

¹The oracle that Habakkuk the prophet saw.

²O LORD, how long shall I cry for help,
and you will not hear?

Or cry to you “Violence!”
and you will not save?

³Why do you make me see iniquity,
and why do you idly look at wrong?
Destruction and violence are before me;
strife and contention arise.

⁴So the law is paralyzed,
and justice never goes forth.
For the wicked surround the righteous;
so justice goes forth perverted.

⁵“Look among the nations, and see;
wonder and be astounded.

For I am doing a work in your days
that you would not believe if told.

⁶For behold, I am raising up the Chaldeans,
that bitter and hasty nation,
who march through the breadth of the earth,
to seize dwellings not their own.

⁷They are dreaded and fearsome;
their justice and dignity go forth from
themselves.

⁸Their horses are swifter than leopards,
more fierce than the evening wolves;
their horsemen press proudly on.

Their horsemen come from afar;
they fly like an eagle swift to devour.

⁹They all come for violence,
all their faces forward.
They gather captives like sand.

¹⁰At kings they scoff,
and at rulers they laugh.

They laugh at every fortress,
for they pile up earth and take it.

¹¹Then they sweep by like the wind and go on,
guilty men, whose own might is their god!”

English Standard Version (ESV)

- questions about evil & suffering

HOW LONG, O LORD? (v1-4)

- questions
- sins

BE ASTOUNDED! (v5-11)

- the shock
- the work
- the invaders

➔ believe the shocking gospel

➔ declare all-out war

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Anything you want to talk about from what you've heard? How shocking do you find God's treatment of the sin of his people in this passage? What is your attitude to sin in your life?