

The Teachings of Habakkuk

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The Teachings of 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!

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 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 1.....	7
Habakkuk 2.....	17
Habakkuk 3.....	28

Habakkuk 1

Habakkuk 1:1: "The burden which Habakkuk the prophet did see."

- God gave this message to Habakkuk.
- Habakkuk was a prophet.
- The message that God gave to Habakkuk was called a burden.

Habakkuk 1:2: "O LORD, how long shall I cry, and thou wilt not hear! even cry out unto thee of violence, and thou wilt not save!"

- Habakkuk had been crying out to the Lord.
- Habakkuk had cried out to God for a long time, but God hadn't answered his prayer.
- Habakkuk was upset that he had asked God to save them from the violence of wicked men, but God hadn't saved them.
- Habakkuk had asked God to save him for a long time, but God hadn't delivered him.
- God had allowed the violence of the wicked to endure for a long time.
- Habakkuk was upset about the violence of the wicked, and he wanted God to put an end to it.
- Sometimes God doesn't answer our prayers.
- Sometimes God doesn't provide deliverance.

Habakkuk 1:3: "Why dost thou shew me iniquity, and cause me to behold grievance? for spoiling and violence are before me: and there are that raise up strife and contention."

- Habakkuk was upset because God had showed him great iniquity and evil, but God hadn't put a stop to it.
- There was great evil in the land and it hadn't been stopped.
- In those days there was great violence.
- In those days there was much strife.
- In those days there was much contention.
- Habakkuk was aware of the evil that was going on and the violence that was in the land, and yet when he prayed about it God didn't stop the evil or provide deliverance.
- There are times when God allows violence, strife, and contention.
- There are times when God shows us great iniquity and yet doesn't put a stop to it.
- Habakkuk's knowledge of the terrible evils that were being done only made his life worse. He was aware of the problem, but he had no way to change things – and God didn't hear his prayers to provide deliverance.
- Habakkuk wanted to know why God showed him all these terrible things, when nothing was changing or getting better.

Habakkuk 1:4: "Therefore the law is slacked, and judgment doth never go forth: for the wicked doth compass about the righteous; therefore wrong judgment proceedeth."

- In those days there was no justice.
- In those days the law wasn't respected or enforced.
- In those days the wicked oppressed the righteous and triumphed over them.
- In those days there was terrible injustice.
- Since the wicked weren't punished, people didn't keep the law.
- Since the wicked weren't punished, injustice reigned.
- Since the wicked weren't punished, they were able to overcome the righteous and oppress them.
- God allowed the wicked to triumph over the righteous and oppress them.
- Even though injustice was flourishing, God didn't put a stop to it.
- Even though the righteous were being persecuted by the wicked, God didn't put a stop to it.
- God doesn't always rescue the righteous from the wicked.
- God doesn't always answer our prayers to put an end to oppression, wickedness, and injustice.
- Habakkuk was upset about the injustice that was going on, and the oppression of the righteous. He was also upset about the fact that even though he prayed about it, God didn't put a stop to it.
- Habakkuk was upset that even though evil was winning and the righteous were losing, God didn't answer his prayers for deliverance.

Habakkuk 1:5: "Behold ye among the heathen, and regard, and wonder marvelously: for I will work a work in your days which ye will not believe, though it be told you."

- God told Habakkuk that He was going to work a marvelous wonder.
- The wonder that God was going to do was so great that Habakkuk wouldn't believe it even if someone told him about it.
- God was going to do something amazing among the pagans (the Gentiles).
- The wonder that God was going to do would be done in the days of Habakkuk.
- God was the one who was going to do this work. It wasn't going to happen on its own.

Habakkuk 1:6: "For, lo, I raise up the Chaldeans, that bitter and hasty nation, which shall march through the breadth of the land, to possess the dwellingplaces that are not their's."

