# HABAKKUK A MODERN PROPHETIC MASTERPIECE

# <u>A Prophet's Testimony and Song (Habakkuk</u> <u>3:1-19)</u>

Before we launch into the third and final Chapter, we should spend a few minutes reviewing Chapters 1 and 2. If you have not studied these, I strongly encourage you to go back and do so.

Chapter 1: <u>How Long Shall I Cry?</u> Chapter 2: <u>Stand, Watch and See</u>

Chapter 1: it all started with Habakkuk asking some questions: "The burden which the prophet Habakkuk saw. O LORD, <u>how long</u> <u>shall I cry</u>, And You will not hear? Even cry out to You, "Violence!" And You will not save. <u>Why do You show me iniquity, And cause</u> <u>me to see trouble?</u> For plundering and violence are before me; There is strife, and contention arises. Therefore the law is powerless, And justice never goes forth. For the wicked surround **the righteous; Therefore perverse judgment proceeds**." Habakkuk 1:1-4 NKJV

- And then...a moment, a breath, and in that space Yahweh comes in and fills his heart (and prayerfully our hearts) with Hope!
  - ""Look among the nations and watch— Be utterly astounded! For I will work a work in your days which you would not believe, though it were told you." Habakkuk 1:5 NKJV.
    - In other words, "My child, I see your burden and I hear your heart's cry. Sit back for a moment, take a deep breath and settle your mind. What I am about to do, because of what you are seeing, is so outrageous, so astounding, so magnificent, so wondrous, that if I told you what it was, would not even believe Me!"

## **Yahweh then says:**

"Get out your pencil and write this down; here is your answer!"

## Chapter 2: Wait, Listen, Hear, and Write it down

"I will stand my watch And set myself on the rampart, And watch to see what He will say to me, And what I will answer when I am corrected. Then the LORD answered me and said: "Write the vision And make it plain on tablets, That he may run who reads it. For the vision is yet for an appointed time; But at the end it will speak, and it will not lie. Though it tarries, wait for it; Because it will surely come, It will not tarry. "Behold the proud, His soul is not upright in him; But the just shall live by his faith." Habakkuk 2:1-4 NKJV

## Habakkuk 2:1-4

- "I will stand my watch And set myself on the rampart, And watch to see what He will say to me, And what I will answer when I am corrected." Habakkuk 2:1 NKJV
  - <u>
     This is where we stand...</u>
    - Okay Yahweh, I have explained my burden to you and I have put forth the questions I have. You promised me that You would do something astounding about it; now I will wait for Your answer.
    - And unlike Jonah who heard Yahweh's voice and ran from His instruction, Habakkuk is ready to do anything he is instructed to do. He is ready to act defensively or go on the offense as revealed by God.
    - I encourage you to study the notes ant watch the KEM teaching from Friday, Dec. 5, 2020, <u>Spiritual Tenacity</u>
       <u>For Those with Ears to Hear</u>

In it we learn how important it is for the church to become the spiritually violent, as Y'shua said, "And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and the violent take it by force." Matthew 11:12 NKJV

### Then Yahweh speaks....

Then the LORD answered me and said: "Write the vision And make it plain on tablets, That he may run who reads it. For the vision is yet for an appointed time; But at the end it will speak, and it will not lie. Though it tarries, wait for it; Because it will surely come, It will not tarry." Habakkuk 2:2-3 NKJV

### Mere is your assignment Habakkuk...

- ☑ I will give you a vision.
- You need to write it down in simple language so anyone who reads it will understand it. *That is what we are doing here today with this study!*
- Know that the vision I give you will be for a specific time that I have preordained.
- That being said, do not panic or get disappointed if you think that it has not happened in a time-frame that seems right to you.
- The seeming delay does NOT mean anything. I absolutely guarantee you that IT WILL HAPPEN!

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- ☑ No matter how it looks and no matter how delayed it appears, rest in this; it will happen!
- The remainder of Chapter 2 then goes on to identify the qualities, character, violations, and punishment that is coming to those who Habakkuk saw committing the atrocities that disturbed him in Chapter 1!
  - "The burden which the prophet Habakkuk saw. O
     LORD, how long shall I cry, And You will not hear? Even
     cry out to You, "Violence!" And You will not save. Why do
     You show me iniquity, And cause me to see trouble? For
     plundering and violence are before me; There is strife,
     and contention arises." Habakkuk 1:1-3 NKJV
- Qualities, character, violations, and punishment for those who hate Yahweh and His people!
  - **Woe to him who increases what is not his!**
  - **Woe to him who schemes evil gain for his own family!**
  - Woe to him who builds their platform on iniquity!
  - ☑ Woe to him who infects the minds of the people so they cannot think soberly.
  - Woe to him who has depended on their false gods!

