

Habakkuk 1:12 - 2:20 **Habakkuk's Second Question – Yahweh's Answer**

Habakkuk's Second Question

12 Are You not from everlasting, O Yahweh Elohay (Lord my God), my Holy One? We shall not die. O Yahweh (Lord), You have appointed them for judgment; O Rock, You have marked them for correction.

13 You are of purer eyes than to behold evil, And cannot look on wickedness. Why do You look on those who deal treacherously, And hold Your tongue when the wicked devours A person more righteous than he?

14 Why do You make men like fish of the sea, Like creeping things that have no ruler over them?

15 They take up all of them with a hook, They catch them in their net, And gather them in their dragnet. Therefore they rejoice and are glad.

16 Therefore they sacrifice to their net, And burn incense to their dragnet; Because by them their share is sumptuous And their food plentiful.

17 Shall they therefore empty their net, And continue to slay nations without pity?

2:1 I will stand my watch And set myself on the rampart, And watch to see what He will say to me, And what I will answer when I am corrected.

Yahweh's Response

2 Then Yahweh (the Lord) answered me and said:

"Write the vision And make it plain on tablets, That he may run who reads it.

3 For the vision is yet for an appointed time; But at the end it will speak, and it will not lie. Though it tarries, wait for it; Because it will surely come, It will not tarry.

Woe to the Wicked

4 "Behold the proud, His soul is not upright in him; But the just shall live by his faith.

5 "Indeed, because he transgresses by wine, He is a proud man, And he does not stay at home. Because he enlarges his desire as hell, And he is like death, and cannot be satisfied, He gathers to himself all nations And heaps up for himself all peoples.

6 "Will not all these take up a proverb against him, And a taunting riddle against him, and say, 'Woe to him who increases What is not his — how long? And to him who loads himself with many pledges'?"

7 Will not your creditors rise up suddenly? Will they not awaken who oppress you? And you will become their booty.

8 Because you have plundered many nations, All the remnant of the people shall plunder you, Because of men's blood And the violence of the land and the city, And of all who dwell in it.

9 "Woe to him who covets evil gain for his house, That he may set his nest on high, That he may be delivered from the power of disaster!

10 You give shameful counsel to your house, Cutting off many peoples, And sin against your soul.

11 For the stone will cry out from the wall, And the beam from the timbers will answer it.

- 12 "Woe to him who builds a town with bloodshed, Who establishes a city by iniquity!
 13 Behold, is it not of Yahweh Tsebaovt (the Lord of hosts) That the peoples labor to feed the fire,
 And nations weary themselves in vain?
- 14 For the earth will be filled With the knowledge of the glory of Yahweh (the Lord), As the waters
 cover the sea.
- 15 "Woe to him who gives drink to his neighbor, Pressing him to your bottle, Even to make him
 drunk, That you may look on his nakedness!
 16 You are filled with shame instead of glory. You also — drink! And be exposed as uncircumcised!
 The cup of Yahweh (the Lord's) right hand will be turned against you, And utter shame will be on
 your glory.
- 17 For the violence done to Lebanon will cover you, And the plunder of beasts which made them
 afraid, Because of men's blood And the violence of the land and the city, And of all who dwell in it.
- 18 "What profit is the image, that its maker should carve it, The molded image, a teacher of lies,
 That the maker of its mold should trust in it, To make mute idols?
 19 Woe to him who says to wood, 'Awake!' To silent stone, 'Arise! It shall teach!' Behold, it is
 overlaid with gold and silver, Yet in it there is no breath at all.
- 20 "But Yahweh (the Lord) is in His holy temple. Let all the earth keep silence before Him."
 NKJV

Facts Revealed:

Habakkuk's Second Question [\[Habakkuk 1:12-17 -& - 2:1\]](#)

- ✧ Habakkuk is eye witness to the wickedness and injustice happening all around him, Yahweh had said to him that judgment is coming at the hand of the Chaldeans. [\[Habakkuk 1:5-11\]](#)
- ✧ Habakkuk's question indicates that he as a human being has a problem with Yahweh's timing and impatience to see it fulfilled.
- ✧ He knows that Yahweh has the wicked marked for punishment, but does not understand the time of delay.
- ✧ This human concept is shared by the souls under the altar before the Great Tribulation and in the End Time scoffers mentioned by Peter. [\[Revelation 6:9-10, 2 Peter 3:1-10\]](#)
- ✧ However Habakkuk intends to stand his watch and expects to be corrected.

