



# *The Problem of Evil*

## *A SURVEY OF HABAKKUK*

Sermon by Ray Reynolds (5/1/11)

Introduction: Why do bad things happen to good people? How could a loving God allow evil and pain in the world He created? What can we do about the problem of evil in the world today? The book of Habakkuk deals with these questions. It is truly an amazing book! Let me share some thoughts . . . . .

### Discussion:

#### ***I. HABAKKUK'S BACKGROUND***

- A. THE PROPHET: Nothing is known for certain about the author except his name.
- B. HISTORICAL SETTING: Probably written between 610-605 BC.
- C. MESSAGE: The book deals with the problem of evil.
- D. STYLE: Habakkuk uses question/answer dialogue and discussion.
- E. MEMORABLE VERSES: **Habakkuk 1:2, 1:4-5, 1:12-13, 2:2-4, 2:14, 2:19-20, 3:2, 3:17-19**

#### ***II. HABAKKUK'S ORIGINAL COMPLAINT***

- A. Question: How long will it be until God punishes the evil in Judah? (**Habakkuk 1:1-4**)
- B. Answer: God will send the Chaldeans (Babylonians) to punish Judah (**Habakkuk 1:5-11**).

#### ***III. HABAKKUK'S FOLLOW-UP COMPLAINT***

- A. Question: Is it right to use a wicked nation to punish a nation? (**Habakkuk 1:12-2:1**)
- B. Answer: The wicked will be destroyed, but righteous will live by faith (**Habakkuk 2:2-20**).

#### ***IV. HABAKKUK'S RESPONSE***

- A. Habakkuk knows that the only solution to these problems is to pray (**Habakkuk 3:1**).
- B. God is all-powerful and all-good, and Habakkuk will have accept it (**Habakkuk 3:2-19**).

#### ***V. THE ROLE OF CHRIST IN HABAKKUK***

- A. Faith in Jesus is evident.  
**Habakkuk 2:4, Romans 1:17, Galatians 3:11, Hebrews 11:1, 6, Romans 10:14, 17, Ephesians 2:8-9, John 8:24, John 3:16**
- B. Righteousness in Jesus is evident.  
**Habakkuk 2:4, I John 1:7-10, John 16-17, Acts 2:38, Romans 8, Psalm 22, II Corinthians 5:21, Romans 6:15-21**
- C. Confidence in Jesus is evident.  
**James 1:2, I Corinthians 10:13, Matthew 28:20, Romans 8:31-39, Hebrews 13:5, Psalm 46:10, II Peter 3:9, Habakkuk 3:19**

Conclusion: We all have our complaints and conflicts. Like Habakkuk, we need to respond with prayer. Sometimes we have to go through suffering and sorrow, but if we rest in Him and trust Him, He will give us everything we need. We need to remember that God is in control! Do you have a strong faith?

***WORD OF THE DAY = "GOD"***