#### Now Chapter 3: A Prophet's Testimony

"A prayer of Habakkuk the prophet, on Shigionoth [in a passionate song]. 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. God came from Teman, The Holy One from Mount Paran. Selah

His glory covered the heavens, And the earth was full of His praise. His brightness was like the light; He had rays flashing from His hand, And there His power was hidden. Before Him went pestilence, And fever followed at His feet. 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. I saw the tents of Cushan in affliction; The curtains of the land of Midian trembled. O LORD, were You displeased with the rivers, Was Your anger against the rivers, Was Your wrath against the sea, That You rode on Your horses, Your chariots of salvation? Your bow was made quite ready; Oaths were sworn over Your arrows. Selah

You divided the earth with rivers." Habakkuk 3:1-9 NKJV

#### Habakkuk 3:1-9

 "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." Habakkuk 3:2 NKJV

## I have heard You and now I will pray with a "passionate song" (v. 1)

- I was burdened from all I am seeing.
- **You assured me that You would do something astonishing**
- You identified the culprits.
- You told me to write down the clear vision You would give me and to make it simple to understand, and even more importantly, to be patient.
- You listed the crimes of the guilty and their punishments.
- I now acknowledge all of it and, quite frankly, what you revealed to me is frightening, so in the midst of the waiting for your hammer to drop—stay close to me!
- "God came from Teman [son of Eliphaz, grandson of Esau, one of the chiefs of Edom—See Genesis 36:1-19], The Holy One from Mount Paran. Selah His glory covered the heavens, And the earth was full of His praise. His brightness was like the light; He had rays flashing from His hand, And there His power was hidden. Before Him went pestilence, And fever followed at His feet." Habakkuk 3:3-5 NKJV

- Judgment by the glorious and bright One, the One Who is worthy to judge! A vision consistent throughout
   <u>Scripture!</u>
  - "Then the cloud covered the tabernacle of meeting, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle." Exodus 40:34 NKJV
  - "In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His robe filled the temple. Above it stood seraphim; each one had six wings: with two he covered his face, with two he covered his face, with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. And one cried to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; The whole earth is full of His glory!"" Isaiah 6:1-3 NKJV
  - "Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life."" John 8:12 NKJV
  - "This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of

Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin." I John 1:5-7 NKJV

- "Indeed, can anyone understand the spreading of clouds, The thunder from His canopy? Look, He scatters His light upon it, And covers the depths of the sea. For by these He judges the peoples; He gives food in abundance. He covers His hands with lightning, And commands it to strike." Job 36:29-32 NKJV
- "Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself. He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses. Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the **nations.** And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS." Revelation 19:11-16 NKJV

- Pestilence and fever and for disobedience...
  - "The LORD will make the plague cling to you until He has consumed you from the land which you are going to possess. The LORD will strike you with consumption, with fever, with inflammation, with severe burning fever, with the sword, with scorching, and with mildew; they shall pursue you until you perish." Deuteronomy 28:21-22 NKJV
  - See Deuteronomy 28:15-68 (Curses for Disobeying Yahweh)
- "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. I saw the tents of Cushan [a nation of darkness] in affliction; The curtains of the land of Midian trembled." Habakkuk 3:6-7 NKJV

**Iohn saw this pattern against the nations...** 

"After these things I saw another angel coming down from heaven, having great authority, and the earth was illuminated with his glory. And he cried mightily with a loud voice, saying, "Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and has become a dwelling place of demons, a prison for every foul spirit, and a cage for every unclean and hated

bird! For all the nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth have become rich through the abundance of her luxury." And I heard another voice from heaven saying, "Come out of her, my people, lest you share in her sins, and lest you receive of her plagues. For her sins have reached to heaven, and God has remembered her iniquities. Render to her just as she rendered to you, and repay her double according to her works; in the cup which she has mixed, mix double for her. In the measure that she glorified herself and lived luxuriously, in the same measure give her torment and sorrow; for she says in her heart, 'I sit as queen, and am no widow, and will not see sorrow.' Therefore her plagues will come in one day—death and mourning and famine. And she will be **utterly burned with fire**, for strong is the Lord God who judges her." Revelation 18:1-8 NKJV

#### Y'shua too saw this pattern

See Matthew 24

#### Mathematical Start St

In the Song of Moses: ""The people [Nations] will hear and be afraid; Sorrow will take hold of the inhabitants of

