

## Questions

1. Can you recall a time when you wrestled with doubts about God's will or His ways, or a time when you had serious questions about what God was doing in a given situation?
2. Read Habakkuk 1:5 How does the string of imperative verbs (commands) give insight into how God expected Habakkuk to respond to His answer?
3. One writer has commented that in Habakkuk 1:5-11, it almost seems as if Yahweh went out of His way to escalate Habakkuk's problem. Do you see that? Why or why not?
4. What can we glean as helpful from Habakkuk in 1:2-4? Does your own concern for holiness in the body of Christ correspond to Habakkuk's anguish at the evil he saw among the Jewish people?
5. How does Habakkuk 1:5-11 describe God's sovereignty over the evil nation of Babylon? How does that help you to think about the reality of injustice or suffering that you might face?
6. From Habakkuk (as well as from Job) we learn that God does not condemn people for asking questions. But why must we be humble in asking such questions?
7. Do you find any comfort in God's sovereignty over Babylon?

*Need prayer?*

*Someone will be up front by the piano to pray with you after the service.*

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## **Habakkuk 1:1-11**

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## **How long, Lord?**

The book of Habakkuk shows us the transformation of Habakkuk from accusing to rejoicing, from upset to at rest. In today's passage, we'll draw lessons from the prophet's daring accusation and the Lord's shocking answer.

### **The Prophet's Daring Accusation (1:2-4)**

Habakkuk's accusations were premised on the basis that a just and holy God could not be tolerating such evil and in justice.

Habakkuk accused God of not stopping the evil that was happening in Judah.

## The Lord's Shocking Answer (1:5-11)

Look at the nations! See! Be horrified, be horrified (v. 5).

- I am doing this.
- Raising
- Chaldeans

God vowed to raise up a nation that would be renowned for its godlessness. The underlying message of v. 11 was that God would stop all the idolatry and evil in Judah by sending Babylon to sweep in and pass through Judah.

## Applying Habakkuk 1:1-11

1. Habakkuk as an example for believers today.
2. God is free to do as He pleases, even when His ways don't make complete sense to man.
3. Approach God humbly.
4. Those who break God's law are without excuse. They are guilty.
5. God's sovereignty – His rule over all things – is meant to be a comfort to His people.