- God was going to raise up the Chaldeans and give them great power.
- The Chaldeans were a bitter nation.
- The Chaldeans were a hasty nation.
- The reason the Chaldeans were going to rise to power was because God was raising them up to accomplish His purpose.
- God is the one who raises up nations and gives them power and authority.
- The Chaldeans were going to march through the land of

Israel.

- The Chaldeans were going to conquer many nations and possess them.
- In response to the terrible evils that Habakkuk had witnessed, God was going to raise up the Chaldeans, bring them against Israel, and give them the land.
- God was going to use one nation to punish a different nation.
- God was going to use a pagan nation of heathens to carry out His judgment upon the wicked.
- There are times when God uses wicked nations to carry out His righteous judgment.
- Sometimes God uses the wicked to carry out His purposes.

Habakkuk 1:7: "They are terrible and dreadful: their judgment and their dignity shall proceed of themselves."

- The Chaldeans were terrible.
- The Chaldeans were dreadful.
- The Chaldeans enforced their own concept of judgment, which they got from themselves and not from God.
- The dignity of the Chaldeans came from themselves. They chose to value themselves highly.
- God was sending a terrible and dreadful nation of pagans against Israel to punish them for their sins.

Habakkuk 1:8: "Their horses also are swifter than the leopards, and are more fierce than the evening wolves: and

their horsemen shall spread themselves, and their horsemen shall come from far; they shall fly as the eagle that hasteth to eat."

- The horses of the Chaldean army were extremely swift.
- The horses of the Chaldean army were extremely fierce.
- The Chaldean army had many horsemen.
- The Chaldean horsemen came from many distant lands.
- The Chaldean army moved very swiftly.
- God was sending a swift and fierce army of horses and horsemen against Israel to punish it for its sins.
- God compared the horses of the Chaldeans to leopards and wolves.
- God compared the horsemen of the Chaldeans to an eagle who was in a hurry to get food.

Habakkuk 1:9: "They shall come all for violence: their faces shall sup up as the east wind, and they shall gather the captivity as the sand."

- The Chaldeans were violent.
- The Chaldeans would enslave many people and send them into captivity.
- God was going to give the land of Judah into the hand of the Chaldeans, and they would turn the Jews into captives and send them into captivity.
- God was going to use the Chaldeans to end the violence in the land by using them to destroy the kingdom of Judah and bring it to an end.

Habakkuk 1:10: "And they shall scoff at the kings, and the princes shall be a scorn unto them: they shall deride every strong hold; for they shall heap dust, and take it."

- The Chaldeans would have no respect for kings, but would scoff at them.
- The Chaldeans would have no respect for princes or royalty, but would scoff at them.
- The Chaldeans would mock strongholds and have no fear of them.
- The Chaldeans would destroy every stronghold.
- The Chaldeans would be an unstoppable army that would conquer kings and nations.

Habakkuk 1:11: "Then shall his mind change, and he shall pass over, and offend, imputing this his power unto his god."

- After the Chaldeans had done all these things, the ruler of the nation would offend the Lord by giving credit for everything he had accomplished to his god. (This is most likely a reference to Nebuchadnezzar's fall.
- God knows the end from the beginning. He knows exactly what will happen long before it happens.
- God does more than just know the future. He's the one who determines what the future will be and how things will play out.
- God knows every detail of everyone's life. No one can deviate from the plan that God has for them.
- God controls the fate and decisions of kings.
- God becomes angry when people give glory to false gods

instead of to Him. This even applies to pagans.

Habakkuk 1:12: "Art thou not from everlasting, O LORD my God, mine Holy One? we shall not die. O LORD, thou hast ordained them for judgment; and, O mighty God, thou hast established them for correction."

- Habakkuk doesn't understand how God could use a wicked nation like the Chaldeans to punish a wicked nation like Israel.
- God is an eternal being. He is from everlasting and had no beginning.
- God was the God of Habakkuk.
- God is called the Holy One.
- God is holy.
- Habakkuk believed that the nation of Israel wouldn't die.
- Habakkuk knew that God wasn't going to utterly destroy His people and wipe them out. Instead He was going to punish them for their sins.
- God is mighty.
- The punishment that God was going to send upon the Jews was correction, not total destruction.

