

Habakkuk's Frustration with God
Habakkuk 1:1-11

"The key to the history of the world is the kingdom of God. The story of the other nations mentioned in the Old Testament is relevant only as it bears upon the destiny of Israel... What really matters in the world is God's kingdom. From the very beginning, since the fall of man, God has been at work establishing a new kingdom in the world. It is His own kingdom, and He is calling people out of the world into that kingdom; and everything that happens in the world has relevance to it... The problems of today are to be understood only in its light. What God is permitting in the Church and in the world today is related to His great purpose for His own Church and kingdom. Let us not therefore be stumbled when we see surprising things happening in the world. Rather, let us ask, 'What is the relevance of this event to the kingdom of God?'" Dr. Martyn Lloyd-Jones

- I. History is under God's control. If we are to trust our Lord and Savior in the uncertainty of living in a fallen world, then we must understand that God is in control of all things. There is never a nanosecond when he is not. He is in control of everything that occurs, he allows certain things to happen and he prevents other things from happening. And even if we question his sovereignty because of the things we experience and see in this fallen world, like Habakkuk the prophet, we know better.

Hab. 1:1-4

2 Chron. 34:1-2

2 Chron. 34:19-21

Jer. 22:17-19

Isa. 5:20-21

Col. 1:17 *"He is before all things, and in him all things hold together."*

1 Chron. 29:11-12 *"Yours, LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty and the splendor, for everything in heaven and earth is yours. Yours, LORD, is the kingdom; you are exalted as head over all. Wealth and honor come from you; you are the ruler of all things. In your hands are strength and power to exalt and give strength to all."*

- II. Redemptive history is on a divine path which will eventually end at the end of the millennial reign of Christ with the creation of a new sin free heaven and earth (**Rev. 21:1**). It should not surprise us that He will allow the world to get progressively more and more sinful and violent to usher in the type of godless one world government that will bring about the tribulation period. We must not despair over those matters out of our control, but instead praise him that we have been spared from his wrath through our salvation (**1 Thess. 5:9**). Our responsibility is to live well for him and keep watch for his return, because we do not know the day or the hour (**Matt. 25:13**).

Hab. 1:5

Acts 13:38-41

Luke 21:6,24

Isa. 51:6

Matt. 5:18

2 Pe. 3:10

"God does not stop to consult us, and everything takes place according to 'the counsel of His own will'. God has His time; He has His own way; and He acts and works accordingly." Jones

Psalm 102:25-28 ²⁵*In the beginning you laid the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands. ²⁶They will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like a garment. Like clothing you will change them and they will be discarded. ²⁷But you remain the same, and your years will never end. ²⁸The children of your servants will live in your presence; their descendants will be established before you."*