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# Habakkuk

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## Author

Habakkuk is simply a servant of God. We do not know anything about him, except what we find in the book of Habakkuk ([Hab 1:1](#)). Habakkuk's name means embrace or wrestle.

## Book Background

Habakkuk was written before the southern kingdom (Judah) fell. Since the Temple was still standing until 597 B.C., it was written before then.

## Key Verse

*Habakkuk 2:20 But the Lord is in His holy temple. Let all the earth keep silence before Him.*

## Book Outline

Burden <a href="#">Hab 1</a>	Habakkuk's question God's answer Habakkuk's response
Vision <a href="#">Hab 2</a>	God's reply: The 5 Woes <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• woe to the proud thieves</li><li>• woe to the greedy</li><li>• woe to the violent</li><li>• woe to the immoral</li><li>• woe to the idolater</li></ul>
Prayer <a href="#">Hab 3</a>	Habakkuk's prayer of praise

## Book Highlights

Have you ever watched the evening news with all the violence and injustice in the world and in frustration asked, "Why isn't God doing something?" Habakkuk questions how a good and holy God could allow sinful Judah to be judged by Babylon, a nation that is far worse.

If God is good, then why is there evil in the world? If there has to be evil, then why do the evil prosper? What is God doing in the world?

From his perspective, Habakkuk fears God and does what is right, but it doesn't appear to get him anywhere.

While Habakkuk begins by questioning God's seeming indifference to the evil in the world, he concludes by worshipping God. When Habakkuk hears who is coming, he trembles ([Hab 3:16](#)). The last two verses express Habakkuk's faith.

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## Personal Reflection and Application

Those who trust in God can and do question Him (**Hab 1:2-4**). Be aware that God doesn't always give answers that you want or expect (**Hab 1:5-11**).

Consider how you respond to unexpected answers from God. Think about how much you really trust God.

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## Small Group Conversation Guide

How comfortable are you in pouring out your frustration and questions to God (**Hab 1**)?

How do you respond when God gives you an answer you do not expect or do not want (**Hab 2**)?

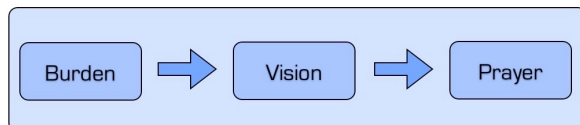
What can help you return prayer and praise to God once you humbly get His answer (**Hab 3**)?

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## Leadership Principles from Habakkuk

### Vision Process

Consider the vision process that Habakkuk demonstrates.



First, you must have a **burden**. Your vision must be bigger than you. It should come from God (**Jer 23:16**). To get the vision from God, you must first pour out your heart to God. Let Him know your frustrations and how you are questioning Him (**Hab 1:1-2**). Spend time alone with Him (**Luke 6:12**). What is your burden?

Understand that until you are broken and humble, you are not ready to receive God's **vision** (**Hab 2:1-3**). You must be waiting on God for an answer (**Psa 39:7**).

When He speaks, document the plan He gives you. The act of putting it on paper (or e-file) forces you to face it and respond to it. Be ready and willing to make changes as God directs. Compared to God, you know nothing (**1Cor 8:2**). Keep believing, no matter what (**Hab 2:4**).

Finally, with humility and thankfulness, turn to God in **prayer** and praise (**Hab 3, Php 4:6-7**).

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## Something to Find in Each Chapter

As you read through the book, it may help to have something to find in each chapter.  
Try these:

01. What questions Habakkuk asked of God	02. How people prepare for and respond to God's direction
03. How Habakkuk responded to hearing God's judgment	