



E38

2017 MESSAGE SERIES

38 ESSENTIAL PASSAGES IN UNDERSTANDING GOD'S STORY, THEIR STORY, & YOUR STORY.







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Disappointment

Disappointment:

the feeling of sadness or displeasure caused by the nonfulfillment of one's hopes or expectations.

But...

Disappointment with GOD:

What do we do with that?

“Does God disappoint us at times? Rather consistently if we are honest. He fails to meet our expectations of what we think He ought to do. In fact, I believe God’s failure to act **as we expect Him to** will be one of the great perplexities of our lives and threats to our faith.”

-Bill Mills

Good news from Habakkuk:

We can trust the person of God
even when we can't grasp the
plan of God.

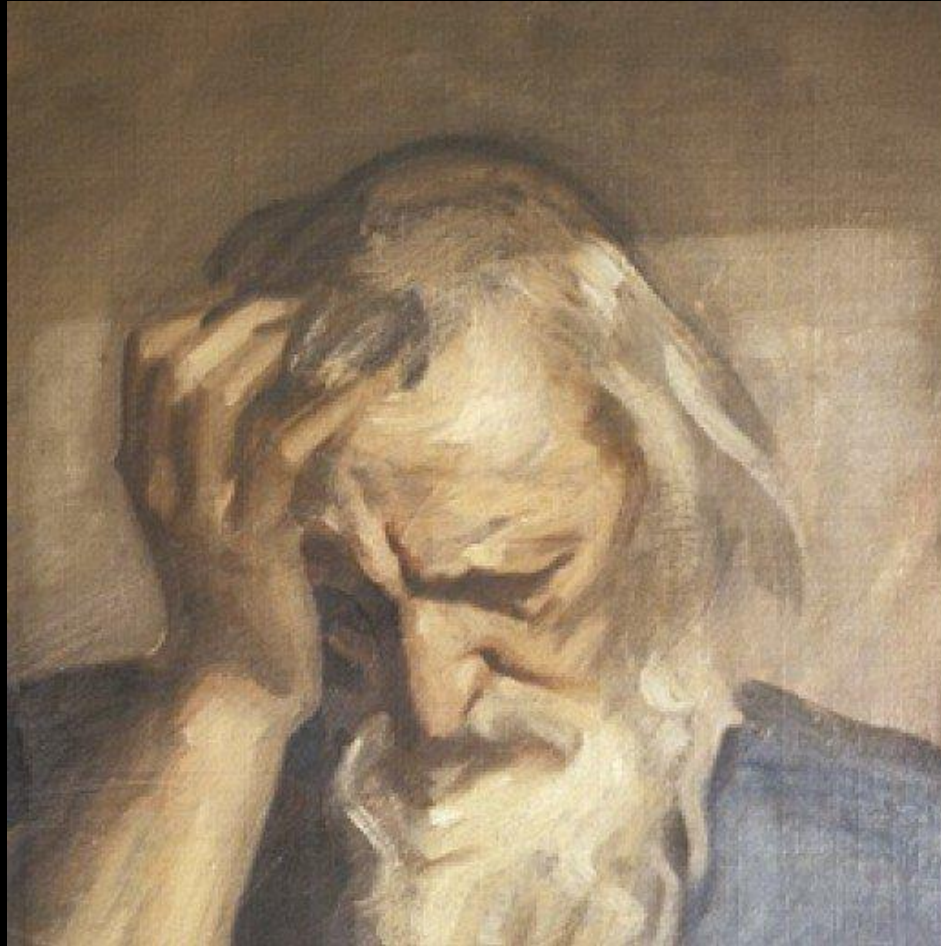


Natural fire from the rocks of
Chimaera in Turkey.



THE DIVIDED KINGDOM





Habakkuk = 'one who wrestles'

What Habakkuk saw:

*Habakkuk sees **violence** in his world and
sees **God** doing **nothing** about it.*



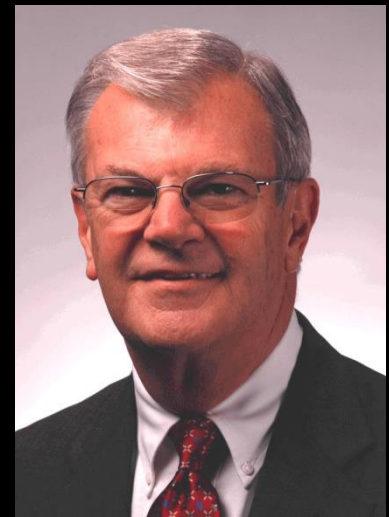
IT'S HARD TO BE RELIGIOUS WHEN
CERTAIN PEOPLE ARE NEVER
INCINERATED BY BOLTS OF LIGHTNING.