Habakkuk 1:13: "Thou art of purer eyes than to behold evil, and canst not look on iniquity: wherefore lookest thou upon them that deal treacherously, and holdest thy tongue when the wicked devoureth the man that is more righteous than he?"

- Habakkuk said that God was too pure to look upon

iniquity.

- Habakkuk didn't understand how God could use the Chaldeans to punish the Israelites, because the Chaldeans were much worse than the Israelites.
- Habakkuk didn't understand how a holy and righteous God could give victory to a nation as wicked as the Chaldeans.
- Habakkuk expected God to destroy a nation as wicked as the Chaldeans, not give the promised land to them.
- Sometimes God punishes a nation by using another nation that's even worse than the one being punished.
- Sometimes God gives victories to very wicked and vile nations.
- It's bad to deal treacherously.
- It's bad for the wicked to oppress and destroy the righteous.

Habakkuk 1:14: "And makest men as the fishes of the sea, as the creeping things, that have no ruler over them?"

- The fish of the sea have no ruler.
- Habakkuk was upset because God was going to take away the ruler of the Israelites, and was going to leave them without one.
- It's a bad thing when people don't have a ruler.
- Habakkuk compares people to fish and insects.
- The sea has fish.
- God has the power to set up rulers over people, and to

take them away.

Habakkuk 1:15: "They take up all of them with the angle, they catch them in their net, and gather them in their drag: therefore they rejoice and are glad."

- Habakkuk was upset that the Chaldeans were going to make captives of the Jews, just like a fisherman catches fish in a net.
- Habakkuk compares the upcoming captivity of the Jews to fishing.
- Habakkuk was upset that the Chaldeans were going to rejoice over the Jews that they would enslave.
- Fish are caught using a net.
- Fishermen rejoice when they catch fish.

Habakkuk 1:16: "Therefore they sacrifice unto their net, and burn incense unto their drag; because by them their portion is fat, and their meat plenteous."

- Habakkuk said the Chaldeans would offer sacrifices and incense to their false gods in order to give them the praise for all of the military victories.
- Habakkuk said that since the Chaldeans were going to be victorious and gain much spoil, they would use that to praise and worship their false gods.
- Habakkuk was upset that the spoils of the Chaldeans' victory were going to be used to glorify idols.
- Habakkuk didn't understand how God could give victory to the Chaldeans when they were going to use the

proceeds from those victories to worship idols, which is something God hated.

- Sometimes God gives victory to very evil people, even though they'll use the proceeds of that victory to do very evil things.

Habakkuk 1:17: "Shall they therefore empty their net, and not spare continually to slay the nations?"

- Habakkuk wanted God to change his mind and not give the Chaldeans power over the nations.
- Even though the Israelites were evil, Habakkuk didn't want God to turn them over to the Chaldeans.
- Habakkuk didn't want God to allow the Chaldeans to slay the nations.
- Habakkuk wanted God to use someone who was righteous to punish Israel, not someone who was wicked. Yet God was going to use a nation that was much worse than Israel in order to carry out His judgment.
- Sometimes the instrument of God's judgment upon the nations is evil, pagan, idolatrous, and more wicked than the nations that are being judged.

Habakkuk 2

Habakkuk 2:1: "I will stand upon my watch, and set me upon the tower, and will watch to see what he will say unto me, and what I shall answer when I am reproved."

- Habakkuk believed that God was going to answer his prayer.

- Habakkuk believed that God was going to reprove him. He believed that his understanding of the situation was incomplete or wrong, and God was going to show him the truth.
- Habakkuk waited patiently for God to answer him.
- Habakkuk stood and watched for God's answer to his prayer.
- Habakkuk stood upon a tower as he waited for the answer to his prayer.
- Habakkuk believed there was an answer to his questions that he didn't know about, and he believed God would give him that answer.