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Philistia. Then the **chiefs of Edom [like we see in above in Hab. 3:3, Teman, son of Eliphaz, grandson of Esau, one of the chiefs of Edom—See Genesis 36:1-19]** will be dismayed; The mighty men of Moab, Trembling will take hold of them; **All the inhabitants of Canaan will melt away. Fear and dread will fall on them;** By the greatness of Your arm They will be as still as a stone, Till Your people pass over, O LORD, Till the people pass over Whom You have purchased. You will bring them in and plant them In the mountain of Your inheritance, In the place, O LORD, which You have made For Your own dwelling, The sanctuary, O Lord, which Your hands have established." Exodus 15:14-17 NKJV

- "So the nations shall fear the name of the LORD, And all the kings of the earth Your glory." Psalms 102:15 NKJV
- ""For thus says the LORD of hosts: 'Once more (it is a little while) I will shake heaven and earth, the sea and dry land; and I will shake all nations, and they shall come to the Desire of All Nations, and I will fill this temple with glory,' says the LORD of hosts." Haggai 2:6-7 NKJV

- "O LORD, were You displeased with the rivers, Was Your anger against the rivers, Was Your wrath against the sea, That You rode on Your horses, Your chariots of salvation? Your bow was made quite ready; Oaths were sworn over Your arrows...Selah You divided the earth with rivers." Habakkuk 3:8-9 NKJV
  - <u>"Trust Me," says Yahweh, "It was not creation's fault that</u> <u>those judgments have come and are coming! And that</u> <u>creation itself will be unwillingly used in the judgment.</u>
    - Example (coming up!): the sea that covered the Egyptian army as they chased Israel, the death and destruction that took place in those waters, was not the fault of the sea!
    - "For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God. For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it in hope; because the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now." Romans 8:18-22 NKJV

"Then the second angel sounded: And something like a great mountain burning with fire was thrown into the sea, and a third of the sea became blood. And a third of the living creatures in the sea died, and a third of the ships were destroyed. Then the third angel sounded: And a great star fell from heaven, burning like a torch, and it fell on a third of the rivers and on the springs of water. The name of the star is Wormwood. A third of the waters became wormwood, and many men died from the water, because it was made bitter." Revelation 8:8-11 NKJV

#### Nature's Witness!

"The **mountains saw** You and trembled; The overflowing of the water passed by. The deep uttered its voice, And lifted its hands on high. **The sun and moon stood still** in their habitation; **At the light of Your arrows they went, At the shining of Your glittering spear**. You marched through the land in indignation; You trampled the nations in anger. You went forth for the salvation of Your people, For salvation with Your Anointed. You struck the head from the house of the wicked, By laying bare from foundation to neck. Selah" Habakkuk 3:10-13 NKJV

#### Habakkuk 3:10-13

- "The mountains saw You and trembled; The overflowing of the water passed by. The deep uttered its voice, And lifted its hands on high. The sun and moon stood still in their habitation; At the light of Your arrows they went, At the shining of Your glittering spear." Habakkuk 3:10-11 NKJV
  - If we look back to Habakkuk we see the devastation
     <u>coming because to those who are committed to false</u>
     <u>gods!</u>
    - ""What profit is the image, that its maker should carve it, The molded image, a teacher of lies, That the maker of its mold should trust in it, To make mute idols? Woe to him who says to wood, 'Awake!' To silent stone, 'Arise! It shall teach!' Behold, it is overlaid with gold and silver, Yet in it there is no breath at all." Habakkuk 2:18-19 NKJV

### Paul writes so eloquently on this topic!

"For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them. For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and

Godhead, so that they are without excuse, **because**, **although they knew God**, **they did not glorify Him as God**, **nor were thankful**, **but became futile in their thoughts**, **and their foolish hearts were darkened**. **Professing to be wise**, **they became fools**, **and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man—and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things**. Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves, who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen." Romans 1:18-25 NKJV

- The very images that they turn into "false gods" will be the instruments of their destruction.
- "You marched through the land in indignation; You trampled the nations in anger. "You went forth for the salvation of Your people, For salvation with Your Anointed. You struck the head from the house of the wicked, By laying bare from foundation to neck. Selah" Habakkuk 3:13-12 NKJV
  - Food for thought!

