

Introduction – "A mini-theology of suffering..."

Acts 9:15, 16

Philippians 3:8-11

Romans 5:3, 4

1 Peter 5:8, 9

Isaiah 55:8, 9

The Response of Habakkuk to God's First Answer

1. Denial - Habakkuk 1:12a
 2. Acceptance* - Habakkuk 1:12b
 3. The set up... - Habakkuk 1:13a
 4. Here it comes... the protest - Habakkuk 1:13b
 5. The analogy to make his point
 - a. "God, you are the one really responsible" - Habakkuk 1:14 (cf. Genesis 3:11-14)
- Fairness vrs. Justice
- b. Nine Protests to the way things are right now! - Habakkuk 1:15-16
 - c. Let me reiterate my protest - Habakkuk 1:17
6. Now I will wait - Habakkuk 2:1

Application – Are you willing to suffer for Jesus, even mental suffering?

Acts 9:15, 16

¹⁵But the Lord said to Ananias, "Go! This man is my chosen instrument to carry my name before the Gentiles and their kings and before the people of Israel. ¹⁶I will show him how much he must suffer for my name."

Philippians 3:8-11

⁸What is more, I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them rubbish, that I may gain Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God and is by faith. ¹⁰I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹and so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead.

Romans 5:3, 4

³Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; ⁴perseverance, character; and character, hope.

1 Peter 5:8, 9

⁸Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. ⁹Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings.

Isaiah 55:8, 9

⁸"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the LORD. ⁹"As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."

Habakkuk 1:12-2:1

¹²O LORD, are you not from everlasting? My God, my Holy One, we will not die. O LORD, you have appointed them to execute judgment; O Rock, you have ordained them to punish. ¹³Your eyes are too pure to look on evil; you cannot tolerate wrong. Why then do you tolerate the treacherous? Why are you silent while the wicked swallow up those more righteous than themselves? ¹⁴You have made men like fish in the sea, like sea creatures that have no ruler. ¹⁵The wicked foe pulls all of them up with hooks, he catches them in his net, he gathers them up in his drag-net; and so he rejoices and is glad. ¹⁶Therefore he sacrifices to his net and burns incense to his drag-net, for by his net he lives in luxury and enjoys the choicest food. ¹⁷Is he to keep on emptying his net, destroying nations without mercy? ¹⁸I will stand at my watch and station myself on the ramparts; I will look to see what he will say to me, and what answer I am to give to this complaint.

Genesis 3:11-13

¹¹And he said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree from which I commanded you not to eat?" ¹²The man said, "The woman you put here with me—she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it."