Habakkuk 2:2: "And the LORD answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it."

- God gave Habakkuk an answer.
- God answered Habakkuk by giving him a vision.
- God wanted Habakkuk to write this vision down so that others could read it.

Habakkuk 2:3: "For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry."

- The vision that God gave Habakkuk was for an appointed time.
- It wasn't yet time for Habakkuk's vision to come to pass.
- God commanded Habakkuk to wait for the vision to come

to pass, because its time would surely come.

- When it came time for the vision to be fulfilled, it would come to pass. It wouldn't be late.
- The vision that God gave Habakkuk was true. He would have to wait until its appointed time to see it come to pass, but it would happen.
- Some prophecies that God gives are for an appointed time in the future, and we must wait for them to come to pass.
- Sometimes God gives us a prophecy and then tells us to wait patiently for it to come to pass.
- The words of God will ultimately come to pass. They're not lies.
- The appointed time will surely come.
- This prophecy seems to speaking of the end-times, for God said that it was not yet time for the vision to come to pass in the days of Habakkuk.

Habakkuk 2:4: "Behold, his soul which is lifted up is not upright in him: but the just shall live by his faith."

- The just shall live by faith – not by works or by anything else.
- Those who are proud aren't upright.
- God calls us to live by faith, not by pride.
- God hates pride.
- People have souls.
- If we don't have faith then we can't be just.

- Faith is something we must live by.

Habakkuk 2:5: "Yea also, because he transgresseth by wine, he is a proud man, neither keepeth at home, who enlargeth his desire as hell, and is as death, and cannot be satisfied, but gathereth unto him all nations, and heapeth unto him all people:"

- 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.
- The antichrist is a drunkard.
- The antichrist is a proud man.
- The antichrist doesn't remain in his own home.
- The antichrist is compared to hell.
- The antichrist is compared to death.
- The antichrist can't be satisfied.
- The antichrist gathers all people and nations unto himself.
- It's wrong to be a drunkard.
- It's wrong to be proud.
- It's a bad thing to neglect your own household.
- It's a bad thing to be unable to be satisfied.
- The antichrist is a man.

Habakkuk 2:6: "Shall not all these take up a parable against him, and a taunting proverb against him, and say, Woe to him that increaseth that which is not his! how long? and to him that ladeth himself with thick clay!"

- People will taunt the antichrist for taking things that don't belong to him.
- Woe is pronounced upon the antichrist for his thefts.
- People will taunt the antichrist for burdening himself with "thick clay", which seems to be a reference to all the people that he enslaved.
- During the reign of the antichrist, there are some who will oppose him and speak proverbs against him, and will condemn his actions.
- Theft is wrong. Rulers aren't allowed to take things that belong to others.

Habakkuk 2:7: "Shall they not rise up suddenly that shall bite thee, and awake that shall vex thee, and thou shalt be for booties unto them?"

- God will raise up people against the antichrist, and they will fight against him and vex him.
- The antichrist won't reign unopposed. He will face enemies during his reign who will cause him trouble.
- The people who God raises up against the antichrist will win victories over him and take spoil.
- The antichrist won't be an all-powerful figure who will reign unopposed and win every encounter.
- The power of the antichrist will have limits.
- The enemies of the antichrist will rise up suddenly.

Habakkuk 2:8: "Because thou hast spoiled many nations, all the remnant of the people shall spoil thee; because of men's

blood, and for the violence of the land, of the city, and of all that dwell therein."

- The antichrist will spoil many nations.
- Because the antichrist spoiled many nations, the survivors will take spoil from him.
- The antichrist won't succeed in killing everyone. A remnant will remain.
- The antichrist will shed much blood.
- The antichrist will carry out much violence.
- The violence and bloodshed of the antichrist will be returned upon him. He won't escape unpunished.

