

Insights From Habakkuk

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Insights From Habakkuk

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Introduction

One of the ways I've been studying the Word of God is by making a list of everything that each book of the Bible teaches. This has resulted in more than a thousand pages of material. Although it's interesting and I've learned a lot from writing it, that's a lot of bullet points to read through!

The purpose of this book is to extract the most interesting insights from that massive list. This isn't intended to summarize each book of the Bible because that's what my "Chapter Summary of the Bible" is for. It's also not intended to list the major points of each book because you're probably already familiar with them. Finally, it's not intended to offer in-depth commentary because that's what my regular commentary is for. This book is simply a collection of points that I found interesting.

I hope there's some material here that you find edifying.

Jon Cooper
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Table of Contents

Introduction.....	4
Habakkuk.....	7

Habakkuk

- Habakkuk had cried out to God for a long time but the Lord hadn't answered his prayer. Habakkuk had been asking God to save him but He hadn't delivered him (Habakkuk 1:2).
- God had allowed the violence of the wicked to endure for a long time (Habakkuk 1:2).
- There are times when God allows violence, strife, contention, and wickedness (Habakkuk 1:1-4). There are even times when God allows the wicked to oppress the righteous and doesn't stop it (at least not right away).
- Habakkuk's knowledge of all the terrible evils that were happening only made his life worse. He was aware of the problem but had no way to change things. Even praying about it was ineffective (Habakkuk 1:1-4).
- Since the wicked weren't punished, people didn't obey the law (Habakkuk 1:4).
- God is the one who raises up nations and gives them power and authority (Habakkuk 1:6).
- There are times when God uses wicked nations to carry out His righteous judgment (Habakkuk 1:6-11).
- Sometimes God uses wicked people to carry out His purposes (Habakkuk 1:6).
- God does more than just know the future. He is the one who determines what the future will be and how things will play out (Habakkuk 1:6-11).
- God is an eternal being. He had no beginning (Habakkuk 1:12).

- Sometimes God punishes a nation by using a different nation which is even worse than the one being punished (Habakkuk 1:13).
- It's bad when people don't have a ruler (Habakkuk 1:14).
- Sometimes God gives victory to evil people, even though they'll use the proceeds of that victory to do evil things (Habakkuk 1:16).
- God commanded Habakkuk to write down this vision so others could read it (Habakkuk 2:2).
- This prophecy seems to speaking of the end times because God said it wasn't yet time for the vision to come to pass (Habakkuk 2:3).
- The just shall live by faith (Habakkuk 2:4).
- In a prophecy about the end times, God speaks of a man who can't be satisfied, who gathers all nations, and who is as death. This seems to be a reference to the antichrist (Habakkuk 2:5).
- The antichrist is a drunkard (Habakkuk 2:5).
- People will taunt the antichrist for burdening himself with "thick clay". This seems to be a reference to all the people he enslaved (Habakkuk 2:6).
- The antichrist won't be unopposed. He will face enemies during his reign who will cause him trouble (Habakkuk 2:6-8).
- Sin doesn't strengthen a household. Instead it brings shame and judgment upon it (Habakkuk 2:10).
- The vision of Habakkuk speaks of a time when the stones and timber will cry out (Habakkuk 2:11). In this context

they're revealing the hidden sins of the antichrist.

- The antichrist will build a city using bloodshed and sin. This may be a reference to the way that Babylon will be reestablished in the end times (Habakkuk 2:12).
- All of the covetousness, murder, violence of the antichrist will fail to make him invincible. God will destroy him, and all of his labor will be in vain (Habakkuk 2:13-14).
- After the antichrist's reign has ended, the entire world will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord (Habakkuk 2:14).
- The antichrist will be uncircumcised (Habakkuk 2:16).
- The antichrist will kill many animals and make them afraid (Habakkuk 2:17).
- In connection with the antichrist, the prophecy speaks of an idol (Habakkuk 2:18). This may be a reference to the image of the beast that's spoken of in Revelation 13:14-15.
- Habakkuk said that God came from Teman, which was an Edomite city located to the east of Israel (Habakkuk 3:3). Isaiah 63:1 says that the Lord will come from Edom at the time of the Second Coming. Those two verses may be talking about the same event.
- Habakkuk looked forward to a day when God's glory would cover the heavens and the whole world would be full of His praise (Habakkuk 3:3). This will be fulfilled in the millennium.
- The Holy One of God (the Messiah) is described as having horns coming out of His hand (Habakkuk 3:4). In the Bible horns are symbolic of power, so that may be a reference

to either His power or to the marks of His crucifixion.

- The Holy One of God is more powerful than the nations and is stronger than the mountains (Habakkuk 3:6).
- When the Lord comes, He will come with horses and chariots (Habakkuk 3:8). Revelation 19:11-14 says that when Jesus returns at the end of the tribulation He will be riding a white horse, and the armies of Heaven which follow Him and will also be riding white horses. Given the context, Habakkuk may be referring to the same event.
- The coming of the Lord at the end of the tribulation period will be accompanied by an earthquake that will cause the mountains to shake and a great flood to occur (Habakkuk 3:10).
- When the Lord returns at the end of the tribulation, the sun and the moon will stand still in the sky (Habakkuk 3:11). This means what Joshua experienced when fighting the Amorites (Joshua 10:12-13) may have been foreshadowing an end-times event.
- When the Lord returns at the end of the tribulation He will be armed for battle, bearing arrows and a spear (Habakkuk 3:11). He will march through the land in anger and thresh the heathen (Habakkuk 3:12).
- When Habakkuk heard this news he trembled and was weakened because he wanted to find rest in the day of trouble. He wanted to be hidden while all of these terrible events were taking place (Habakkuk 3:16). It seems he was longing for the deliverance of the rapture, which hadn't been revealed yet. (There are hints about the rapture in the Old Testament but it wasn't revealed until the apostle Paul taught it to the churches.)

- In the day of trouble, when all of the food is gone, Habakkuk will still have joy in God and will still see Him as the one who brings of salvation (Habakkuk 3:17-18). Habakkuk chose to rejoice in the Lord regardless of his circumstances or personal needs.
- Habakkuk 3 is a song that's meant to be sung (Habakkuk 3:19). Even though it's a song of judgment and distress it's still intended to be sung to the Lord.
- Stringed instruments aren't evil and may be used to praise the Lord (Habakkuk 3:19).