**Habakkuk – the just shall live by faith**

**The righteous complaint – 1: 1-17**

* God’s seeming indifference to Judah’s sin – 1: 1-4

His question to God – 1:2 – how long O Lord will I call for help and you will not hear?

His question to God – 1:3 – why do you show me iniquity and cause me to behold grievance?

* The sinful condition of God’s people – 1: 3 -4

Destruction & violence

Strife & contentions

The Law is ignored

Justice is never upheld

The wicked surround the righteous

Justice is perverted

* God’s answer to the righteous complaint – 1: 5 – 11

1:5 -6 - “I am doing something in your days you would not believe if you were told. For behold I am raising up the Chaldeans that fierce and impetuous people who march throughout the earth to seize dwelling places which are not theirs.”

1:11 – “then they will sweep though like the wind and pass on,

**But they will be held guilty, they whose strength is their god.”**

* God’s sovereign use of the wicked Chaldeans to judge the sins of His people – 1:11 - 17

His question to God – 1:12 – are you not from everlasting O Lord, my God, my Holy One?

His question to God – 1:13 – why do you look with favor on those who deal treacherously?

His question to God – 1:13 – why are you silent when the wicked swallow up those more righteous than they?

His question to God – 1:14 – why have you made men like fish of the sea, like creeping things without a ruler over them?

His question to God – 1:17 – will they therefore empty their net and continually slay the nations without sparing?

* The righteous prepares to hear God’s response to his questions – 2:1

I will stand on my guard post…I will keep watch to see what He will speak to me, and how I may reply when I am reproved

**God’s word to the righteous waiting His judgment of the wicked – 2: 2 – 20**

2:2 - Record the vision and inscribe it on tablets that the one who reads it may run

2:3 – the vision is yet for an appointed time, it hastens toward the goal and it will not fail, though it tarries wait for it, for it will certainly come, it will not delay

* God calls the righteous to live by faith in all their circumstances – 2:4

As for the proud one, his soul is not right within him

But the righteous will live by his faith

Rom. 1:17

Gal. 3:11

Heb. 10:38

* God’s questions about Babylon - the Chaldeans reaping what they sow – 2: 5 – 8

1:6 – Will not all of these take up a taunt- song against him even mockery and insinuations against him and say woe to him who increases what is not his for how long and makes himself rich with loans?

1:7 – will not your creditors rise up suddenly and those who collect from you awaken?

1:8 – because you have looted many nations all the remainder of the peoples will loot you

* God’s woes on the wicked – 2: 9 – 20

1:9 – Woe to him who gets evil gain for his house … 1:10 – you are sinning against your house

1:11 – Woe to him who builds a city with bloodshed & violence

1:15 – Woe to you who make your neighbors drunk

1:19 – Woe to him who says to a piece of wood Awake! To a mute stone Arise!

* God’s promise of the knowledge of God in the nations during the messianic kingdom of the Lord Jesus – 2:14

For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea – Ps. 22:27, Isa. 11:9, Zech. 14:9

* God declares His presence & power and calls the earth to be silent in reverence of Him – 2:17

2:17 – lit. hush before Him all the earth

Zep. 1:7 – Be silent before the Lord God, for the day of the Lord is near

Zech. 2:13 – Be silent, all flesh, before the Lord, for He is aroused from His Holy habitation

Ps. 62:1 – My soul waits in silence for God only, for my hope is from Him

Ps. 65:1 – There will be silence before You, and praise in Zion, O God

**The prayer of the righteous – 3:1 -19**

According to Shigionoth – emotional poetic style of prayer

* The righteous request for Mercy – 1:2

1:2 – In wrath remember mercy or compassion

Moses – Num. 14:19 – pardon the iniquity of this people according to Your great lovingkindness

* The righteous praise for God’s work in the history of Israel – 3:3 -15

Sinai – 3 -4

Plagues in the desert – 5

Conquest of Canaan – 6 -10

God’s power over the sin in Gibeon – 11

Victories for God’s people – 12 -15

* The righteous declares His trust in God – 3: 16 -19

3:16 – I must wait quietly for the day of distress, for the people to arise who will invade us

3:17 – 18 – I will exult in the Lord & rejoice in the God of my salvation when I have nothing!

3:19 – God will be my strength He gives strength to those who trust in Him – Ps. 18:32 -33, 2 Sam 22:34