Habakkuk 2:9: "Woe to him that coveteth an evil covetousness to his house, that he may set his nest on high, that he may be delivered from the power of evil!"

- The antichrist will be full of covetousness. He will covet things that belong to others.
- The antichrist will covet things that belong to others, and will take them so he can magnify himself.
- The antichrist will steal many things in an attempt to become invincible.
- God pronounces woe upon those who covet the possessions of others.
- God hates covetousness.
- It's wrong to magnify yourself.
- The antichrist seeks to magnify himself and set himself on high, just as the devil once did.

Habakkuk 2:10: "Thou hast consulted shame to thy house by cutting off many people, and hast sinned against thy soul."

- The antichrist will kill many people.
- When the antichrist kills many people, he won't strengthen his household. Instead he will bring terrible shame upon it and sin against his own soul.
- Sin doesn't strengthen a household. Instead it brings shame and judgment upon it.
- It's possible to sin against our soul.
- Murder and violence brings shame.
- The murder of nations is a sin.
- Sin and violence don't bring deliverance.

Habakkuk 2:11: "For the stone shall cry out of the wall, and the beam out of the timber shall answer it."

- The sins of the antichrist won't be hidden, for the stones and the wooden beams will testify to them.
- The vision of Habakkuk speaks of a time when the stones will cry out.
- The vision of Habakkuk speaks of a time when the timber will cry out.

Habakkuk 2:12: "Woe to him that buildeth a town with blood, and stablisheth a city by iniquity!"

- The antichrist will build a city using bloodshed and sin. (This is probably a reference to the way that Babylon will

be established.)

- God pronounces woe upon those who found a city using bloodshed and sin.
- God cares about the way that a city is built, and how it gains its power.
- God is against the shedding of innocent blood.
- God is against those who pursue objectives using evil means.
- The ends don't justify the means.

Habakkuk 2:13: "Behold, is it not of the LORD of hosts that the people shall labour in the very fire, and the people shall weary themselves for very vanity?"

- God is called the God of armies.
- The people of the antichrist's kingdom will labor in fire and will weary themselves, but it will all be for nothing.
- The people who work for the antichrist will serve him in vain. Their labor will be for nothing.
- The antichrist and his kingdom will be defeated and brought to nothing. This will be accomplished by the Lord.
- All of the covetousness and murder and violence of the antichrist won't make him invincible. Instead he will be destroyed, and all of his labor will be in vain.

Habakkuk 2:14: "For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea."

- The antichrist is going to be defeated. His wicked reign won't endure.
- After the reign of the antichrist has ended, the entire world will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord.
- After the reign of the antichrist has ended, all nations will glorify God and will know Him.
- In the days to come all nations will glorify God, not the antichrist.
- The kingdom that will endure is the Lord's kingdom, not the antichrist's kingdom.
- The knowledge of the glory of God will one day cover the world as thoroughly and completely as the waters cover the sea.
- In the end the victor will be the Lord, not the antichrist. The antichrist will be utterly defeated and all of the nations will serve the Lord and glorify Him.

Habakkuk 2:15: "Woe unto him that giveth his neighbour drink, that puttest thy bottle to him, and makest him drunken also, that thou mayest look on their nakedness!"

- God pronounces woe upon those who get their neighbor drunk so they can take advantage of him and put him to shame.
- It's wrong to take advantage of others.
- It's wrong to get other people drunk.
- It's wrong to get other people drunk and then use their drunken state to abuse them.

- The antichrist will intoxicate people in some way and use that to take advantage of them.

Habakkuk 2:16: "Thou art filled with shame for glory: drink thou also, and let thy foreskin be uncovered: the cup of the LORD's right hand shall be turned unto thee, and shameful spewing shall be on thy glory."

- The antichrist seeks glory, but will receive shame instead.
- Just as the antichrist took advantage of others, so others will take advantage of him.
- The shame of the antichrist will be revealed by God.
- The Lord resists the proud and brings shame upon them.
- The glory of the antichrist will be covered with shame.
- God was going to do to the antichrist what he had done to so many others.
- The path of sin brings shame, not glory.
- The antichrist is uncircumcised.

