Analysis of

HABAKKUK

"FAITH AMIDST PERPLEXITY"

17 Though the fig tree should not blossom, And there be no fruit on the vines, *Though* the yield of the olive should fail, And the fields produce no food, Though the flock should be cut off from the fold, And there be no cattle in the stalls, 18 Yet I will exult in the LORD, I will rejoice in the God of my salvation. Habakkuk 3:17-18

Analysis of HABAKKUK Prepared by James T. Bartsch November, 1997, updated October, 2019

Published Online by WordExplain.com
Email Contact: jbartsch@wordexplain.com

Scripture taken from the *NEW AMERICAN STANDARD BIBLE* ®, Copyright © 1960, 1962, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1995 by the Lockman Foundation. Used by permission. (www.Lockman.org)

HABAKKUK

"FAITH AMIDST PERPLEXITY"

17 Though the fig tree should not blossom, And there be no fruit on the vines, Though the yield of the olive should fail, And the fields produce no food, Though the flock should be cut off from the fold, And there be no cattle in the stalls, 18 Yet I will exult in the LORD, I will rejoice in the God of my salvation. Habakkuk 3:17-18

A1 HABAKKUK'S FIRST QUESTION 1:1-11

- B1 Introduction: The oracle which Habakkuk the prophet saw. 1:1
- **B2 Habakkuk's Asking of His First Question:** Why is unjudged sin permitted in Judah? 1:2-4
 - C1 His frustration at God's inactivity over Judah's evil 1:2
 - C2 His examples of Judah's endemic evil 1:3-4
- B3 God's Answer to Habakkuk: He will judge Judah with the relentless Chaldeans! 1:5-11
 - C1 The shocking character of His response 1:5
 - D1 The commands
 - D2 The reason
 - C2 The content of His response -- He will judge them with the invading Chaldeans, described as: 1:6-11
 - D1 Invasive 1:6
 - D2 Conquering
 - D3 Fear-inducing 1:7
 - D4 Autocratic
 - D5 Militarily superior 1:8
 - D6 Highly mobile
 - D7 Violent 1:9
 - D8 Irresistible
 - D9 Enslaving
 - D10 Self-confident 1:10
 - D11 Proficient

- D12 Overwhelming 1:11
- D13 Accountable
- D14 Idolatrous

A2 HABAKKUK'S SECOND QUESTION 1:12 - 2:20

- B1 The Question: Why the wicked Chaldeans? (Why is holy God allowing an evil nation to discipline a more righteous nation?) 1:12 2:1
 - C1 His questioning of God's justice 1:12-13
 - D1 His recognition of Yahweh's Eternality 1:12
 - D2 His belief, aghast, in the survival of the nation
 - D3 His consternation
 - D4 His concession of God's absolute holiness 1:13a
 - D5 The crux of his question 1:13b
 - C2 His description of the Chaldeans' evil: They catch nations like fish in the sea! 1:14-17
 - D1 His question as to why God permits humans to be vulnerable prey to one another 1:14
 - D2 His description of the Chaldeans' "fishing" process 1:15
 - E1 The hook
 - E2 The net
 - E3 Their joy
 - D3 His description of the Chaldeans' idolatry worshiping their own strength and prowess 1:16
 - E1 Their rituals
 - E2 Their reasons
 - D4 His question as to the termination of the Chaldeans' slaughter of nations 1:17
 - C3 His determination to wait for God's response 2:1
 - D1 His station
 - D2 His watch
 - D3 His response

B2 God's Answer 2:2-20

- C1 The proper attitude: Faith amidst perplexity 2:2-4
 - D1 God's command to record legibly the certain and inevitable vision 2:2-3
 - E1 The need to preserve the vision 2:2
 - E2 The future time of the vision 2:3a
 - E3 The certain fulfillment of the vision 2:3b
 - D2 God's acknowledgment that the disciplinarian (Chaldea) is not right with God 2:4a
 - D3 God's dictum that the righteous need to trust Him anyway! 2:4b
- C2 God's pronouncement of woe upon Chaldean wickedness: The "Taunt-Song" of Babylon's conquered nations 2:5-20
 - D1 Woe to the militarily greedy 2:5-8
 - E1 Chaldea's greed for conquest 2:5
 - F1 Inflamed by wine
 - F2 His ravenous appetite for more territory
 - F3 His devouring of nations
 - E2 The prediction of vengeance upon Chaldea -- The first woe of the "Taunt-Song" of Babylon's conquered nations 2:6-8
 - F1 Woe to those who steal 2:6b
 - F2 The "repossession" of "creditor" (nations) 2:7
 - F3 The revenge of pillaged nations 2:8
 - G1 Because of Chaldea's looting
 - G2 Because of Chaldea's bloodshed and violence
 - D2 Woe to the covetous 2:9-11
 - E1 Woe to Chaldea's pursuit of security for his house through evil gain 2:9
 - E2 Chaldea's shame and sin against its own house 2:10
 - E3 The coming agony of Chaldea's house 2:11

