

Habakkuk # 2 Introduction continued “Habakkuk’s Rave” *Habakkuk 1:1-4*

If we were to take a poll, the majority of people would say the Old Testament is a series of non-related stories which indicate no particular pattern or progression with no unifying theme.

But the Old Testament is just the opposite; it’s a compilation of 39 books which not only tell the same story but they do it with complete historical, literary and spiritual accuracy.

When we see the chronological outline in relation to God’s promises to Israel, we discover unity where the

Old Testament is no longer a fragmented collection of object-lesson stories.

The primary role of the prophet in ancient Israel was to speak for God during the divided and single kingdom periods.

Israel had its share of false prophets who claimed to have a message from the Lord God of Israel but they didn’t and occasionally, two men claiming to be prophets of God, speaking for Him, had completely opposite messages.

According to Deuteronomy 13, a true prophet led the people to a greater relationship with the Lord and his message never contradicted previously accepted revelation and according to Deuteronomy 18, a true prophet spoke in the Name of the Lord and his prophecies were always 100% accurate.

Generally, prophets spoke for God to men but Habakkuk pleads with God about His dealings with men.

Habakkuk promotes his main theme of the unlikely affliction of the godly and the even more unlikely prosperity of the ungodly.

Habakkuk preaches against what’s going on but it’s having no effect, so he wonders why evil goes unpunished and the wicked prosper and why God isn’t reacting immediately?

It is a serious error to allow for our questions to go unanswered.

There’s nothing wrong with admitting we don’t know something; the problem arises when we do nothing about our ignorance.

Habakkuk is keenly aware of the sin in the nation and the nation’s rapid downward trajectory but his concern is not over what he wants for himself but what God wants for His people.

While Judah was God’s priest-nation, the US is His client-nation and we can learn from Habakkuk that it’s not what we think God should be doing to remedy the problem; it’s what we can do to be in tune with God’s grace solution beginning with our development of a strong soul structure and then a commitment to evangelism and not activism.

What makes Habakkuk a great study is that he has his own ideas and solutions like most of us but he’s humble enough to bring the matter to God and listen to His answer.

So, why is the church failing as a whole?

Because God's soldiers are ill-equipped to go to battle, being either ignorant of the weapons available to them or not knowing how to use them if they indeed know they have them.

We live in one of the Christocentric dispensations, the Church Age and the purpose of the Church Age is to manufacture invisible heroes out of the royal family of God.

Our example is taken from the Incarnation; not from the Mosaic Law, so we have only one Hero: our Lord Jesus Christ.

Our Lord also demonstrated what an invisible hero in the Church Age would do: He would live inside the experiential plan of God with its power system.

Just as our Lord executed the salvation plan of God in the First Advent, we're here to execute the plan of God for the Church Age.

The purpose of the Church Age is to manufacture invisible heroes; the product of biblical truth learned and lived.

Invisible God plus His graciously provided invisible assets plus His invisible power in us equals the invisible hero in us.