

Habakkuk

5 Chaldeans raised up to punish Judah. 12 Habakkuk remonstrates. 2:4 The LORD's reply. 3:1 Habakkuk's prayer.

1 The ¹burden which Habakkuk the prophet did see.

2 O Jehovah, how long shall I cry, and thou wilt not hear? I cry out unto thee *of* violence, and thou wilt not save. 3 Why dost thou show me iniquity, and ²look upon perverseness? for destruction and violence *are* before me; and there is strife, and contention riseth up. 4 Therefore *the* law is slacked, and justice ³doth never go forth; for *the* wicked doth encompass about the righteous; therefore justice goeth forth perverted.

5 Behold ye among the nations, and look, and wonder marvellously; for ⁴I am working a work in your days, *which* ye will not believe though it be told *you*. 6 For, lo, I raise up the Chaldeans, *that* bitter and hasty nation *that* march through *the* breadth of *the* earth, to possess dwelling places *that are* not theirs. 7 ⁵They *are* terrible and dreadful; their judgement and their dignity proceed from themselves. 8 Their horses also are swifter than leopards, and are more fierce *that the* evening wolves; and their horsemen ⁶press proudly on: yes, their horsemen come from far; they fly as an eagle *that* hasteth to devour. 9 They come all of them for violence; ⁷*the* set of their faces is ⁸forwards; and they gather captives as the sand. 10 ⁹Yes, he scoffeth at kings, and princes are a derision unto him; he derideth every stronghold; for he heapeth up dust, and taketh it. 11 ¹⁰Then shall he sweep by *as* a wind and shall ¹¹pass over, and be guilty, *even* he whose might *is* his god.

12 *Art* not thou from of old, O Jehovah my God, my Holy One? ¹²thou diest not. O Jehovah, thou hast ordained him for judgment; and thou, O Rock, hast established him for correction. 13 *Thou that art* of purer eyes than to behold evil, and that canst not look on perverseness, wherefore lookest thou upon them that deal treacherously, *and* holdest thy peace when *the* wicked swalloweth up *the man that is* more righteous than he; 14 and makest men as *the* fishes of the sea, as *the* creeping things, *that have* no ruler over them?

¹ Or, oracle

² Or, cause *me* to look upon perverseness

³ Or, goeth not forth unto victory

⁴ Or, *one* worketh

⁵ Hb. He, *And so in vss. 8, 9.*

⁶ Or, spread themselves

⁷ Hb. *The eagerness (or, assembling) of their faces is forwards;*

⁸ Or, towards *the* east

⁹ Or, And they scoff at kings,

¹⁰ Or, Then shall *the* wind sweep by, and he shall pass away,

¹¹ Or, transgress,

¹² Sopherim *changed to* we shall not die.

15 He taketh up all of them with *the* angle, he catcheth them in his net, and gathereth them in his drag; therefore he rejoiceth and is glad. 16 Therefore he sacrificeth unto his net, and burneth incense unto his drag; because by them his portion *is* fat, and his food ¹³plenteous. 17 Shall he therefore empty his net, and spare not to slay *the* nations continually?

2 I will stand upon my watch and set me upon *the* ¹⁴tower, and will look forth to see what he will speak ¹⁵by me, and what I shall answer concerning my complaint. 2 And Jehovah answered me, and said, Write *the* vision, and make *it* plain upon the tablets, ¹⁶that he may run that readeth it. 3 For *the* vision *is* yet for the appointed time, and it ¹⁷hasteth toward the end, and shall not lie: though it tarry, wait for it because it will surely come, it will not delay.

4 Behold, his soul is puffed up, it is not ¹⁸upright in him; but *the* righteous shall live ¹⁹by his faith. 5 ²⁰Yes, moreover, wine is treacherous, a haughty man, ²¹that keepeth not at home, who enlargeth his ²²soul as Sheol, and *he is* as death, and cannot be satisfied, but gathereth unto him all nations, and heapeth unto him all peoples. 6 Shall not all these take up a parable against him, and a taunting ²³proverb against him, and say, Woe to him that increaseth *that which is* not his! How long? And that ladeth himself with ²⁴pledges! 7 Shall they not rise up suddenly that shall ²⁵bite thee, and awake that shall ²⁶vex thee, and thou shalt be booty unto them? 8 Because thou hast plundered many nations, all *the* remnant of *the* peoples shall plunder thee, because of men's blood, and *for the* violence *done to the* land, *to the* city and *to* all that dwell therein.

¹³ Hb. fat.

¹⁴ Or, fortress

¹⁵ Or, with

¹⁶ Or, that one may read it on *the* run. [*Thusly, J.M. Powis Smith, in An American Translation, 1931, endeavors to be both literal and idiomatic.*]

¹⁷ Hb. panteth

¹⁸ Or, straight

¹⁹ Or, in his faithfulness

²⁰ Or, and also because his wine is treacherous, he is a haughty man,

²¹ Or, he shall not abide

²² Or, desire *or, appetite* Hb. nephesh

²³ Or, riddle

²⁴ Variorum Bible says, *When the Hb. word for pledges is divided into two, it means thick clay (or, ...mud).*

²⁵ Or, exact usury of thee

²⁶ Or, toss thee *to and fro*

9 Woe to him that getteth an evil gain for his house, that he may set his nest on high, that he may be delivered from *the* hand of evil! 10 Thou hast devised shame to thy house, by cutting off many peoples, and hast sinned *against* ²⁷thy soul. 11 For *the* stone shall cry out of *the* wall, and *the* beam out of *the* timber shall answer it.