- D3 Woe to the violent 2:12-14
 - E1 The evil predicted upon Chaldea for building up Babylon through bloodshed and violence 2:12
 - E2 Jehovah's decree that nations (such as Chaldea) exert great effort in conquest to no avail 2:13
 - E3 Jehovah's decree that the earth will one day be filed with the knowledge of His glory! 2:14
- D4 Woe to public humiliators 2:15-17
 - E1 Woe to Chaldea for shaming and exposing its neighbor nations 2:15
 - E2 The judgment to befall Chaldea 2:16-17
 - F1 Being filled with disgrace and dishonor 2:16a
 - F2 Disgraceful drinking of Yahweh's cup! 2:16b
 - F3 Partaking of the same evil it had committed against Lebanon, including 2:17
 - G1 Violence
 - G2 Destruction of wildlife
 - G3 Violence against man and land
- D5 Woe to the idolatrous 2:18-20
 - E1 The futility of Chaldea's reliance upon idolatry 2:18
 - F1 The worthlessness of constructing an idol
 - F2 The absurdity of trusting as God what one has made with his own hands!
 - E2 Woe to the idol-maker! 2:19
 - F1 Attributing life to the inanimate 2:19
 - F2 Failing to admit it cannot breathe, for it is covered with metal!
 - E3 The command to keep silence before Yahweh, the One True God, as He speaks! 2:20

A3 HABAKKUK'S PRAYER 3

- B1 Habakkuk's Request for Mercy alongside Justice 3:1-2
 - C1 The superscription of his prayer 3:1
 - C2 His fearful reaction to Yahweh's response to his questions 3:2a
 - C3 His plea to Yahweh 3:2b
 - D1 To restore Judah to spiritual and physical life and health in the future
 - D2 To be merciful in His judgment of Judah
- **B2** The Description of Deity: A theophany of God's coming judgment and salvation illustrated by God's dramatic dealings with Israel in past history 3:3-15
 - C1 The theophanic prophecy of God's majestic coming approach from the south: The backdrop -- His giving the Law on Mt. Sinai 3:3-5
 - D1 The geography of His approach 3:3a
 - D2 The majesty of His approach 3:3b-4
 - D3 His fearsome attendants 3:5
 - C2 The theophanic prophecy of God's coming earth-shaking pause to survey the earth 3:6-7
 - D1 His purpose 3:6
 - D2 His effect 3:6b-7
 - El Upon the nations in general 3:6b
 - E2 Upon the topography around Him
 - E3 Upon particular nations 3:7
 - C3 The theophanic prophecy of God's coming judgment and salvation as prefigured by His past interventions 3:8-15
 - D1 His awesome power in connection with water 3:8-10
 - E1 Reminiscent of His salvation of Israel in connection with the Nile, the Red Sea, and the Jordan 3:8-9a
 - F1 His anger -- not addressed against the rivers and sea 3:8
 - F2 His war-like rebuke 3:9a

- E2 Reminiscent of His judgment of the earth in connection with the Great Flood of Noah 3:9b-10
 - F1 His gouging of channels 3:9b
 - F2 His shaking the earth with quakes 3:10a
 - F3 His inundating the earth with torrents from above and geysers from beneath 3:10b
- D2 His power reminiscent of His fighting for Israel against the Amorites in the Valley of Aijalon (cf. Josh. 10:12-14) 3:11
- D3 His judgment reminiscent of His defeat of the Canaanites (cf. Judges 5:4) 3:12
- D4 His victory reminiscent of His salvation of Israel at the Red Sea 3:13-15
 - E1 His salvation 3:13a
 - E2 His defeat of the enemy 3:13b-15
 - F1 Of the leader 3:13b-14a
 - F2 Of the troops who had intended to overwhelm Israel 3:14b-15

B3 Habakkuk's Attitude 3:16-19

- C1 Fear 3:16a
- C2 Resignation 3:16b-17
 - D1 Quiet waiting for invasion 3:16b
 - D2 Realization of coming deprivation 3:17
- C3 Joyful trust in God 3:18-19
 - D1 Active exultation 3:18
 - D2 Active faith 3:19a
 - D3 Musical instructions 3:19b

Analysis of HABAKKUK Prepared by James T. Bartsch November, 1997, updated October, 2019

Published Online by WordExplain.com Email Contact: jbartsch@wordexplain.com

Scripture taken from the *NEW AMERICAN STANDARD BIBLE* ®, Copyright © 1960, 1962, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1995 by the Lockman Foundation. Used by permission. (www.Lockman.org)