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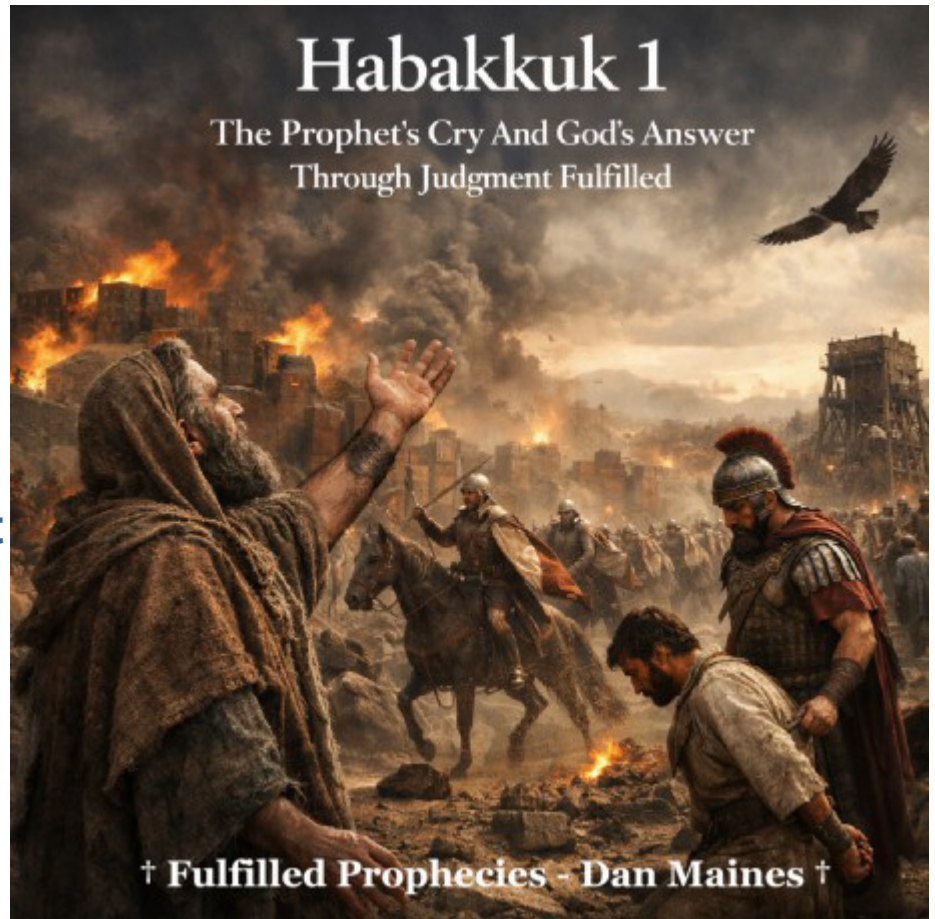
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Habakkuk 1 The Prophet's Cry And God's Answer Through Judgment Fulfilled



By Dan Maines

Habakkuk 1 The Prophet's Cry And God's Answer Through Judgment Fulfilled

Introduction

† Habakkuk opens with a question that many people still ask today, why does God allow injustice to continue without immediate judgment

† From the fulfilled perspective, this isn't about some distant future, it's about what was happening in Judah leading up to the destruction that Jesus later said would come on that generation,

Matthew 23:36

† Habakkuk is seeing the corruption inside covenant Israel, and he's struggling with how long God will allow it to continue

Habakkuk 1:1

The pronouncement which Habakkuk the prophet saw.

† The word burden shows this message is heavy, it's not light encouragement, it's a warning of judgment

† This vision is about covenant accountability, God isn't ignoring sin, He's preparing to deal with it

† Prophetic burdens always point to real historical judgment, not symbolic future speculation

Habakkuk 1:2-4

How long, LORD, will I call for help, And You do not hear? I cry out to You, Violence! Yet You do not save. Why do You make me see wrongdoing, And cause me to look at trouble? Yes, destruction and violence are before me; Strife exists and contention arises. Therefore the Law is ignored And justice is never upheld. For the wicked surround the righteous; Therefore justice comes out confused.

