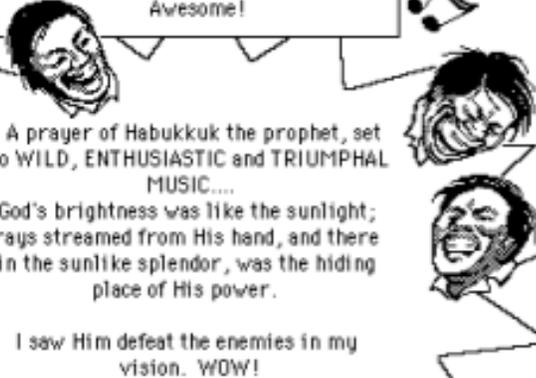


What did Habakkuk see that caused him to be overwhelmed with joy? Ambush!

<p>Habukkuk Larry Chkoreff 9/95</p> <p><i>Do you ever feel like God does not care; or He does not hear your prayer?</i></p> <p>How long will I cry out to you oh God and you continue to ignore me?</p> 	<p>Look around son, it is Me that is bringing your enemy to battle. They think they are attacking you...but I am in control.</p> <p>What? Why would You do that? You are too good for that.</p> 
<p>Oh man; I have blown it talking to God that way; I guess I just need to stuff my doubts and hurt</p> <p>Actually son, I Am glad you asked. I want you to know some things, and even write it down so that other people may learn; keep it simple.</p> 	<p>The defeat of your enemies will take a little while; but hang on to this Word I am giving you; my children must LIVE BY FAITH . Even if it takes time for the answer to come...it will come if you stay in My Word . Remember, they think they are attacking you, but I am bringing them to you for THEIR DEFEAT!</p> <p>You see, in the future My Son will die on A Cross and that has disarmed all the evil.</p> <p>What? A Cross?</p> 
<p>Habukkuk gets a vision from God about the enemy's defeat----- Awesome!</p> <p>A prayer of Habukkuk the prophet, set to WILD, ENTHUSIASTIC and TRIUMPHAL MUSIC.... God's brightness was like the sunlight; rays streamed from His hand, and there in the sunlike splendor, was the hiding place of His power.</p> <p>I saw Him defeat the enemies in my vision. WOW!</p> 	<p>Habukkuk learns that his pain is actually not for his defeat, but it is God's trick on the devil.</p> <p>I heard God; I saw the vision; I experienced His presense. But now while things look bad I am still hurting. But by FAITH, even if things look bad now, I will continue to rejoice because I know that the Word of God will come through and my enemies will be defeated.</p> <p>Praise God I can't lose if I stay in the Word.</p> 

What did Habakkuk see that caused him to be overwhelmed with joy? Ambush!

This is the period of time when the Babylonians [Chaldeans] did indeed finally inhabit Israel and take the people captive for 70 years.

Habakkuk starts out by asking God why? God answered his questions and used that dialog to record as Scripture to encourage you and I.

God finally thanks Habakkuk for asking the questions and then tells him to “write the vision of what he learned” so that you and I could be encouraged when we are going through tough times, especially spiritual warfare. We experience satanic warfare every time Jesus speaks a fruit bearing seed into our hearts

John 16:33,

“33 “These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.””

***Brief Summary from Gotquestions.org:** The Book of Habakkuk begins with Habakkuk crying out to God for an answer to why God’s chosen people are allowed to suffer in their captivity ([Habakkuk 1:1-4](#)). The Lord gives His answer to Habakkuk, essentially stating, “You wouldn’t believe it if I told you” ([Habakkuk 1: 5-11](#)). Habakkuk then follows up by saying, “Ok, you are God, but still tell me more about why this is happening” ([Habakkuk 1:17-2:1](#)). God then answers him again and gives him more information, then tells the earth to be silent before Him ([Habakkuk 2:2-20](#)). Then Habakkuk writes a prayer expressing his strong faith in God, even through these trials ([Habakkuk 3:1-19](#)).*

Habakkuk’s Complaint.

New Living Translation.