Habakkuk 2:17: "For the violence of Lebanon shall cover thee, and the spoil of beasts, which made them afraid, because of men's blood, and for the violence of the land, of the city, and of all that dwell therein."

- Violence will come against the antichrist from Lebanon.
- The antichrist will be punished for all the innocent blood he shed.
- The antichrist will fill the land and the city with violence.
- The antichrist will kill many animals and make them

afraid.

Habakkuk 2:18: "What profiteth the graven image that the maker thereof hath graven it; the molten image, and a teacher of lies, that the maker of his work trusteth therein, to make dumb idols?"

- In connection with the antichrist, the prophecy speaks of an idol. (This is most likely a reference to the image of the beast, which is also spoken of in Revelation.)
- Idols are worthless. Those who make them aren't profited by them.
- The antichrist won't be profited by the idol that he will make. His idol won't save him.
- Those who create idols trust in them, but those idols can't save them.
- Idols can't speak. Any idol that seems to speak (which will be the case for the idol of the antichrist) is a lie, for an idol has no voice of its own.
- Idols are lies. They have no power and they can't speak or save.
- Idols are so powerless that they must be created by others.
- Those who trust in idols are fools, for they're trusting in something that can't help them or speak to them.

Habakkuk 2:19: "Woe unto him that saith to the wood, Awake; to the dumb stone, Arise, it shall teach! Behold, it is laid over with gold and silver, and there is no breath at all in the midst of it."

- God pronounces woe upon those who create idols and urge them to speak and teach.
- Idols aren't alive. They can't speak or teach anyone.
- A wooden or stone idol that's covered in silver or gold isn't alive. It can't speak to anyone or teach anyone.
- Those who seek wisdom from idols are fools, for they can't speak.
- Idols can't teach or give wisdom.

Habakkuk 2:20: "But the LORD is in his holy temple: let all the earth keep silence before him."

- The Lord isn't like idols. He is real and is alive.
- The Lord isn't like idols. He speaks.
- The Lord resides in His holy temple.
- Let all the world keep silence before the Lord.

Habakkuk 3

Habakkuk 3:1: "A prayer of Habakkuk the prophet upon Shigionoth."

- This chapter contains a prayer of Habakkuk.
- Habakkuk was a prophet.
- This prayer was for Shigionoth. (Unfortunately, no one knows what that is.)

Habakkuk 3:2: "O LORD, I have heard thy speech, and was

afraid: O LORD, revive thy work in the midst of the years, in the midst of the years make known; in wrath remember mercy."

- Habakkuk heard the Lord's reply. It made him afraid.
- Habakkuk was afraid of the coming wrath of the Lord, and asked Him to be merciful.
- Habakkuk prayed that God would one day revive the work of His hands.
- The coming wrath of the Lord filled Habakkuk with fear, not joy.
- Habakkuk believed what the Lord told him, even though he hadn't yet seen it come to pass.

Habakkuk 3:3: "God came from Teman, and the Holy One from mount Paran. Selah. His glory covered the heavens, and the earth was full of his praise."

- Habakkuk said that God came from Teman, an Edomite city that was located to the east of Israel. (This may be a reference to the Second Coming, since Isaiah 63:1 also speaks of the Lord coming from Edom at the time of the Second Coming.)
- Habakkuk said that God came from mount Paran, a mountain that was located to the east of Israel.
- Habakkuk looked forward to a day when God's glory would cover the heavens, and the whole world would be full of His praise. (This seems to be a reference to the Second Coming.)
- One day God's glory will cover the heavens.
- One day the whole world will be full of God's praise.

- This verse mentions the Holy One, which seems to be a reference to the Messiah.

Habakkuk 3:4: "And his brightness was as the light; he had horns coming out of his hand: and there was the hiding of his power."

