

**HABAKKUK SERIES #5:
He's Done It Before, He'll Do It Again
Habakkuk 3:1-6
Grace Community Church
Kingston, Tennessee
Sunday, September 29, 2019**

1. **TEXT: Hab. 3:1-6, (1) A prayer of Habakkuk the prophet, on Shigionoth. (2) O LORD, I have heard your speech and was afraid; O LORD, revive Your work in the midst of the years! In the midst of the years make it known; In wrath remember mercy. (3) God came from Teman, The Holy One from Mount Paran. Selah His glory covered the heavens, And the earth was full of His praise. (4) His brightness was like the light; He had rays flashing from His hand, And there His power was hidden. (5) Before Him went pestilence, And fever followed at His feet. (6) He stood and measured the earth; He looked and startled the nations. And the everlasting mountains were scattered, The perpetual hills bowed. His ways [are] everlasting.**
2. **INTRODUCTION:**
 - a. **Everything about our lives in this world is to instruct us about the person and nature of God.**
 - i. **EX: When I was 3-4 years old and my family and I were on top of a mountain**
 - b. **God's deliverance of Israel from her past enemies and distresses prefigured the final deliverance of God's children from their enemies and distresses.**
 - c. **REVIEW OF THE BOOK OF HABAKKUK:**
 - i. **Hab. 1:1-4:**
 1. **Habakkuk rehearsed the terrible condition of his nation.**
 2. **Habakkuk prayed and asked God to intervene in the decadent state of Judah and halt its moral decline, but He does not do so.**
 3. **When Habakkuk laid out his complaint against God, God informs the prophet that things were going to get worse.**
 - ii. **In chapter 2:**
 1. **God speaks to Habakkuk and tells him to write down the message he was about to receive.**
 2. **The vision Habakkuk had was about the second coming of Christ and the ultimate liberation of mankind from its enemies.**

3. **Hab. 2:4, God not only told Habakkuk what would happen to the enemy of his people, He also gave the prophet words to live by during those dark days— “the just shall live by his faith.”**
4. **Hab. 2:14, “for the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the lord, as the waters cover the sea.”**
 - a. **The Lord is exhorting Habakkuk to keep his spiritual eyes on the future Day of Judgment when righteousness will rule.**

d. APPLICATION:

3. **Chapter 3 is a prayer of Habakkuk that is composed after the manner of a psalm of David**
 - a. **Hab. 3:19 directs the psalm to the “chief singer” of the Temple for him to sing the prayer of Habakkuk during worship.**
 - b. **Hab 3:1, “a prayer of Habakkuk the prophet, on Shigionoth (lit., “with a song”).”**
4. **HAB 3:2, “O LORD, I HAVE HEARD YOUR SPEECH [AND] WAS AFRAID; O LORD, REVIVE YOUR WORK IN THE MIDST OF THE YEARS! IN THE MIDST OF THE YEARS MAKE [IT] KNOWN; IN WRATH REMEMBER MERCY.”**
 - a. **“O LORD, I HAVE HEARD YOUR SPEECH” --Habakkuk tells the Lord that he comprehended the prophecy he was given.**
 - b. **Habakkuk asked the Lord to revive His work in the midst of the years (i.e., the time between Habakkuk’s day and the Day of Christ).**
5. **HAB. 3:3, “GOD CAME FROM TEMAN, THE HOLY ONE FROM MOUNT PARAN. SELAH HIS GLORY COVERED THE HEAVENS, AND THE EARTH WAS FULL OF HIS PRAISE.”**
 - a. **In the events he rehearses in chapter 3, Habakkuk is obviously referring to the past divine interventions on behalf of Judah, yet in the original language he uses the FUTURE TENSE verbs to refer to them.**
 - i. **Habakkuk was referring to how God delivered Judah in the past, but he was looking to the future deliverance of God’s people by His intervention.**
 - ii. **What God did in the past for Israel was a similar, but a smaller picture of what He will one day do on behalf of all His elect.**
 - b. **TEMAN, was the place near where God gloriously manifested Himself and gave Moses the 10 Commandments.**

c. **PARAN** was the wilderness through which the children of Israel wandered for 40 years after their deliverance and exodus from Egypt and where God miraculously provided for Israel's needs and showed Himself strong on behalf of His people.

d. Hab 3:3, "... HIS GLORY COVERED THE HEAVENS ..."

i. REFERENCES:

1. Ex. 19:17-18, (17) And Moses brought the people out of the camp to meet with God, and they stood at the foot of the mountain. (18) Now Mount Sinai was completely in smoke, because the LORD descended upon it in fire. Its smoke ascended like the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mountain quaked greatly.
2. Ex 24:17, "The sight of the glory of the LORD [was] like a consuming fire on the top of the mountain in the eyes of the children of Israel."
3. Ex 13:21, "And the LORD went before them by day in a pillar of cloud to lead the way, and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, so as to go by day and night."

ii. In that same way, God will in the future show Himself strong on behalf of His people.

