

HABAKKUK

CHAPTER 1

1 The burden that Habakkuk, the prophet, saw. (The vision that the prophet Habakkuk saw.)

2 How long, Lord, shall I cry, and thou shalt not hear? I suffering violence shall cry on high to thee, and thou shalt not save? (How long, Lord, shall I cry, and thou shalt not hear me? I suffering violence shall cry aloud to thee, and shalt thou not save me?)

3 Why showedest thou to me wickedness and travail, for to see prey and unrightwiseness against me? Why beholdest thou despisers, and art still, the while the unpious man defouleth a right-fuller than himself? And thou shalt make men as fishes of the sea, and as creeping things not having a leader; and doom is made, and against-saying is more mighty. (Why hast thou shown me wickedness and struggle, in order to see robbery and unrighteousness done against me? Why beholdest thou despisers, and art silent, while the wicked defile someone more upright than themselves? Shalt thou make people like the fish of the sea, and like the creeping things that do not have a leader? yea, judgement is made, *or justice is given*, but saying against, *or contention*, is more mighty, *or more powerful*.)

4 For this thing law is broken, and doom cometh not till to the end; for the unpious man hath might against the just, therefore wayward doom shall go out. (And so because of this, the law is broken, and judgement, *or justice*, cometh not unto its proper end; for the wicked have might, *or power*, against the just, *or the righteous*, and so perverted justice, *or warped judgement*, shall go forth.)

5 Behold ye in heathen men, and see ye, and wonder ye, and greatly dread ye; for a work is done in your days, which no man shall believe, when it shall be told. (Behold ye the heathen, and see ye, and wonder ye, and greatly fear ye; for a work is done in your days, which no one shall believe, when it shall be told to them.)

6 For lo! I shall raise Chaldees, a bitter folk and swift, going on the breadth of earth, that he wield tabernacles not his. (For lo! I shall raise up the Chaldeans, a swift and

bitter nation, going upon the breadth of the earth, in order to take tents, *or homes*, not their own.)

7 It is horrible, and dreadful; the doom and the burden thereof shall go out of itself. (They be terrible, and fearful, *that is, they instill terror, and fear*; and law, and justice, *or judgement*, shall go out from them alone.)

8 His horses *be* lighter than leopards, and swifter than eventide wolves, and his horsemen shall be scattered abroad; for why his horsemen shall come from far, they shall fly as an eagle hasting to eat. (Their horses *be* lighter than leopards, and swifter than wolves in the night, and their horsemen shall be spread abroad everywhere; yea, their horsemen shall come from afar, and they shall fly like eagles hastening to eat.)

9 All (these) men shall come to prey, the faces of them *is* as a burning wind; and he shall gather as gravel (the) captivity, (All these men shall come for prey, their faces *be* like the burning wind; and they shall gather up captives like the sand,)

10 and he shall have victory of kings, and tyrants shall be of his scorning. He shall laugh on all stronghold, and shall bear together [an] heap of earth, and shall take it. (and they shall have victory over kings, and only scorn, *or mocking*, for any tyrant. They shall laugh at every stronghold, *or every fortress*, and shall bear together heaps of earth, and then shall take, *or shall capture*, them.)

11 Then the spirit [of him] shall be changed, and he shall pass forth, and fall down; this is the strength of him, of his god. (Then their spirit shall be changed, and they shall pass forth, and shall fall down/Then they shall pass forth like the changing wind, and shall fall down; for their own strength was their god.)

12 Whether thou art not from the beginning, thou, Lord my God, mine holy, and we shall not die? Lord, into doom thou hast set him, and thou groundedest him strong, that thou shouldest chastise. (Lord, art thou not God from the beginning? yea, my God, my Holy One, and so we shall not die. Lord, thou hast ordained them for judgement, and thou hast used them, O strong God, to chastise, *or to discipline*, us.)

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13 Thine eyes be clean, see thou not evil, and thou shalt not be able to behold to wickedness. Why beholdest thou not on men doing wickedly, and thou art still, while the unpious man devoureth a more just man than himself? (Thine eyes be pure, thou seest no evil, and thou art not able to look upon wickedness. But why beholdest thou not upon those doing wickedly, and thou art silent, while the wicked devour those who be more just, *or more righteous*, than themselves?)

