

# The Minor Prophets

## Habakkuk – Chapter 1

# Two Main Parts

- 1:2 – 2:20      Dialog between  
                                 God and Habakkuk
- 3:2 – 3:19      Habakkuk's prayer  
                                 or song

(1:1 and 3:1 are superscriptions)

# Outline of Dialog

- Habakkuk (1:2 – 1:4) Complaint
  - God (1:5 – 1:11) *Response*
  - Habakkuk (1:12 – 2:1) Complaint
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- God (2:2 – 2:20) *Response*

# Habakkuk 1:1



“The oracle  
that Habakkuk  
the prophet  
saw.”

# Timeline

Verse 1:6 implies that the vision was seen before the rise of the Chaldeans (Babylonians) . . . during the time of the Assyrians . . . 7<sup>th</sup> Century B.C.

# Habakkuk 1:2 – 1:4

First complaint:

Sin everywhere

Law paralyzed

Justice perverted

God is allowing this to continue

# Habakkuk 1:2 – 1:4

Who stands accused?

Foreign powers – e.g. Assyria

The wicked within Israel

God, for allowing all of this

# Habakkuk 1:5 – 1:11

God's surprising answer:

Look!

I am doing something

I am raising the Chaldeans



# Habakkuk 1:12 – 2:1

Second complaint:

Why do it that way?

# Habakkuk 1:12

The prophet is not rude: he begins with doxology

He is not stupid: he understands that the Chaldeans are a judgment and reproof.

# Habakkuk 1:13

But the prophet is confused: Why would his holy God allow such evil and injustice?!

# Habakkuk 1:14 – 16

God allows Nebuchadnezzar to treat mankind (made in God's image) as if they were fish or "crawling things" thus enriching himself.

# Habakkuk 1:17 – 2:1

Will this continue forever?

The prophet is going to wait and see!