1. 2 Thes. 2:8, "And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming."
2. Rev. 1:7, "Behold, He is coming with clouds, and every eye will see Him, even they who pierced Him. And all the tribes of the earth will mourn because of Him. Even so, Amen."

e. Hab 3:3, "... AND THE EARTH WAS FULL OF HIS PRAISE."

i. Josh. 2:9-10, Rahab tell the Israeli spies, (9) ... I know that the LORD has given you the land, that the terror of you has fallen on us, and that all the inhabitants of the land are fainthearted because of you. (10) "For we have heard how the LORD dried up the water of the Red Sea for you when you came out of Egypt, and what you did to the two kings of the Amorites who were on the other side of the Jordan, Sihon and Og, whom you utterly destroyed.

ii. In the same way, when Christ comes again, the enemies of God's elect will praise His name and bow in submission before Him.

1. Phil. 2:9-11, (9) Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, (10) that at the

name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, (11) and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

6. HAB. 3:4, “[HIS] BRIGHTNESS WAS LIKE THE LIGHT; HE HAD RAYS [FLASHING] FROM HIS HAND, AND THERE HIS POWER [WAS] HIDDEN.”

a. Ex. 24:16-17, (16) Now the glory of the LORD rested on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it six days. And on the seventh day He called to Moses out of the midst of the cloud. (17) The sight of the glory of the LORD was like a consuming fire on the top of the mountain in the eyes of the children of Israel.

b. Hab 3:4, “ ... HE HAD RAYS [FLASHING] FROM HIS HAND”

i. Ex 34:29, “Now it was so, when Moses came down from Mount Sinai (and the two tablets of the Testimony [were] in Moses’ hand when he came down from the mountain), that Moses did not know that the skin of his face SHONE while he talked with Him.”

ii. In that Day that Christ comes again, He will radiate His own glory.

c. Hab 3:4, “ ... AND THERE HIS POWER [WAS] HIDDEN.”

7. HAB. 3:5, “BEFORE HIM WENT PESTILENCE, AND FEVER FOLLOWED AT HIS FEET.”

a. Before God delivered His children from Egypt, He sent all sorts of plagues against the Egyptians.

b. Before Christ comes again to once and for all deliver His children from their enemies, the world will be afflicted with all sorts of plagues during the Tribulation period.

8. HAB. 3:6, “HE STOOD AND MEASURED THE EARTH; HE LOOKED AND STARTLED THE NATIONS. AND THE EVERLASTING MOUNTAINS WERE SCATTERED, THE PERPETUAL HILLS BOWED. HIS WAYS [ARE] EVERLASTING.”

a. HAB. 3:6, “HE STOOD AND MEASURED THE EARTH”

b. HAB. 3:6, “HE LOOKED AND STARTLED THE NATIONS”

i. God’s intervention on behalf of Israel put fear in the hearts of her enemies

1. Ps 78:55, “He also drove out the nations before them, Allotted them an inheritance by survey, And made the tribes of Israel dwell in their tents.”

ii. In the same way, God will drive out all the evil inhabitants out of our Promised Land when we inherit it.

1. 1 Cor. 6:9-10, (9) Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, (10) nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God.

c. HAB. 3:6, "AND THE EVERLASTING MOUNTAINS WERE SCATTERED, THE PERPETUAL HILLS BOWED. HIS WAYS [ARE] EVERLASTING."

i. Ex. 19:17-18, (17) And Moses brought the people out of the camp to meet with God, and they stood at the foot of the mountain. (18) Now Mount Sinai was completely in smoke, because the LORD descended upon it in fire. Its smoke ascended like the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mountain quaked greatly.

ii. In Judges 5:5, "The mountains gushed [Heb., FLOWED] before the LORD, This Sinai, before the LORD God of Israel."

iii. Ps 68:8, "The earth shook; The heavens also dropped [rain] at the presence of God; Sinai itself [was moved] at the presence of God, the God of Israel."

iv. When Christ comes again, the same thing will happen

1. Rev. 6:14-17, (14) Then the sky receded as a scroll when it is rolled up, and every mountain and island was moved out of its place. (15) And the kings of the earth, the great men, the rich men, the commanders, the mighty men, every slave and every free man, hid themselves in the caves and in the rocks of the mountains, (16) and said to the mountains and rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the face of Him who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb! (17) "For the great day of His wrath has come, and who is able to stand?"

2. Zec 14:4, "And in that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, Which faces Jerusalem on the east. And the Mount of Olives shall be split in two, From east to west, [Making] a very large valley; Half of the mountain shall move toward the north And half of it toward the south."

9. CONCLUSION:

a. God's works on behalf of Israel in the Exodus PREFIGURED the time when the Lord Jesus Christ will appear in His glory and show Himself strong on behalf of His saints.

b. If you will follow Habakkuk's lead, you too can get through your perilous days

- i. #1: HE DID NOT DWELL ON HIS PRESENT DISTRESSES**
- ii. #2: HE LOOKED BACK TO GOD'S PREVIOUS:**
- iii. #3: HE LOOKED FORWARD TO GOD'S IMPENDING BLESSINGS**
- iv. #4: HE TURNED HIS PRAYER INTO A SONG**

- 1. Eph. 5:19, "...speaking to yourselves in psalms, hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord."**