1 This is the message that the prophet Habakkuk received in a vision. **2** How long, O LORD, must I call for help? But you do not listen! “Violence is everywhere!” I cry, but you do not come to save. **3** Must I forever see these evil deeds? Why must I watch all this misery? Wherever I look, I see destruction and violence. I am surrounded by people who love to argue and fight. **4** The law has become paralyzed, and there is no justice in the courts. The wicked far outnumber the righteous, so that justice has become perverted.

THE LORD’S REPLY

5 The LORD replied, “Look around at the nations; look and be amazed! For I am doing something in your own day, something you wouldn’t believe even if someone told you about it. **6** **I am raising up the Babylonians [Chaldeans], a cruel and violent people.** They will march across the world and conquer other lands. **7** They are notorious for their cruelty and do whatever they like. **8** Their horses are swifter than cheetahs and fiercer than wolves at dusk. Their charioteers charge from far away. Like eagles, they swoop down to devour their prey. **9** “On they come, all bent on violence. Their hordes advance like a desert wind, sweeping captives ahead of them like sand. **10** They scoff at kings and princes and

scorn all their fortresses. They simply pile ramps of earth against their walls and capture them! **11** They sweep past like the wind and are gone. But they are deeply guilty, for their own strength is their god.”

God's initial answer was astonishing. He says to the prophet that He is rousing up the Chaldeans and causing them to do this thing! Between Habakkuk chapter 1 verses 5-11 God tells Habakkuk how terrible, greedy, proud and strong are these Chaldeans. But in verse 5 he tells Habakkuk that He is putting into effect a work in your days that you would not believe it if it were told to you. Paul quoted him in Acts 13:41.

Notice here that God is telling Habakkuk that He has designed an ambush!

The Babylonians did attack and for a time did prevail, but the end of it was their destruction.

Jesus' crucifixion was an ambush. When we are walking in obedience to the Lord the enemy's attack on us is also an ambush. The Bible is full of ambushes by God. The ambush only works for the enemy's defeat if, like Jesus, the proposed victim is righteous. This also applies to us as our spiritual enemies. As they attack us and as we walk in His light, repenting our way through life, those enemies will be defeated and lives will be saved.

Habakkuk's Second Complaint

12 O LORD my God, my Holy One, you who are eternal— surely you do not plan to wipe us out? O LORD, our Rock, you have sent these Babylonians to correct us, to punish us for our many sins. **13** But you are pure and cannot stand the sight of evil. Will you wink at their treachery? Should you be silent while the wicked swallow up people more righteous than they? **14** Are we only fish to be caught and killed? Are we only sea creatures that have no leader? **15** Must we be strung up on their hooks and caught in their nets while they rejoice and celebrate? **16** Then they will worship their nets and burn incense in front of them. “These nets are the gods who have made us rich!” they will claim. **17** Will you let them get away with this forever? Will they succeed forever in their heartless conquests?

Chapter 2

1 I will climb up to my watchtower and stand at my guardpost. There I will wait to see what the LORD says and how he will answer my complaint.

The Lord's Second Reply

2 Then the LORD said to me, “Write my answer plainly on tablets, so that a runner can carry the correct message to others.

The Lord answered Habakkuk's questions without upbraiding him! That should tell us something about God's character. Also The Lord took the opportunity to minister to others who may have some of the same questions, but were too shy to

ask, or maybe have not even thought about asking. He told the prophet to write the vision so even the simple in their rushing around could understand.

I believe that there is so much terror, perplexity and confusion going on that even believers need something simple and quick to hang on to. We need to understand God's plan and His ways, lest we get caught up in disaster. He said that even the elect could be deceived. He said that when "all these things are coming about, consider the season, the fig tree, and know that your redemption is drawing near. This example of how God informed Habakkuk about His ambush plans is something we can all hang onto.

The Lord's Words against the Babylonians [Chaldeans].

3 This vision is for a future time. It describes the end, and it will be fulfilled. If it seems slow in coming, wait patiently, for it will surely take place. It will not be delayed. **4** "Look at the proud! They trust in themselves, and their lives are crooked. But the righteous will live by their faithfulness to God. **5** Wealth is treacherous, and the arrogant are never at rest. They open their mouths as wide as the grave, and like death, they are never satisfied. In their greed they have gathered up many nations and swallowed many peoples. **6** **"But soon their captives will taunt them.** They will mock them, saying, 'What sorrow awaits you thieves! Now you will get what you deserve! You've become rich by extortion, but how much longer can this go on?' **7** Suddenly, your debtors will take action. They will turn on you and take all you have, while you stand trembling and helpless. **8** **Because you have plundered many nations, now all the survivors will plunder you.** You committed murder throughout the countryside and filled the towns with violence.

