

Is God Fair? Habakkuk 1:12 – 2:5

I. Habakkuk's complaint: How can God use the Babylonians to punish the people of Judah? (Habakkuk 1:12-17)

Habakkuk is convinced of three truths, but he can't see how they could all be true at the same time.

1. God is sovereign over the nations. v.12
2. God is holy and cannot tolerate wrong. v. 13
3. Babylon is wicked and yet prospers. vs 14-17

But he questions God's justice and he asks, "Is God fair?"

II. Habakkuk looks for God's answer (Habakkuk 2:1) He takes his stand on the watchtower and looks for God's answer.

The prophet chooses to cling to God, even in the midst of doubts. This is what God's people/we need to do today.

III. God's response: The Babylonians will also be judged for their sin. Meanwhile the righteous will live by faith, trusting God to act justly in his own time. (Habakkuk 2:2-5)

- A. God's answer awaits an appointed time. vs.2,3
- B. Babylon's actions are not justified in God's sight. vs. 4-5
- C. The righteous will live by faith. v. 4-b

IV. Conclusion: What does this all mean for us?

A. First, we learn 3 things about God.

1. He is sovereign and uses all events, even nations to bring about his will (whether He is acknowledged or not).
2. God is holy. He cannot tolerate any wrong. We too should be holy in all we do.
3. God is just. He will judge all evil in the world, even those whom he has used to judge others.

B. We also learn 3 things about ourselves.

1. We are all sinners, subject to God's condemnation.
2. We cannot save ourselves by our "good works". Romans 3:20
3. The righteous will live by faith, to be made right with God and inherit eternal life (rather than eternal condemnation)

And, living by faith also means walking in constant fellowship with the Lord, depending on His grace, trusting and obeying Him moment by moment, in every area of life.

God does care, and He IS fair.