† Habakkuk is describing covenant breakdown, law ignored, justice twisted, violence everywhere

† This matches exactly what Jesus said about His own generation, that they had filled up the measure of their fathers, Matthew 23:32

† The delay in judgment doesn't mean God isn't acting, it means He's allowing time until the appointed moment

Habakkuk 1:5-6

Look among the nations! Observe! Be astonished! Wonder! Because 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 take possession of dwelling places that are not theirs.

† God answers clearly, judgment is coming within their days, not thousands of years later

† Paul quotes this in Acts 13:41 to show it was being fulfilled in his own time

† Just like Babylon came against Judah, Rome came against Jerusalem, the pattern is identical

Habakkuk 1:7-11

They are dreaded and feared; Their justice and authority originate with themselves. Their horses are faster than leopards And quicker than wolves in the evening. Their horsemen come galloping, Their horsemen come from afar; They fly like an eagle swooping down to devour. All of them come for violence. Their horde of faces moves forward. They gather captives like sand. They make fun of kings And laugh at rulers; They laugh at every fortress And heap up rubble to capture it. Then they will sweep through like the wind and pass on. But they will be held guilty, They whose strength is their god.

† This describes a ruthless invading force, unstoppable, swift, and destructive

† Rome fits this description perfectly in AD 70, surrounding and crushing Jerusalem

† The eagle imagery lines up with Roman standards, showing continuity between prophecy and fulfillment

Habakkuk 1:12-13

Are You not from everlasting, LORD, my God, my Holy One? We will not die. You, LORD, have appointed them to judge; And You, Rock, have destined them to punish. Your eyes are too

pure to approve evil, And You cannot look at harm favorably.
Why do You look favorably On those who deal treacherously?
Why are You silent when the wicked swallow up Those more
righteous than they?

† Habakkuk recognizes God is using a nation as an instrument
of judgment

† This same principle appears when God uses Rome against
Jerusalem, Luke 21:20-22

† God's holiness doesn't change, but His methods include using
nations to bring covenant justice

Habakkuk 1:14-17

Why have You made people like the fish of the sea, Like
crawling things that have no ruler over them? The Chaldeans
bring all of them up with a hook, Drag them away with their net,
And gather them together in their fishing net. Therefore they
rejoice and are glad. Therefore they offer a sacrifice to their net
And burn incense to their fishing net; Because through these
things their catch is large, And their food is plentiful. Will they
therefore empty their net And continually kill nations without
sparing?

† The invading power becomes arrogant, attributing success to
itself instead of God

† This is exactly what Rome did, elevating its own power and
demanding worship

† But just like Babylon fell, Rome's role was temporary, God
uses nations, then judges them

Historical References

† Josephus, Wars of the Jews, Book 6, describes the brutality
of Rome against Jerusalem, matching Habakkuk's imagery of
total destruction

† Tacitus, Histories 5.13, confirms the overwhelming force and

dominance of Rome during this period

† Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History 3.5, records the fulfillment of Jesus' warnings about Jerusalem's fall

How It Applies To Us Today

† God's timing is perfect, even when it seems delayed, judgment always comes at the appointed time

† We're not waiting for future fulfillment, we're living in the reality that these judgments have already been carried out

† This should give us confidence, not fear, because the system of condemnation has already been removed

† It reminds us that God sees injustice, and He acts, even when it doesn't look immediate

† We're not under that covenant judgment system anymore, we're in the fulfilled kingdom where access to God has been restored

Q & A Appendix

Q If Habakkuk said this would happen in their days, why do people still push fulfillment into the future?

A Because they ignore the time statements. Acts 13:41 shows it was already being fulfilled in the first century.

Q Who do the Chaldeans represent in fulfillment?

A They represent the same role Rome played, a foreign nation used by God to judge covenant Israel, Luke 21:20-22.

Q Why does God use wicked nations to judge?

A Because He controls all nations and uses them as instruments of justice, Isaiah 10:5-6.

Q Does this mean God approves of those nations?

A No, He uses them temporarily, then judges them as well, Habakkuk 2:8.

Q What does this teach us about God's justice today?

A That His justice has already been revealed and completed in that covenant transition, Romans 3:25-26.

† This is the fulfilled perspective we proclaim at Fulfilled Prophecies †

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Source Index

† Habakkuk

† Josephus, Wars of the Jews, Book 6; Tacitus, Histories 5.13; Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History

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