9 **"What sorrow awaits you who build big houses with money gained dishonestly! You believe your wealth will buy security, putting your family's nest beyond the reach of danger.** **10** But by the murders you committed, you have shamed your name and forfeited your lives. **11** The very stones in the walls cry out against you, and the beams in the ceilings echo the complaint. **12** "What sorrow awaits you who build cities with money gained through murder and corruption! **13** Has not the LORD of Heaven's Armies promised that the wealth of nations will turn to ashes? They work so hard, but all in vain! **14** For as the waters fill the sea, the earth will be filled with an awareness of the glory of the LORD. **15** "What sorrow awaits you who make your neighbors drunk! You force your cup on them so you can gloat over their shameful nakedness.

16 **But soon it will be your turn to be disgraced. Come, drink and be exposed!** Drink from the cup of the LORD's judgment, and all your glory will be turned to shame. **17** You cut down the forests of Lebanon. Now you will be cut down. You destroyed the wild animals, so now their terror will be yours. You committed murder throughout the countryside and filled the towns with violence. **18** "What good is an idol carved by man, or a cast image that deceives you? How foolish to trust in your own creation— a god that can't even talk! **19** What sorrow awaits you who say to wooden idols, 'Wake up and save us!' To speechless stone images you say, 'Rise up and teach us!' Can an idol tell you what to do?

They may be overlaid with gold and silver, but they are lifeless inside. **20** But the LORD is in his holy Temple. Let all the earth be silent before him.”

Habakkuk’s Prayer

Chapter 3

1 A PRAYER of Habakkuk the prophet, set to wild, enthusiastic, and triumphal music.

2 O Lord, I have heard the report of You and was afraid. O Lord, revive Your work in the midst of the years, in the midst of the years make [Yourself] known! In wrath [earnestly] remember love, pity, and mercy. AMPLIFIED BIBLE.

3 I see God moving across the deserts from Edom, the Holy One coming from Mount Paran. His brilliant splendor fills the heavens, and the earth is filled with his praise. **4** His coming is as brilliant as the sunrise. Rays of light flash from his hands, where his awesome power is hidden. **5** Pestilence marches before him; plague follows close behind. **6** When he stops, the earth shakes. When he looks, the nations tremble. He shatters the everlasting mountains and levels the eternal hills. He is the Eternal One! **7** I see the people of Cushan in distress, and the nation of Midian trembling in terror. **8** Was it in anger, LORD, that you struck the rivers and parted the sea? Were you displeased with them? No, you were sending your chariots of salvation! **9** You brandished your bow and your quiver of arrows. You split open the earth with flowing rivers. **10** The mountains watched and trembled. Onward swept the raging waters. The mighty deep cried out, lifting its hands in submission. **11** The sun and moon stood still in the sky as your brilliant arrows flew and your glittering spear flashed. **12** You marched across the land in anger and trampled the nations in your fury. **13** You went out to rescue your chosen people, to save your anointed ones. You crushed the heads of the wicked and stripped their bones from head to toe. **14** With his own weapons, you destroyed the chief of those who rushed out like a whirlwind, thinking Israel would be easy prey. **15** You trampled the sea with your horses, and the mighty waters piled high.

Habakkuk’s final praise.

16 I trembled inside when I heard this; my lips quivered with fear. My legs gave way beneath me, and I shook in terror. I will wait quietly for the coming day when disaster will strike the people who invade us.

17 Even though the fig trees have no blossoms, and there are no grapes on the vines; even though the olive crop fails, and the fields lie empty and barren; even though the flocks die in the fields, and the cattle barns are empty, **18** yet I will rejoice in the LORD! I will be joyful in the God of my salvation! **19** The Sovereign LORD is my strength! He makes me as surefooted as a deer, able to tread upon the heights.

(For the choir director: This prayer is to be accompanied by stringed instruments.)