¹³Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

SUFFERING

Suffering

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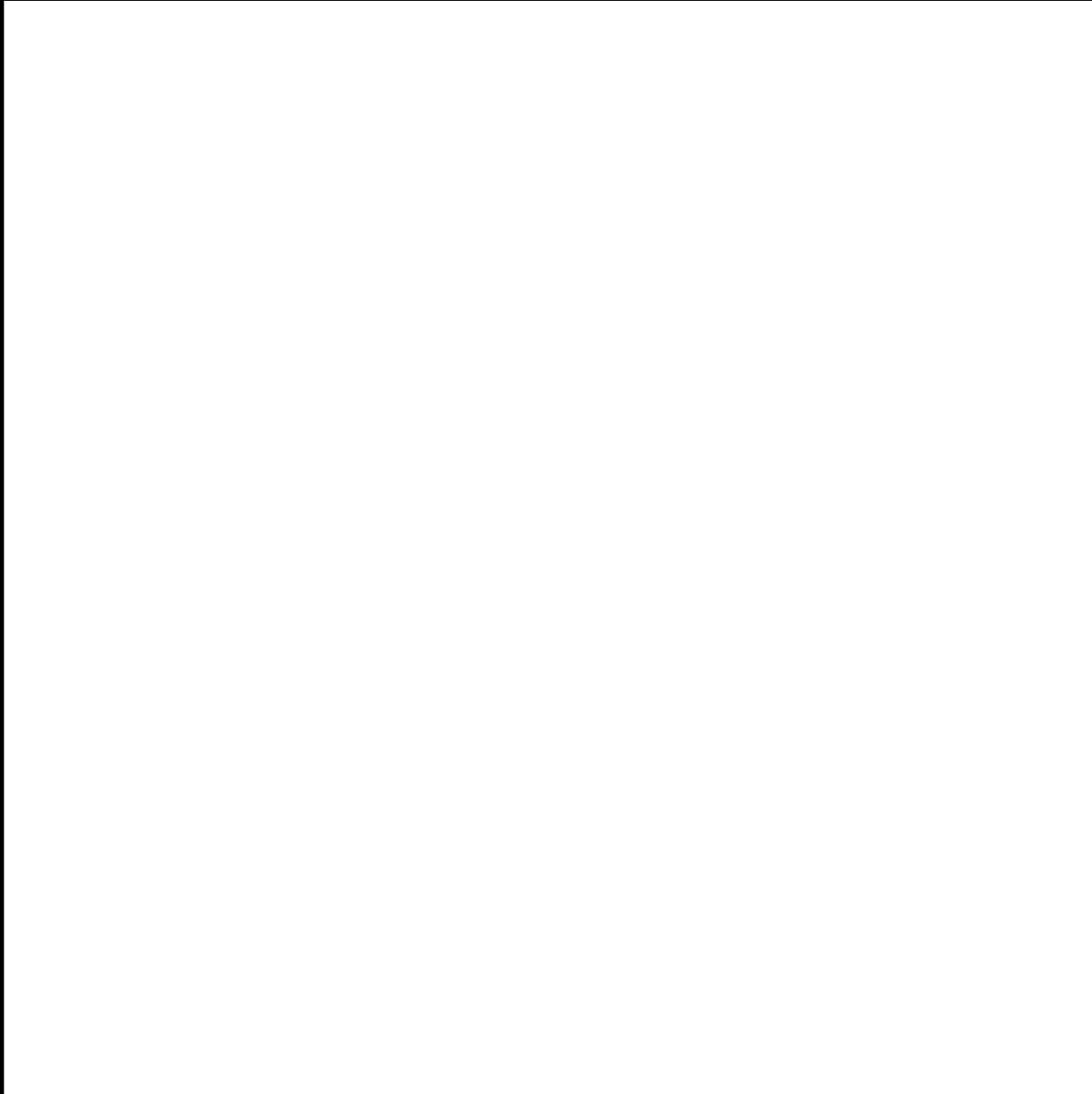
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God's Ways are not Our Ways!



MAJORING

on a minor

a five-week look into the Big Questions of

Habakkuk

Outline of the book of Habakkuk

Habakkuk's First Complaint - 1.1-4

God's First Answer - 1:5-11

Habakkuk's Second Complaint - 1:12-2:1

God's Second Answer - 2:2-20

**Habakkuk's Response to God's Answer (a hymn of praise)
Habakkuk 3:1-19**

A Quick Review

1. *Habakkuk's First B. Q.*

Habakkuk 1:2-4

²How long, O LORD, must I call for help, but you do not listen? Or cry out to you, "Violence!" but you do not save? ³Why do you make me look at injustice? Why do you tolerate wrong?

Destruction and violence are before me; there is strife, and conflict abounds. ⁴Therefore the law is paralyzed, and justice never prevails. The wicked hem in the righteous, so that justice is perverted.

