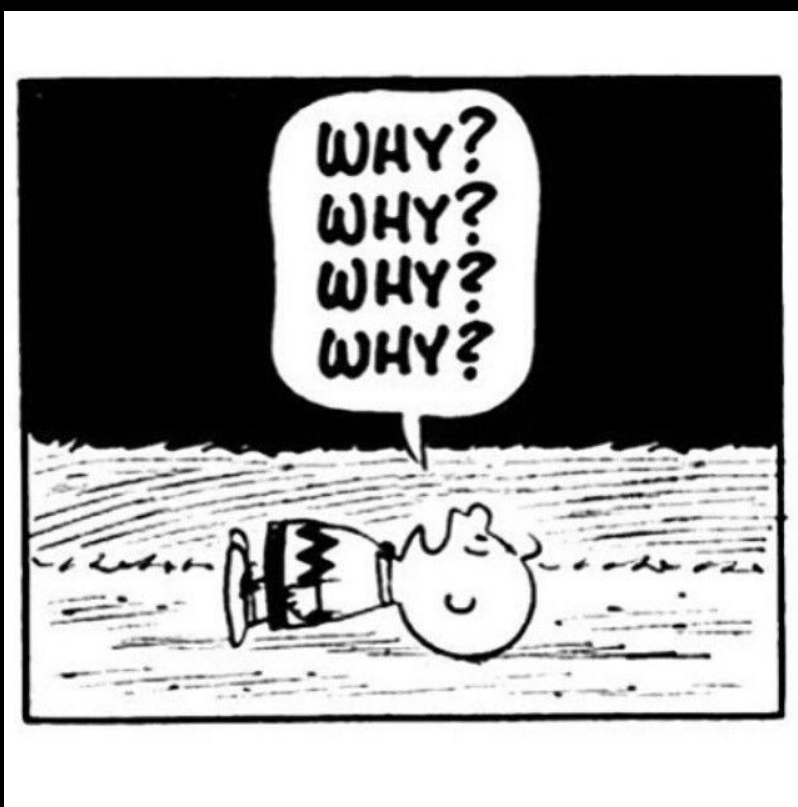


Why?



Habakkuk 1:1-4

1 The burden which Habakkuk the prophet did see.

**2 O Lord, how long shall I cry, and thou wilt not hear!
even cry out unto thee of violence, and thou wilt not
save!**

**3 Why dost thou shew me iniquity, and cause me to
behold grievance? for spoiling and violence are before
me: and there are that raise up strife and contention.**

**4 Therefore the law is slacked, and judgment doth
never go forth: for the wicked doth compass about the
righteous; therefore wrong judgment proceedeth.**

I. Habakkuk's First Complaint (1:1-4)

A. How long must I call for help, but You do not listen?

Why are you not answering my prayers?

B. How long must I cry out because of violence, but You do not save?

Why do You not put a stop to this?

I. Habakkuk's First Complaint (1:1-4)

C. Why do You make me look at injustice?

Why am I having to endure these things when I did nothing wrong?

D. Why do You tolerate wrong?

Why do I now have a wrong perception of God?

Habakkuk 1:5-11

5 Behold ye among the heathen, and regard, and wonder marvelously: for I will work a work in your days which ye will not believe, though it be told you.

6 For, lo, I raise up the Chaldeans, that bitter and hasty nation, which shall march through the breadth of the land, to possess the dwellingplaces that are not their's.

7 They are terrible and dreadful: their judgment and their dignity shall proceed of themselves.

8 Their horses also are swifter than the leopards, and are more fierce than the evening wolves: and their horsemen shall spread themselves, and their horsemen shall come from far; they shall fly as the eagle that hasteth to eat.

Habakkuk 1:5-11 - continued

9 They shall come all for violence: their faces shall sup up as the east wind, and they shall gather the captivity as the sand.

10 And they shall scoff at the kings, and the princes shall be a scorn unto them: they shall deride every strong hold; for they shall heap dust, and take it.

11 Then shall his mind change, and he shall pass over, and offend, imputing this his power unto his god.

II. God's Answer (1:5-11)

A. You will not believe it (v 5)

B. Watch the nations and see (v 6-11)

1. A coming judgment (v 6)

2. A conquering judgment (vv 7-8)

3. A complete judgment (v 9)

4. A condemning judgment (vv 10-11)

Habakkuk 1:12-17

12 Art thou not from everlasting, O Lord my God, mine Holy One? we shall not die. O Lord, thou hast ordained them for judgment; and, O mighty God, thou hast established them for correction.

13 Thou art of purer eyes than to behold evil, and canst not look on iniquity: wherefore lookest thou upon them that deal treacherously, and holdest thy tongue when the wicked devoureth the man that is more righteous than he?

14 And makest men as the fishes of the sea, as the creeping things, that have no ruler over them?

Habakkuk 1:12-17 - continued

15 They take up all of them with the angle, they catch them in their net, and gather them in their drag: therefore they rejoice and are glad.

16 Therefore they sacrifice unto their net, and burn incense unto their drag; because by them their portion is fat, and their meat plenteous.

17 Shall they therefore empty their net, and not spare continually to slay the nations?

III. Habakkuk's Dilemma (1:12-17)

A. Why do You use unholy people to execute judgment?

Israel did not clean up their act

B. Two truths

1. God would not forsake his people

2. God would not allow sin to go unpunished

C. God's judgment on Israel was for discipline and not destruction

**Why Does God Do
What He Does, And Not
What We Want Him
To Do?**

Psalm 37:7-9

7 Rest in the Lord, and wait patiently for him: fret not thyself because of him who prospereth in his way, because of the man who bringeth wicked devices to pass.

8 Cease from anger, and forsake wrath: fret not thyself in any wise to do evil.

9 For evildoers shall be cut off: but those that wait upon the Lord, they shall inherit the earth.

Hebrews 12:5-7

5 And ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children, My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him:

6 For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth.

7 If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not?

1 Peter 4:17

For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God?

1 John 3:21

Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, then have we confidence toward God.