14 And thou shalt make men as fishes of the sea, and as a creeping thing not having a prince. (And shalt thou make people like the fish of the sea, and like the creeping things that do not have a leader?/And why makest thou people like the fish of the sea, and like the creeping things that do not have a leader?)

15 He shall lift up all in the hook; he drew it in his great net, and gathered into his net; on this thing he shall be glad, and make joy withoutforth. (For they lift up all the people by their hooks; they gather them into their great nets, and draw them along in their nets; and then they be happy, and rejoice, over this.)

16 Therefore he shall offer to his great net, and shall make sacrifice to his net; for in them his part is made fat, and his meat *is* chosen. (And they even make offerings to their great nets, and make sacrifices to their nets; for by them their portions be made fat, and their meats *be* chosen and tasty.)

17 Therefore for this thing he spreadeth abroad his great net, and evermore he ceaseth not for to slay folks. (And so for this they spread abroad their great nets, and they never cease to slaughter the nations.)

CHAPTER 2

1 On my keeping I shall stand, and shall pitch a degree on [the] warding; and I shall behold, that I see what thing shall be said to me, and what I shall answer to him that reproveth me. (I shall stand watch at my station, and shall climb the stairs of the watch tower; and I shall see, what shall be said to me, and what I shall answer to him who rebuketh me.)

2 And the Lord answered to me, and said, Write thou the sight, *either revelation*, and make it plain on tables, that he (may) run, that shall read it. (And the Lord said to me, Write thou what thou seest, and make it clear on a tablet, ready for a courier to carry it with haste/so that it can easily be read.)

3 For yet the vision *is* far, and it shall appear into the end, and shall not lie; if it shall make dwelling, abide

thou it, for it coming shall come, and shall not tarry. (For yet the vision *is* far off, but it shall appear in the end, and it shall not lie; and even if it appeareth to be delayed, wait thou for it, for it is coming, and indeed shall come, and shall not be late.)

4 Lo! the soul of him, that is unbelievful, shall not be rightful in himself; forsooth the just man shall live in his faith. (Lo! the soul of him, who is unbelieving, shall not be right within himself; but the just, *or the righteous*, shall live by faith.)

5 And as wine deceiveth a man drinking, so shall the proud man be, and he shall not be made fair; for as hell he alarged his soul, and he *is* as death, and he is not [ful]filled; and he shall gather to him all folks, and he shall gather together to him all peoples. (And like wine deceiveth someone who is drinking, so shall be the proud person, and he shall never be content, *or at peace*; for he enlarged his soul, *or his mouth*, as wide as Sheol, *or the land of the dead*, but he, like death itself, shall never be satisfied, *or fulfilled*; even though he shall gather all the nations unto himself, yea, though he shall gather together all the peoples unto himself.)

6 Whether not all these *peoples* shall take a parable on him, and the speaking of dark sentences of him? And it shall be said, Woe to him that multiplieth things not his own; how long, and he aggregateth against himself thick clay? (Shall not all these *peoples* turn him into a parable, *or an example*, and speak dark sentences about him? And so it shall be said, Woe to you who multiplieth riches not your own! how long shall you gather unto yourself things taken in pledge?)

7 Whether not suddenly they shall rise together, that shall bite thee? And they shall be raised tearing thee, and thou shalt be into raven to them; and thine ambushers *in evil* shall wake. (Shall they not suddenly rise up, and bite thee? Yea, they shall be raised up, and shall tear thee apart, and thou shalt become prey, *or spoils*, to them; and thy ambushers *in evil* shall watch for thy fall.)

8 For thou robbedest many folks, all shall rob thee, which shall be residue, *either left*, of peoples, for blood of man, and for wickedness of land, of the city, and of all men dwelling in it. (For thou hast robbed many nations, all who shall be the residue, *or those left*, of the peoples, shall rob thee, for the bloodshed, *or the murder*, of the people, and for the wickedness done in the land, to the city, and to all the people who live there.)

9 Woe to him that gathereth evil covetousness to his

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house, that his nest be on high, and guessest him for to be delivered (out) of the hand of evil. (Woe to you who gathereth evil gain, *or filthy lucre*, unto your house, so that your nest would be on high, and thinketh yourself to be delivered, *or saved*, from the hand of evil.)