WTF

“Habakkuk is a unique Old Testament book. Unlike other prophets who declared God’s message to the people, this prophet dialogued with God about the people. Most Old Testament prophets proclaim divine judgment. Habakkuk pleads for divine judgment. Habakkuk is perplexed if not angry at God because He is being indifferent to those who are causing suffering in Habakkuk’s world.”

-Dr. Constable



What Habakkuk saw:

*Habakkuk's **life** is going to turn out **very differently** than he **expected**.*

“Habakkuk’s life was going to go from dreams of personal significance as a prophet of God to the depths of just simply surviving as a person.”

-Dale Mast

What Habakkuk heard:

*God was going to raise up the
Babylonians to discipline the people
of Judah.*



Babylonian Warrior



Black Sea

Caspian
Sea

Turkey

Iraq

Tigris
River

Syria

Euphrates
River

Iran

Mediterranean Sea

Jerusalem
Israel

Jordan

**The Babylonian
Empire**

606-536 BC

Egypt

Nile
River

Red
Sea

Saudi Arabia

Persian
Gulf

Daily Bible Study

What God Revealed:

The righteous live by faith in the goodness and the sovereignty of God even when they can't understand His plan.

Why?

What God Revealed:

The Babylonian kingdom will End.

*And the whole earth will ultimately
be filled with the Glory of the Lord!*

*“Woe! Woe, O great city, O Babylon, city of power! In one hour **your doom** has come!”*

-Rev. 18:10

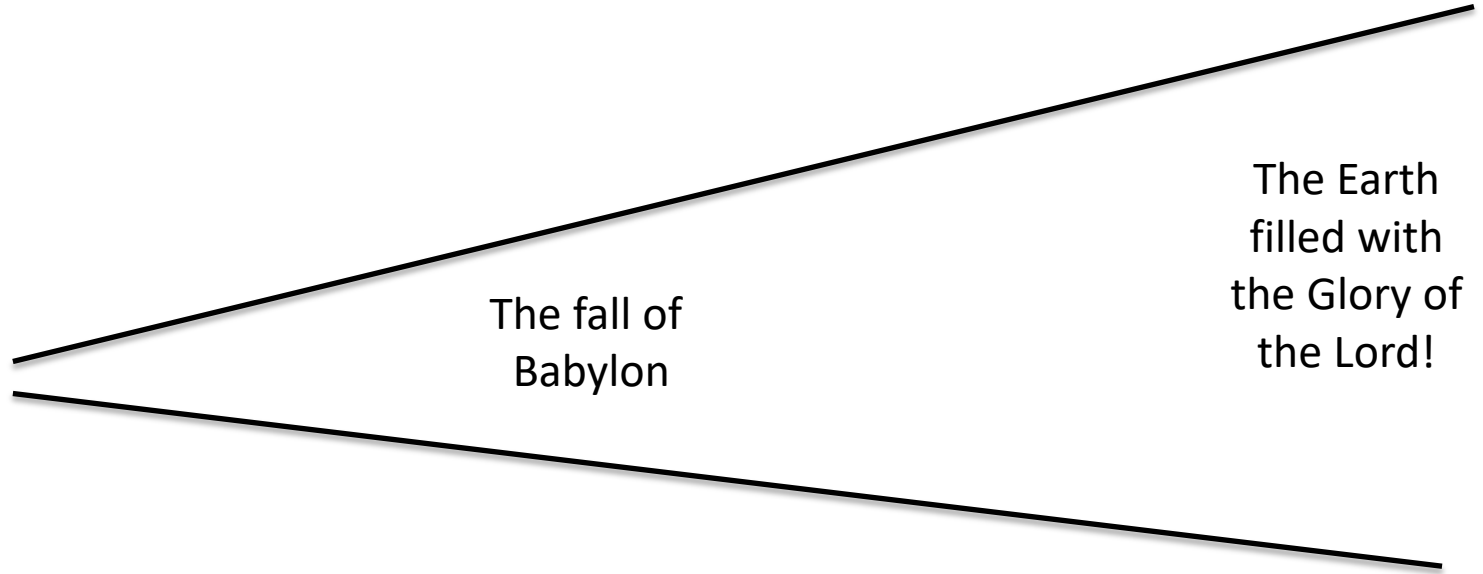
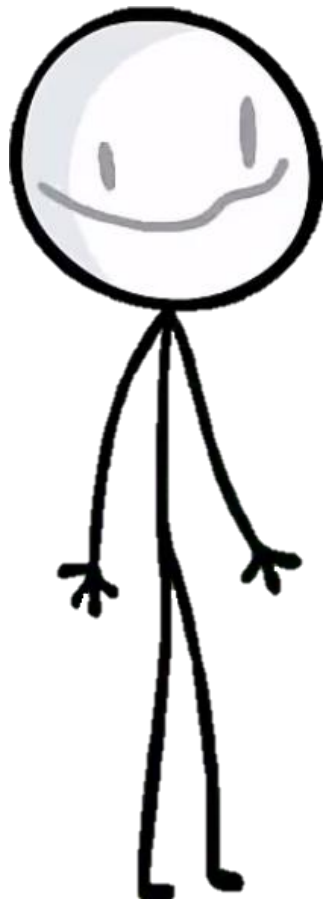
“And every created thing which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all things in them, I heard saying, ‘To Him who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb, be blessing and **honor and glory** and dominion forever and ever.’”