A Quick Review

2. God's Response to Habakkuk's Complaint

Habakkuk 1:5-10

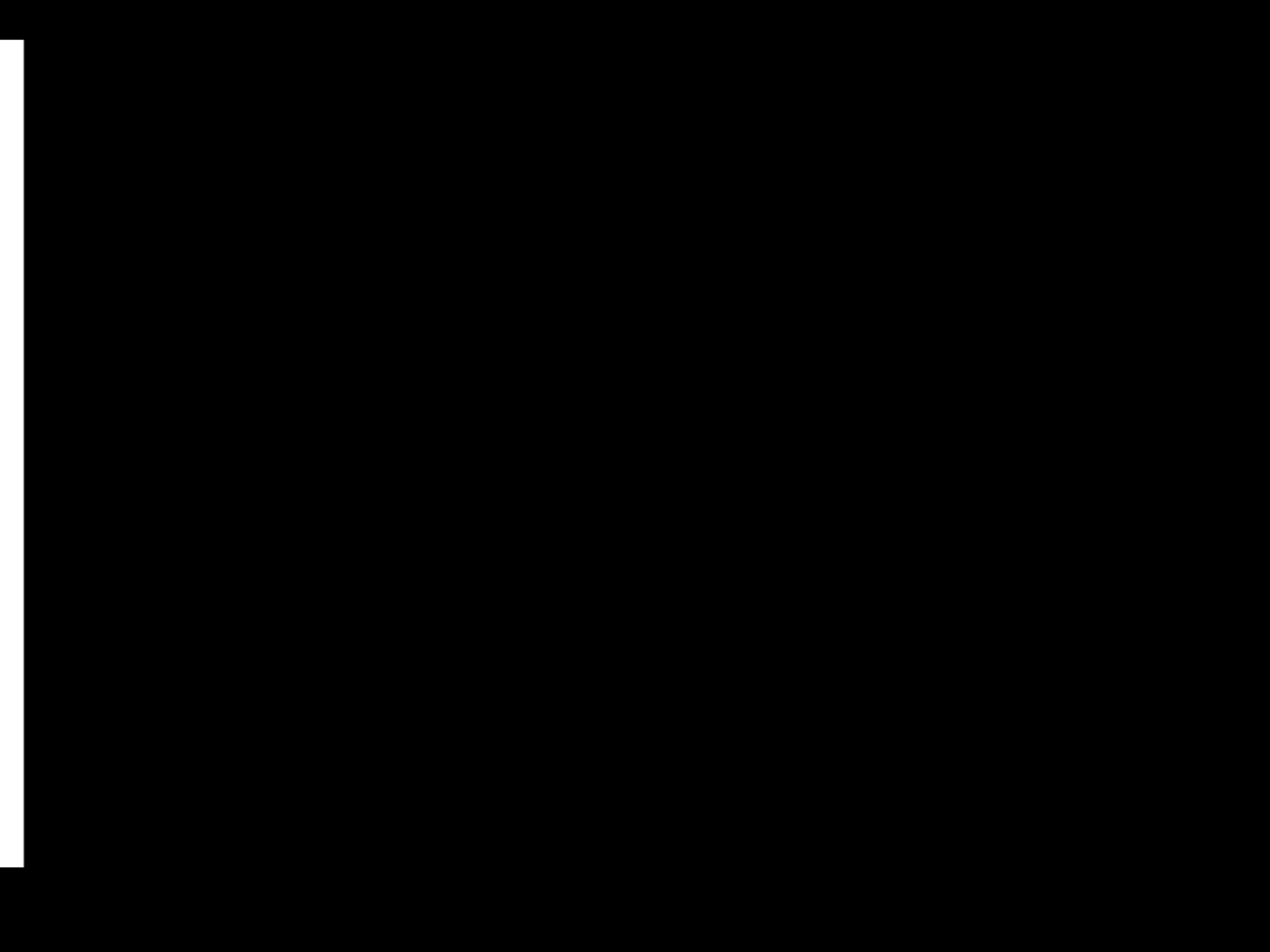
⁵“Look at the nations and watch—and be utterly amazed. For I am going to do something in your days that you would not believe, even if you were told. ⁶I am raising up the Babylonians, that ruthless and impetuous people, who sweep across the whole earth to seize dwelling-places not their own. ⁷They are a feared and dreaded people; they are a law to themselves and promote their own honor.

A Quick Review

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Habakkuk 1:5-10

⁸“Their horses are swifter than leopards, fiercer than wolves at dusk. Their cavalry gallops headlong; their horsemen come from afar. They fly like a vulture swooping to devour; ⁹they all come bent on violence. Their hordes advance like a desert wind and gather prisoners like sand. ¹⁰They deride kings and scoff at rulers. They laugh at all fortified cities; they build earthen ramps and capture them. ¹¹Then they sweep past like the wind and go on— guilty men, whose own strength is their god.”





Habakkuk's Response to God's Answer

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1. Denial...

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Habakkuk 1:12a

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Habakkuk's Response to God's Answer

2. *Acceptance (with an *)*

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Habakkuk 1:12b

O LORD, you have appointed them to execute judgment;
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Habakkuk's Response to God's Answer

3. The set up

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Habakkuk's Response to God's Answer

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Habakkuk 1:13b

Why then do you tolerate the treacherous?
Why are you silent while the wicked swallow up
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Habakkuk's Response to God's Answer

5. *The Analogy to make his point*

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 - a. God, it really is YOUR fault

Habakkuk's Response to God's Answer

5. *The Analogy to make his point*

a. God, it really is YOUR fault

Habakkuk 1:14

¹⁴You have made men like fish in the sea,
like sea creatures that have no ruler.

Genesis 3:11-13

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Fairness

vrs.

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Habakkuk's Response to God's Answer

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 - b. **Nine Protests to the way things are**

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destroying nations without mercy?

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