10 Thou thoughtest confusion to thine house; thou hast slain many peoples, and thy soul sinned. (Thou hast brought shame to thy house; thou hast killed many people, yea, thy soul hath sinned.)

11 For the stone of the wall shall cry, and a tree that is betwixt jointures of buildings shall answer. (And so the stones in the walls shall cry out, and a *beam* of the timbers that is between the joinings of the building shall answer them.)

12 Woe to him that buildeth a city in bloods, and maketh ready a city in wickedness. (Woe to you who buildeth a city with bloodshed, *or with murder*, and who maketh ready a city with wickedness.)

13 Whether not these things be of the Lord of hosts? For peoples shall travail in much fire, and folks in vain, and they shall fail. (Be not all these things from the Lord of hosts? For peoples and nations shall labour, *or shall struggle*, amid much fire, *or much adversity*, and all for nothing, for they all shall fail.)

14 For the earth shall be filled, that it know the glory of the Lord, as waters covering the sea. (For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, like the waters covering, *or filling*, the sea.)

15 Woe to him that giveth drink to his friend, and sendeth his gall, and maketh drunken, that he behold his nakedness. (Woe to you who sendeth your gall, *or your anger*, onto your friend, as if giving him drink, and maketh *him* drunk, so that you can behold his shame, *or his nakedness*.)

16 He is filled with evil fame for glory; and thou drink, and be aslept; the cup of the right half of the Lord shall compass thee, and casting up, *either spewing*, of evil fame (*shall be*) [up]on thy glory. (Thou shalt be filled with shame and not with glory; yea, thou shalt drink, and then be asleep; the cup of the right hand of the Lord shall be given to thee, and then thy shame *shall exceed* thy glory.)

17 For the wickedness of Lebanon shall cover thee, and [the] destruction of beasts shall make them afeared, of bloods of man, and of wickedness of [the] land, and of the city, and of all men dwelling therein. (For the wickedness done to Lebanon shall now be done to thee, and the destruction of its beasts shall now make thee

afraid, because of the bloodshed, *or the murder*, of the people, and the wickedness done in the land, to the city, and to all the people who live there.)

18 What profiteth the graven image, for his maker graven it, a welled thing together, and [a] false image? for the maker thereof hoped in [the] making, that he made dumb simulacra. (What is the profit, *or the benefit*, of an engraved figure? for its maker engraved it, a thing welded together, yet it is but a false, *or a empty, and useless*, image; even though its maker hoped in the making of it, he hath made only dumb idols.)

19 Woe to him that saith to a tree, Wake thou; (and,) Rise thou, to a stone being still; whether he shall be able to teach? Lo! this (thing) is covered with gold and silver, and no spirit is in his entrails. (Woe to you who saith to a piece of wood, Wake up thou! and, Rise thou! to a stone being still; shall it be able to teach you *anything*? Lo! this thing is covered with gold and silver, but there is no breath in its innards.)

20 Forsooth the Lord *is* in his holy temple, all earth be still from his face. (But the Lord *is* in his holy Temple, let all the earth be silent before him.)

CHAPTER 3

1 *The prayer of Habakkuk, the prophet, for unknowing men. (The prayer of the prophet Habakkuk, for those without knowledge.)*

2 Lord, I heard thy praising, and I dreaded; Lord, it is thy work, in the middle of years, quicken thou it. In the middle of years, thou shalt make (thyself) known; when thou shalt be wroth, thou shalt have mind of mercy. (Lord, I have heard of thy deeds, and I am filled with reverence *for thee*; Lord, it is thy work, in the midst of the years, quicken thou it/do thou it again. In the midst of the years, thou shalt make thyself known; even when thou shalt be angry, thou shalt remember to be merciful.)

3 God shall come from the south, and the holy from the mount of Paran. The glory of him covered heavens, and the earth is full of his praising. (God shall come from Teman, the Holy One from Mount Paran. His glory shall cover the heavens, and the earth shall be full of his praising.)

4 The shining of him shall be as light; (with) horns in the hands of him. There the strength of him was hid, (His shining shall be like the light; with rays coming from his hands. That is where his strength, *or his power*, is hidden,)

5 death shall go before his face; the devil shall go out

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before his feet. (death shall go out before him; and the devil shall follow his feet/and the devil shall follow him.)