-Rev. 5:13

“Babylon in the book of Habakkuk is literal Babylon. But ‘Babylon’ symbolically represents all the evil in the world that rebels against God.

God destroyed the Babylonian Empire in 539 B.C., but what Babylon represents will continue until God destroys it at the return of Jesus Christ to the earth.”

-Dr. Constable



Time

Why Habakkuk worships:

*“yet I will rejoice in the Lord,
I will be joyful in God my
Savior.”*

Habakkuk 3:18



What this means:

*God's ways are **not our** ways...*

*God's timing is **not our** timing...*

Therefore, 'We live by faith' in God.

“To live out Habakkuk-like faith means that I am a person who will respond, navigate through life, make choices and judgments, and will develop relationships by his or her faith in God. In other words, by God’s strength, I will live obediently to God’s Word, and respond in submission to the Holy Spirit. Simply put, I will walk the ‘narrow road’ of being Christ’s Disciple.”

- Gordon McDonald

What can we **Do** in our Disappointment?

*Like Habakkuk, offer prayers
of **Honesty** and **Loyalty**.*

*Covenant produces this type of
relationship with God.*

What can we **Do** in our Disappointment?

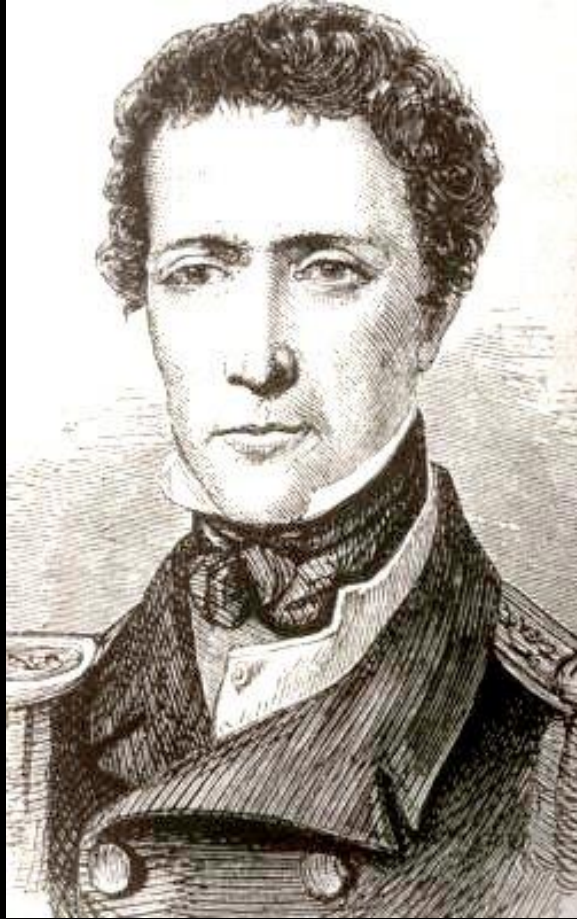
*We **read** consistently God's
revelation to us - the Word of
God.*

*“The **revelation** of Jesus Christ, which
God gave him to show him what would
soon take place.”*

Rev. 1:1

What can we **Do** in our Disappointment?

*We **repeat** and **preach** the
Gospel to ourselves.*



Cap. Alan Gardiner

*“Ps. 34:10.. ‘Young lions suffer want and hunger, but those who seek the Lord **lack no good thing**.’ ...Life as I know it will end soon, yet I am overwhelmed with the goodness of God.”*