- The Holy One of God is extremely bright.
- The Holy One of God is powerful.
- The Holy One of God is described as having horns coming out of His hand. In the Bible horns are symbolic of power, so that may be a reference to either His power, or to the marks of the crucifixion.
- The power of the Holy One of God is said to be hidden.

Habakkuk 3:5: "Before him went the pestilence, and burning coals went forth at his feet."

- When the Holy One of God came, a pestilence went before Him.
- When the Holy One of God came, burning coals came from his feet.
- The Holy One of God brought judgment.

Habakkuk 3:6: "He stood, and measured the earth: he beheld, and drove asunder the nations; and the everlasting mountains were scattered, the perpetual hills did bow: his ways are everlasting."

- When the Holy One of God came, He stood and measured the world.

- When the Holy One of God came, He destroyed the nations.
- When the Holy One of God came, He scattered the mountains.
- When the Holy One of God came, the mountains bowed down to him.
- The Holy One of God is more powerful than the nations.
- The Holy One of God is stronger than the mountains.
- The entire world will bow down before the Holy One of God.
- The ways of the Holy One of God are everlasting.
- The Holy One of God is much stronger than the antichrist.

Habakkuk 3:7: "I saw the tents of Cushan in affliction: and the curtains of the land of Midian did tremble."

- When the Holy One of God came, the inhabitants of Cush were afflicted.
- When the Holy One of God came, the inhabitants of Midian trembled.

Habakkuk 3:8: "Was the LORD displeased against the rivers? was thine anger against the rivers? was thy wrath against the sea, that thou didst ride upon thine horses and thy chariots of salvation?"

- The verse asks if God was displeased and angry with the rivers and the sea.
- The verse asks if the reason God came while riding on His

horses and chariots was because He was angry with the rivers.

- When the Lord comes, He will come with horses and chariots.
- When the Lord comes, He will bring salvation.

Habakkuk 3:9: "Thy bow was made quite naked, according to the oaths of the tribes, even thy word. Selah. Thou didst cleave the earth with rivers."

- The Lord unsheathed His bow (in judgment) upon the world.
- The bow of the Lord is His Word.
- The judgment that God poured out upon the nations was determined by the oaths that the tribes had sworn.
- God will judge this world, along with its people and nations.
- God will use His Word to judge the world.
- When the Lord comes, He will use rivers to split the world.
- The Lord has control over the rivers.

Habakkuk 3:10: "The mountains saw thee, and they trembled: the overflowing of the water passed by: the deep uttered his voice, and lifted up his hands on high."

- When the Lord came, the mountains saw Him.
- The mountains trembled before the Lord.
- When the Lord came, the flood passed by.

- When the Lord came, the deep water spoke.
- The coming of the Lord will be accompanied by an earthquake of some kind that will cause the mountains to shake and a great flood to occur.
- Nature itself will respond when the Lord comes.

Habakkuk 3:11: "The sun and moon stood still in their habitation: at the light of thine arrows they went, and at the shining of thy glittering spear."

- When the Lord comes, the sun will stand still in the sky.
- When the Lord comes, the moon will stand still in the sky.
- When the Lord comes, He will take out His bow and fire His arrows.
- The arrows of the Lord give off light.
- When the Lord comes, He will have a spear.
- The spear of the Lord will shine.
- When the Lord comes He will be armed for battle, bearing a bow and arrows and a spear.

Habakkuk 3:12: "Thou didst march through the land in indignation, thou didst thresh the heathen in anger."

- When the Lord comes, He will march through the land in anger.
- When the Lord comes, He will thresh the heathen in anger.
- When the Lord comes, He will be angry with the pagan nations and will punish them.

- The Lord will come to this world in wrath, bearing weapons.
- The Lord will be victorious over the nations.
- There are times when God is angry.
- There are times when God is angry with the nations of this world.
- God doesn't simply sit by and watch the nations do whatever they want. Instead He intervenes in history and punishes nations.
- God interacts with His creation.
- God interacts with the nations and takes action against them.

