

25 – HABAKKUK: INTRODUCTION

I. Historical Background



- Habakkuk prophesied in the late seventh century B.C., though it is impossible to determine a precise date.
- Habakkuk wrote during a time of international crisis with the emergence of Babylon as a world power.
- He also wrote during a time of extreme corruption within Judah and Jerusalem.

II. The Prophet

A. His Name

- The name “Habakkuk” means “embrace” or “pressed to the heart.”
- Martin Luther stated that his name speaks to one who took the nation to his heart and embraced it.

B. His Home

- The home of the prophet Habakkuk is unknown.
- Although, some scholars believe the context of the book points to Jerusalem.

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C. His Occupation and Ministry

- We know nothing about the prophet's background and occupation.

III. The Occasion, Purpose & Themes of the Book

- The book of Habakkuk differs from the other prophets in who the book is directed to.
- Instead of taking the Lord's message to the people, he takes the people's complaints to God.

IV. The Lessons From The Book

- The supremacy of the Lord's judgment upon the wicked.
- The faithfulness of God is permanent.
- Evil is self-destructive.
- Suffering is disciplinary.
- To promote the growth of faith of God's people from doubt to trust.