Yahweh's Response [\[Habakkuk 2:2-3\]](#)

- ✧ Yahweh has an appointed time for His Judgments to be fulfilled.
- ✧ The vision is certain and will be fulfilled precisely but God's people need to exercise patience while waiting for the appointed time and its fulfillment.
- ✧ Yahweh is waiting for all who will to come to repentance to be saved.
- ✧ It is worth waiting for.

Weakness of the Proudful Wicked [\[Habakkuk 2:4-5\]](#)

- ✧ "Behold **the proud, His soul is not upright** in him; But **the just shall live by his faith**.
 "Indeed, because he transgresses by wine, He is a proud man, And he does not stay at home.
 Because he enlarges his desire as hell, And he is like death, and cannot be satisfied, He
 gathers to himself all nations And heaps up for himself all peoples. [\[Habakkuk 2:4-5\]](#)
- ✧ Yahweh resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble. [\[James 4:6, 1 Peter 5:5\]](#)

- ✧ The proud lend themselves to unbridled passion and lust as they indulge in wine and seek unrestricted self gratification and aggrandizement. Their desire is insatiable as death and hell, knowing no limit.
- ✧ This is a reference to the king of Babylon to whom Yahweh will deliver all idolatrous nations of the area including His people of Judah because of their refusal to repent and walk in His laws that would have given them life and honor.

Woe to the Wicked [Habakkuk 2:6-20]

- ✧ Verses 6-10 are a taunting proverb of ridicule against the conqueror who gloats about his conquest to the imperilment of his own soul. [Habakkuk 2:6-10, Daniel 4:28-37]
- ✧ **For the stone will cry out from the wall, And the beam from the timbers will answer it.** [Habakkuk 2:11]
 - ✧ When it comes to judgment, Yahweh is able to call stones and timbers to witness.
- ✧ "Woe to him who builds a town with bloodshed, Who establishes a city by iniquity! Behold, is it not of Yahweh Tsebaovt (the Lord of hosts) That the peoples labor to feed the fire, And nations weary themselves in vain? [Habakkuk 2:12-13]
 - ✧ Yahweh pronounced woe against the tyrants who act in opposition to the righteous laws of God showing that those who do wrong are leading nations to labor in vain and futility.
- ✧ **For the earth will be filled With the knowledge of the glory of Yahweh (the Lord), As the waters cover the sea.** [Habakkuk 2:14]
 - ✧ As in most prophetic messages, Yahweh's eye is always on His ultimate goal which will be fulfilled in the Kingdom age at the time of the end.
- ✧ "Woe to him who gives drink to his neighbor, Pressing him to your bottle, Even to make him drunk, That you may look on his nakedness! You are filled with shame instead of glory. You also — drink! And be exposed as uncircumcised! The cup of Yahweh (the Lord's) right hand will be turned against you, And utter shame will be on your glory. [Habakkuk 2:15-16]
 - ✧ Yahweh does not approve of sexual immorality and those who entice others to be exposed for their own pleasure.
 - ✧ Those who do so will themselves be brought to shame.
- ✧ For the violence done to Lebanon will cover you, And the plunder of beasts which made them afraid, Because of men's blood And the violence of the land and the city, And of all who dwell in it. [Habakkuk 2:17]
 - ✧ Retribution from Yahweh will be on the heads of violent oppressors and on all who dwell under their influence.
- ✧ "What profit is the image, that its maker should carve it, The molded image, a teacher of lies, That the maker of its mold should trust in it, To make mute idols? Woe to him who says to wood, 'Awake!' To silent stone, 'Arise! It shall teach!' Behold, it is overlaid with gold and silver, Yet in it there is no breath at all. [Habakkuk 2:18-19]
 - ✧ Yahweh described the foolishness of idolatry and questions the intelligence of idolaters.
 - ✧ There is no value in idolatry.
- ✧ **"But Yahweh (the Lord) is in His holy temple. Let all the earth keep silence before Him."** [Habakkuk 2:20]
 - ✧ Yahweh, the only true and living God, is the one to reverently fear and honor.
 - ✧ He alone rules over all His creation.
 - ✧ Before Him all must bow with humble and silent worship and adoration.