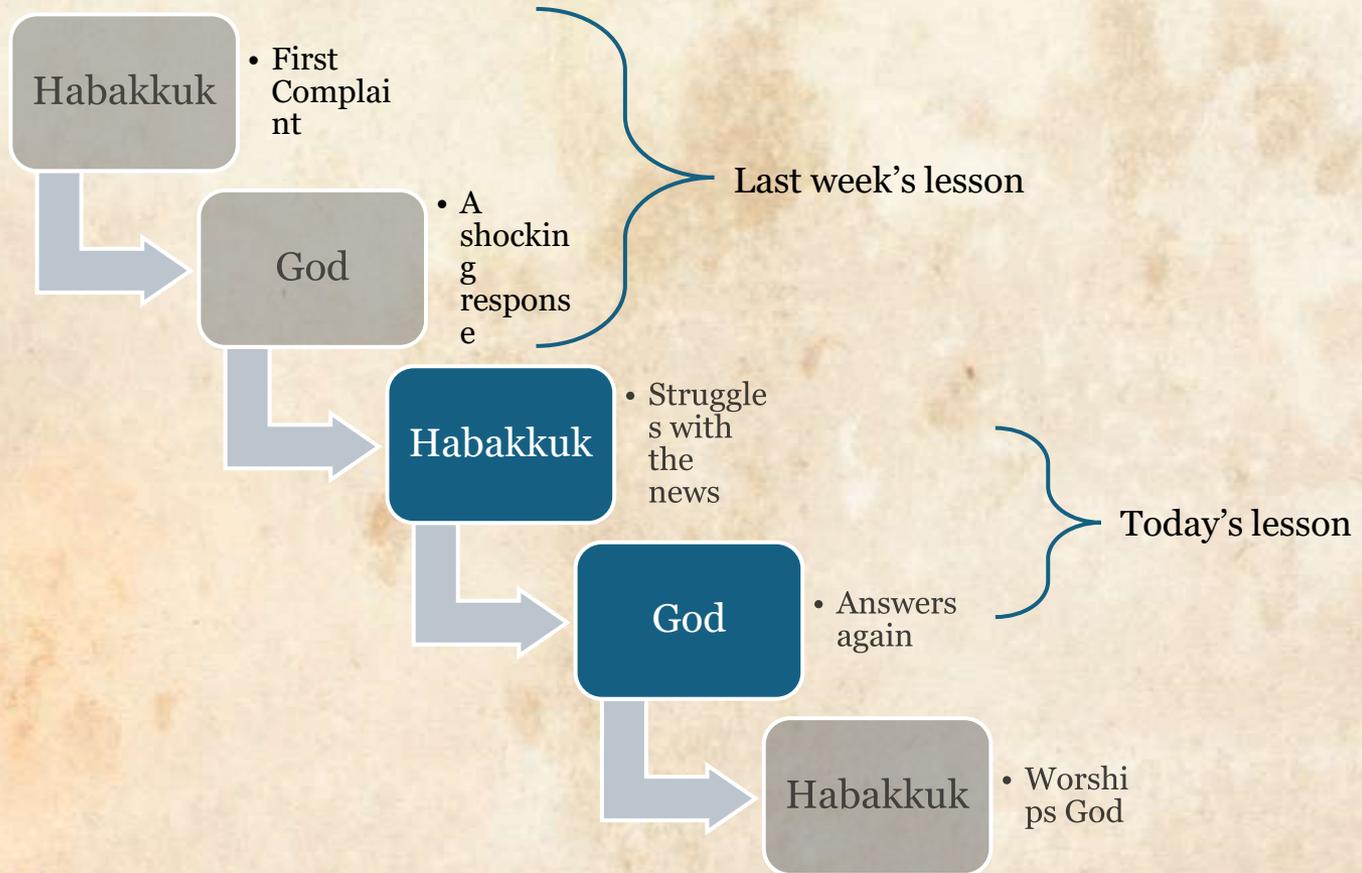


What God Requires of Faith

Habakkuk 2:1-4



The Minor Prophet Habakkuk



Habakkuk's 2nd Complaint

¹² Are You not from **time everlasting**,
LORD, my God, my **Holy One**?

We will not die.