- Just consider what Yahweh did to Egypt as it was totally devastated by ten plagues, culminating with the death of the firstborn, including the firstborn son of Pharaoh.
   Following that, God annihilated the entire Egyptian army with all its chariots and horses!
- This is the kind of power we are talking about, "a Moses" declaring things like: "Thus says Yahweh....[to "a Pharaoh" so many times from Exodus 5-11]" and ""And Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid. Stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which He will accomplish for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall see again no more forever. The LORD will fight for you, and you shall hold your peace."" Exodus 14:13-14 NKJV

## A Prophet's Memory

"You thrust through with his own arrows The head of his villages. They came out like a whirlwind to scatter me; Their rejoicing was like feasting on the poor in secret. You walked through the sea with Your horses, Through the heap of great waters. When I heard, my body trembled; My lips quivered at the voice; Rottenness entered my bones; And I trembled in myself, That I might rest in the day of trouble. When he comes up to the people, He will invade them with his troops." Habakkuk 3:14-16 NKJV

### Habakkuk 3:14-16

- You thrust through with his own arrows The head of his villages. They came out like a whirlwind to scatter me; Their rejoicing was like feasting on the poor in secret." Habakkuk 3:14 NKJV
  - Again, consider the words of a man "acting as the head"
     being cursed by his very own words!
    - After the ninth plague of darkness, Pharaoh's own death decree: "But the LORD hardened Pharaoh's heart, and he would not let them go. Then Pharaoh said to him, "Get away from me! Take heed to yourself and see my face no more! For in the day you see my face you shall die!" So Moses said, "You have spoken well. I will never see your face again."" Exodus 10:27-29 NKJV

### Pharaoh's words turn on him!

"And it came to pass at midnight that the LORD struck all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, from the firstborn of
 Pharaoh who sat on his throne to the firstborn of the captive who was in the dungeon, and all the firstborn of livestock. So Pharaoh rose in the night, he, all his

servants, and all the Egyptians; and there was a great cry in Egypt, for there was not a house where there was not one dead." Exodus 12:29-30 NKJv

You walked through the sea with Your horses, Through the heap of great waters." Habakkuk 3:15 NKJV

## See the picture that Habakkuk is seeing! The the entirety of Yahweh's enemies with will destroyed!

- "And Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and when the morning appeared, the sea returned to its full depth, while the Egyptians were fleeing into it. So the LORD overthrew the Egyptians in the midst of the sea. Then the waters returned and covered the chariots, the horsemen, and all the army of Pharaoh that came into the sea after them. Not so much as one of them remained." Exodus 14:27-28 NKJV
- *"When I heard, my body trembled;* My lips quivered at the voice; Rottenness entered my bones; And I trembled in myself,
   *That I might rest in the day of trouble*. When he comes up to the people, He will invade them with his troops." Habakkuk 3:16 NKJV

- <u>The prophet is undone by what he sees.</u> Take no pleasure in the destruction of the wicked!
  - ""So you, son of man: I have made you a watchman for  $\mathbf{\overline{\mathbf{V}}}$ the house of Israel; therefore you shall hear a word from My mouth and warn them for Me. When I say to the wicked, 'O wicked man, you shall surely die!' and you do not speak to warn the wicked from his way, that wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood I will require at your hand. Nevertheless if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, he shall die in his iniquity; but you have delivered your soul. "Therefore you, O son of man, say to the house of Israel: 'Thus you say, "If our transgressions and our sins lie upon us, and we pine away in them, how can we then live?" ' Say to them: ' As I live,' says the Lord GOD, 'I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live. Turn, turn from your evil ways! For why should you die, O house of Israel?" Ezekiel 33:7-11 NKJV
- True and righteous are His judgments!
  - "After these things I heard a loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, saying, "Alleluia! Salvation and glory and honor and power belong to the Lord our God!

For true and righteous are His judgments, because He has judged the great harlot who corrupted the earth with her fornication; and He has avenged on her the blood of His servants shed by her."" Revelation 19:1-2 NKJV

## A Prophet's Song

"Though the fig tree may not blossom, Nor fruit be on the vines; Though the labor of the olive may fail, And the fields yield no food; Though the flock may be cut off from the fold, And there be no herd in the stalls— **Yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation.** The LORD God is my strength; He will make my feet like deer's feet, And He will make me walk on my high hills. To the Chief Musician. With my stringed instruments." Habakkuk 3:17-19 NKJV

## Habakkuk 3:17-19

*"Though* the fig tree may not blossom, Nor fruit be on the vines; Though the labor of the olive may fail, And the fields yield no food; Though the flock may be cut off from the fold, And there be no herd in the stalls – Yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation. The LORD God is my strength; He will make my feet like deer's feet, And He will

make me walk on my high hills. To the Chief Musician. With my stringed instruments." Habakkuk 3:17-19 NKJV

- No matter what you see and no matter how long it takes
   <u>—Rejoice!</u>
  - "Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice! Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord is at hand. Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:4-7 NKJV

## NEXT WEEK

Be Holy! (1 Peter 1)