12 Woe to him that buildeth a town with blood, and establisheth a city by iniquity! 13 Behold, *is it* not of Jehovah of hosts that *the* peoples labor for *the* fire, and *the* nations weary themselves for vanity? 14 For the earth shall be filled with *the* knowledge of the glory of Jehovah, as the waters cover the sea.

15 Woe unto him that giveth his neighbor drink, to thee that ²⁸addest thy ²⁹venom, and makest *him* drunken also, that thou mayest look on their nakedness! 16 Thou are filled with shame, and not glory; drink thou also, and ³⁰be as one uncircumcised; *the* cup of Jehovah's right hand shall come round unto thee, and foul shame *shall be* upon thy glory. 17 For *the* violence done to Lebanon shall cover thee, and *the* destruction of *the* beasts, *which* made them afraid; because of men's blood, and for *the* violence done to *the* land, to *the* city and to all that dwell therein.

18 What profiteth *the* graven image, that *the* maker thereof hath graven it; *the* molten image, even *the* teacher of lies, that he that fashioneth its form, trusteth therein, to make dumb idols? 19 Woe unto him that saith to the wood, Awake; to *the* dumb stone, Arise! Shall this teach? Behold, it *is* overlaid with gold and silver, and *there is* no breath at all in *the* midst of it. 20 But Jehovah *is* in his holy temple: ³¹let all the earth keep silence before him.

3 A prayer of Habakkuk the prophet, set to Shigionoth.

2 O Jehovah, I have heard ³²*the* report of thee, and ³³am afraid:

O Jehovah, revive thy work in *the* midst of *the* years;

In *the* midst of *the* years make it known;

In wrath remember mercy.

3 God ³⁴came from Teman,
And *the* Holy One from mount Paran.
His glory covered *the* heavens,
And the earth was full of his praise.

²⁷ *Or*, self. *or*, being. *Hb.* nephesh.

²⁸ *Or*, pourest

²⁹ *Or*, fury

³⁰ *Or*, let thy foreskin be uncovered

³¹ *Hb.* be silent before him, all the earth.

³² *Or*, thy fame

³³ *Or*, was

³⁴ *Or*, cometh *And similarly to the end of vs. 15.*

4 And *his* brightness was as the light;
He had ³⁵rays *coming forth* ³⁶from his hand;
And there *was the* hiding of his power.

5 Before him went *the* pestilence,
And ³⁷fiery bolts went forth at his feet.

6 He stood, and ³⁸measured *the* earth;
He beheld, and drove asunder *the* nations;
And *the* eternal mountains were scattered;
The everlasting hills did bow;
³⁹His goings *were as* of old.

7 I saw *the* tents of Cushan in affliction;
The curtains of *the* land of Midian did tremble.

8 Was Jehovah displeased with *the* rivers?
Was thine anger against the rivers,
Or thy wrath against the sea,
That thou didst ride upon *the* horses,
Upon thy chariots of salvation?

9 Thy bow was made quite bare;
⁴⁰*The* oaths to *the* tribes *were a* sure word. [Selah
Thou didst cleave *the* earth with *the* rivers.

10 *The* mountains saw thee, and ⁴¹were afraid;
The tempest of waters passed by;
The deep uttered its voice,
And lifted up its hands on high.

11 *The* sun and moon stood still in their habitation,
At *the* light of thine arrows *as* they went,
At *the* shining of thy glittering spear.

12 Thou didst march through *the* land in indignation;
Thou didst thresh *the* nations in anger.

13 Thou ⁴²wentest forth for *the* salvation of thy
people,
⁴³For *the* salvation of thine anointed;
⁴⁴Thou ⁴⁵woundedst *the* head out of *the* house of
the wicked man,

Laying bare *the* foundation even unto *the* neck.

14 Thou ⁴⁶didst pierce with his own staves *the* head
of his ⁴⁷warriors:

They came as a whirlwind to scatter me;
Their rejoicing was as to devour *the* poor secretly.

³⁵ *Hb.* horns

³⁶ *Or*, at his side

³⁷ *Or*, burning coals

³⁸ *Or*, shook

³⁹ *Or*, his ways *are* everlasting

⁴⁰ *Or*, Sworn *were the* chastisements (*Hb.* rods) of thy
word. *or*, Seven times *are the* chastisements...

⁴¹ *Or*, were in pain

⁴² *Or*, art come

⁴³ *Or*, For salvation (*or*, victory) with thine anointed;

⁴⁴ *Or*, Thou didst smite off *the* head from *the* house of
the wicked man,

⁴⁵ *Or*, hast wounded

⁴⁶ *Or*, hast pierced

⁴⁷ *Or*, hordes *or*, villages

- 15 Thou ⁴⁸didst tread the sea with thy horses,
The ⁴⁹heap of mighty waters.
- 16 I heard, and my body trembled,
 My lips quivered at *the* voice;
 Rottenness entereth into my bones, and I tremble
 in my place;
 Because I must wait quietly for *the* day of trouble,
⁵⁰For the coming up of *the* people that invadeth us.
- 17 For though *the* fig-tree shall not flourish,
 Neither *shall* fruit *be* in the vines;
The labor of *the* olive shall fail,
 And *the* fields shall yield no food;
The flock shall be cut off from *the* fold,
 And *there shall be* no herd in the stalls:
- 18 Yet I will rejoice in Jehovah,
 I will joy in *the* God of my salvation.
- 19 Jehovah, *the* Lord, *is* my strength;
 And he maketh my feet like hinds *feet*,
 And will make me to walk upon my high places.

For the Chief Musician, on my stringed instruments.

End of the Book of Habakkuk

⁴⁸ *Or*, hast trodden

⁴⁹ *Or*, surge

⁵⁰ *Or*, When there shall come up against *the* people he
 that invadeth them.