You, LORD, have appointed them to deliver judgment;
And You, O Rock, have destined them to punish.

¹³ **Your eyes are too pure** to look at evil,
And **You cannot look at harm favorably**.

Why do You look favorably

At those who deal **treacherously**?

Why are You silent when **the wicked swallow up**
Those more righteous than they?

¹⁴ Why have You made people like the fish of the sea,
Like crawling things that have **no ruler** over them?

¹⁵ **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 joyful.

¹⁶ 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.

¹⁷ Will they therefore empty their net,

And continually slay nations without sparing?

God is...

- Eternal
- Holy
- Pure
- Cannot approve of harm

Babylon...

- Is Treacherous.
- Consumes the "more righteous".
- Conquers all as if there is no ruler.
- Worship their own power (net) as their god.

Habakkuk does not know if Babylon will end.

Faith Takes a Deliberate Posture

I will stand on my guard post
And station myself on the rampart;
And I will keep watch to see what He will speak to me,
And how I may reply when I am reproved.

- Habakkuk 2:1



מִשְׁמֶרֶת (mishméret) : “stand on my guard post”

Root: שָׁמַר (shāmar) — to keep, guard, watch, protect
Guard duty, an obligation of vigilance.

Used in:

Numbers 3:7-8 - The Levites keep guard over the tabernacle
Nehemiah 4:9 - Guards posted during the threat of attack

מִצְפָּה (mits·pé) : “on the rampart”

Root: צָפָה (tsāphāh) — to look out, spy, keep watch
Military surveillance position, elevated observation point

Used in:

2 Samuel 18:24 - Watchman on the tower watching for messengers
Isaiah 21:8 - Watchman calling out what he sees

Faith Accepts Responsibility Without Resolution

²Then the LORD answered me and said,
“Record the vision
And inscribe it on tablets,
That the one who reads it may run.”
- Habakkuk 2:2

קָרָא (qārā') : "the one who reads"

to call out, proclaim, read aloud

Used in:

Nehemiah 8:8 - Public reading of the Law

Jonah 3:4 - Heralding messages

רָץ (rūts) — "run"

to run, rush, move swiftly

Used explicitly for **messengers**:

2 Samuel 18:19–27

Ahimaaz *runs* with news from the battlefield

The running signifies:

urgency

obedience

authority of the message, not the messenger

Other use:

Psalm 119:32 — running in obedience to God's commands



Faith Lives Without Moral Closure

*3"For the vision is yet for the appointed time;
It hastens toward the goal and it will not fail.
Though it tarries, wait for it;
For it will certainly come, it will not delay.*

*4Behold, as for the proud one,
His soul is not right within him;
But the righteous will live by his faith."*

- Habakkuk 2:3-4

עֲפֹלָה ('uppelāh) : "proud one"

Root: פָּלַע ('āphal) — to swell, be puffed up

Swollen, inflated, lifted beyond proper bounds

Used in:

Numbers 14:44 - Israel "presumed" (acted arrogantly) to go up into the hill country

Psalms 131:1 - "My heart is not proud" (same root idea, negated)

לֹא-יָשָׁרָה (lō-yāshārāh) : "not right within him"

Root: יָשָׁר (yāshar) — to be straight, level, upright

The suffix means "no", or the opposite of.

Root Used in:

Deuteronomy 32:4 - God's ways are "upright"

Proverbs 3:6— God will "make your paths straight"



It is not yet time;

- But it is coming
- And not delayed, **according to God's will.**

יִחְיֶה! (yichyeh) : "will live"

Root: חָיָה (chāyāh) — to live

Verb form: Imperfect (ongoing / future-oriented)

Continue living, endure over time

Used in:

Deuteronomy 8:1 - living through obedience

אֱמוּנָתוֹ ('emunātō) : "by his faith"

Root: אָמַן ('āman) — to be firm, reliable, steady

Steadfastness, reliability over time

Used in:

Psalms 33:4 - God's work is done in faithfulness

Isaiah 33:6 - "stability of Your times"

Faithfulness under God

God's Expectation of Faith

Faith

- Stands vigilant
- Refuses to withdraw

Faith

- Receives instruction
- Proclaims God's will

Faith

- Lives steadfastly
- Continues obedience