Habakkuk 3:13: "Thou wentest forth for the salvation of thy people, even for salvation with thine anointed; thou woundedst the head out of the house of the wicked, by discovering the foundation unto the neck. Selah."

- The reason the Lord went forth was to save His people.
- The people of God are called His anointed ones.
- When God comes He will destroy the house of the wicked. He will cut off its head.
- God will save His people by destroying the wicked.
- One day God will save His people from the wicked.
- One day God will take action against the wicked.
- A transition of some sort appears to take place at the end of this verse ("selah").

Habakkuk 3:14: "Thou didst strike through with his staves the head of his villages: they came out as a whirlwind to scatter me: their rejoicing was as to devour the poor secretly."

- The Lord will strike the head of the antichrist's villages.
- The Lord will strike with His staves (staff).
- The Lord will come against the leaders of the antichrist's kingdom.
- The leaders of the antichrist's kingdom came out as a whirlwind to scatter the Jews.
- The leaders of the antichrist's kingdom rejoiced as they tried to destroy the Jews and devour them.
- The leaders of the antichrist secretly came against the Jews (who are described as poor).
- God will move against those who move against His people.

Habakkuk 3:15: "Thou didst walk through the sea with thine horses, through the heap of great waters."

- When the Lord returns He will walk through the sea with His horses.
- When the Lord returns He will go through the flood.

Habakkuk 3:16: "When I heard, my belly trembled; my lips quivered at the voice: rottenness entered into my bones, and I trembled in myself, that I might rest in the day of trouble: when he cometh up unto the people, he will invade them with his troops."

- When Habakkuk heard this news, his belly trembled.

- When Habakkuk heard this news, his lips quivered.
- When Habakkuk heard this news, he was weakened. Rottenness entered his bones.
- Habakkuk trembled and was weakened because he wanted to rest in the day of trouble. He wanted to be hidden while all of these terrible things were taking place (which means he was longing for the deliverance of the rapture, which had not yet been revealed).
- When the antichrist comes he will invade the land with his troops.

Habakkuk 3:17: "Although the fig tree shall not blossom, neither shall fruit be in the vines; the labour of the olive shall fail, and the fields shall yield no meat; the flock shall be cut off from the fold, and there shall be no herd in the stalls:"

- In the day of trouble, the fig tree won't blossom.
- In the day of trouble, there will be no fruit on the vines.
- In the day of trouble, the olive tree will fail to produce olives.
- In the day of trouble, the fields won't produce any food.
- In the day of trouble, the livestock will be gone.
- In the day of trouble, all food will be gone and there will be great distress.

Habakkuk 3:18: "Yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation."

- In the day of trouble Habakkuk will rejoice, even though there's no food.

- In the day of trouble Habakkuk will have joy in God and will still see Him as a bringer of salvation, even though all food is gone.
- Habakkuk will rejoice in the Lord regardless of his circumstances or his personal needs.
- Habakkuk's joy in the Lord doesn't depend on whether God provides him with food. He will even rejoice when all food is gone and there's nothing left.
- Habakkuk looked to God for salvation.

Habakkuk 3:19: "The LORD God is my strength, and he will make my feet like hinds' feet, and he will make me to walk upon mine high places. To the chief singer on my stringed instruments."

- Habakkuk's source of strength was the Lord.
- God was the one who provided Habakkuk the strength he needed to endure hard times.
- Habakkuk believed that God would give him the strength he needed to walk on high places.
- This chapter is a song that was intended to be sung.
- This chapter was written for the chief singer.
- This chapter was intended to be sung on stringed instruments.
- It's good to sing to the Lord.
- This is a song of judgment and distress, and yet it was still intended to be sung to the Lord.
- There's nothing wrong with using stringed instruments to sing to the Lord.

- Stringed instruments aren't evil, and may be used to praise the Lord.