (Job 12:25; Matt 6:23; Eph 4:18), **no** truth (Hosea 4:1; Jer 9:3), **no** God (Eph 2:12; Jud 2:10-14; Jer 4:22; **Hosea 4:6**) **no faith (Luke 18:8).**
- Are the “**therefore’s**” in Isaiah 5 for us?
- Does the **AWESOME** God cause your ears to “tingle”? Does the **AWESOME** God take your strength/breath away? (Hab. 3:16; 1 Samuel 3:11; 2 Kings 21:12; Jeremiah 19:3) BE HONEST - does He?

- Have you believed the false teachers of today that preach the same thing as in the days of Jeremiah? (Jeremiah 6:14-15; 8:11-; 7:4) Or should I preach as the people wanted - Isaiah 30:10-11!!
  - Do you believe you have peace with God while you ignore His standard?
- Hear the LORD in Habakkuk 2:1-4! (Romans 1:17; Galatians 3:11; Heb 10:38)
- Are YOU watching? (Mark 13:33-37)
- When God's judgment comes will you be ready? **MEDITATE on Hab 3:17-19.**

## A Call to Repentance before Feast Time

- (Romans 13:11-14) Time (*kairos* not *chronos*) to wake up!
  - "time" - "age" - **the present time**; the time before the return of Christ.
  - Discerning **OUR** times: Matthew 16:1-3; 1 Chronicles 12:32
  - **Wake UP!** Jonah 1:6; Matt 25:5-7; 26:40-41; Ephesians 5:14
  - **"sleep"** - "a state of inactivity, with a loss of consciousness and a decrease in responsiveness to events taking place"; we can add, "a time of no work, service, or obedience"; "no sense of dangers"; "no reading; no meditation; no studying". This definition describes the "church" of today! **IT IS TIME FOR THE CHURCH WAKE UP!**
  - "And **do this**" - points to something even more than 12:1-13:10
    - ★ Why all this talk about doing and obeying? (Mat 7:21; 12:50; 1 John 2:3-4)
  - **Urgency** - Paul spoke this 2000 years ago! How much more must we be TODAY!
  - Time is limited. (Psalm 90:12; 39:4; James 4:13-16; Proverbs 27:1)
  - **Not the time for apathy, complacency, religion, laziness, *indifference!***
  - **"NOW our salvation is nearer than when we first believed."**
    - "I **was** saved" (Redemption)
    - "I **am being** saved" (Sanctification) **WARNING!**
    - "I **will be** saved" (Glorification) (Romans 8:23-25; Luke 21:28; Ephesians 1:14; 4:30)
    - **NOW** - Revelation 22:11-12; Romans 14:10
  - "the night is almost gone, and the day is at hand"
    - "the day" be warning with Christ's words in Matthew 7:21-23.
  - (Romans 13:12-14) **THEREFORE LET US . . .**
    - Take off and put on. Put on LIGHT (1 John 1:6-7); Put on the Lord Jesus Christ.
    - Also Hebrews 4:13; 12:1-2; 1 Peter 2:1-3; Ephesians 4:22; Col 3:8-9.
    - "behave properly" - pleasing God/in righteousness. (Prov 4:23-27)
- **NOW . . . while it is "TODAY" . . .**
  - Isaiah 55:6-7 - Seek the LORD while He may be found - repent - He will abundantly **pardon** us! Read Psalm 119:9!
  - LUKE 13:1-5.