6 He stood, and meted the earth; he beheld, and unbound folks, and hills of the world were all-broken; the little hills of the world were bowed down, of the ways of his everlastingness. (He shall stand, and shall measure the earth; he shall look, and the nations shall tremble, *or shall shake*; the mountains of the world shall be altogether broken, and the little hills of the world shall be bowed down, unto his everlasting ways.)

7 For wickedness I saw the tents of Ethiopia, the skins of the land of Midian shall be troubled. (I saw that the tents of Cushan were under wickedness, *and* that the tent curtains of the lands of Midian were troubled, *or trembled*.)

8 Lord, whether in floods thou art wroth, either in floods *is* thy strong vengeance, either in the sea *is* thine indignation? Which shalt ascend on thine horses; and on thy four-horsed carts *is* salvation. (Lord, art thou angry with the rivers, or *is* thy indignation against the sea? Thou shalt go upon thy horses; and salvation, *or deliverance*, *is* in thy four-horsed carts/and victory *is* in thy chariots.)

9 Thou raising shalt raise thy bow, (according to the) oaths to lineages which thou hast spoken; thou shalt part the floods of earth. (Thou shalt raise thy bow, in accordance with the oaths to the tribes which thou hast spoken; thou shalt divide the earth with thy rivers.)

10 Waters saw thee, and hills sorrowed, the gutter of waters passed; deepness gave his voice, highness raised his hands. (The mountains saw thee, and they trembled; the waters from the gutters *of the heavens* passed by; the depths gave their voices, *and* raised up their hands into the highness, *or on high*.)

11 The sun and moon stood in their dwelling place; in the light of thine arrows they shall go, in the shining of thy spear glistening. (The sun and the moon stood in their dwelling places; they shall go in the light of thy arrows, and in the shining of thy glistening spear.)

12 In gnashing thou shalt defoul earth, and in strong vengeance thou shalt astonish folks. (Thou shalt defile the earth with thy gnashing, and thou shalt greatly astonish the nations with thy vengeance.)

13 Thou art gone out into health of thy people, into health with thy christ; thou hast smitten the head of the

house of the unpious man, thou hast made naked the fundament till to the neck. (Thou hast gone forth for the salvation of thy people, and for the salvation of thy anointed *king*; thou hast struck the head of the house of the unrighteous, *or of the wicked*, and thou hast made naked its foundations unto the neck, *or unto the rock*.)

14 Thou cursedest the sceptre, *either power*, of him, (that is,) the head of his fighters, to men coming as whirlwind for to scatter me; (*thou heardest*) the joying withoutforth of them, as of him that devoureth a poor man in huddles. (Thou hast cursed his sceptre, *or his power*, that is, *thou hast pierced* the leaders of his fighting men, who came like a whirlwind to destroy me; *thou hast heard* their rejoicing, like those who devour the poor in secret.)

15 Thou madest a way in the sea to thine horses, in clay of many waters. (Thou hast made a way in the sea with thy horses, *through* the clay of many waters.)

16 I heard, and my womb is troubled together; my lips trembled together of the voice. Rot entered in[to] my bones, and sprang under me; that I rest again in the day of tribulation, and I shall go up to our people girded together. (I heard, and my belly altogether shook; my lips altogether trembled at the sound. Rot entered into my bones, and sprang up under me. O! that I might rest again after the day of tribulation, when thou shalt go up against those who assail us.)

17 For the fig tree shall not flower, and burgeoning shall not be in vineyards; the work of [the] olive tree shall lie (down), and fields shall not bring (forth) meat; a sheep shall be cut away from the fold, a drove shall not be in cratches. (Yea, though the fig tree flowereth not, and burgeoning be not be in the vineyards; the work of the olive tree falleth down, and the fields bring not forth a harvest; and the sheep be cut away from the fold, and there be no herd in the stalls;)

18 Forsooth I shall have joy in the Lord, and I shall make joy withoutforth in God my Jesus. (still I shall have joy in the Lord, and I shall rejoice in God my Saviour.)

19 God the Lord *is* my strength, and he shall put my feet as of harts; and on mine high things, the overcomer shall lead forth me, singing in psalms. (The Lord God *is* my strength, and he shall make my feet like the feet of harts; and the Overcomer shall lead me forth on the high places, singing in psalms.) ☆