

When God Seems Inconsistent
#3 Is God Lenient? - Habakkuk 2:5-14

God Declared a Universal _____ That Is the Key to the Book
2:4, “the just shall live by his faith”. The soul of the proud Chaldean is not right before God and he will be destroyed. This is the way that leads to destruction. Proverbs 14:12, “There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death.” The godly are to continue trusting in the LORD. This is the way that leads to life. Matthew 7:13-14, “Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it.”

Pride Leads To _____ Because It Will Not Receive by Faith the Grace of God

It was during a drunken feast that Babylon was destroyed, Daniel 5. Their addiction to wine is symbolic of their intoxication to power and political conquest.

God Is neither Lenient nor Permissive, He _____

Verses 6-20 are made up of five stanzas of a song taunting the wicked Chaldeans. Each stanza begins with a “woe” and is made up of three verses. “Woe” is a common expression in prophetic literature to introduce a judicial indictment.

Woes Tread Closely On the Heels of _____

1. The Sin of Grasping Greed (6-8)

Plundering Other Nations with Impunity

How long did they think they could live this way without consequences?

• **Sin is the accumulation of _____**

The wealth that the Babylonians have stolen is seen as a great burden of debts that they have accumulated. The plunderers will become the plundered. The oppressors will become the oppressed.

The Time Will Come When Payment will be _____

For the “just who live by faith” our payment was paid for us on the cross. Isaiah 53:5, “But He was wounded for our transgressions; He was bruised for our iniquities”

2. The Sin of Cruel Covetousness (9-11)

They Build Their Dynasty through Conquest

• **The proud believes he can create his own _____**

Babylon fell in one night to the Medo-Persian army.

Jeremiah 17:5, “Cursed is the man who trusts in man...”

Habakkuk pictures the very walls and rafters testifying to the sins of Babylon.

Psalms 52:7, “Here is the man who did not make God his strength..”

When I Sin Against Others I Am Sinning Against My _____

3. The Sin of Disregard for Human Life (12-14)

Babylon Was Built by Captive Labor

The Babylon Empire was built through bloody wars. Those conquered nations were exploited to build the city of Babylon. Babylon was called “the Golden City”. The hanging gardens were listed as one of the Seven Wonders of the World.

• **What man sees as glorious God sees as _____**

All of the conquest and bloodshed was ultimately for nothing. Babylon was the first and will be the last Gentile kingdom in “the Times of the Gentles”.

Babylon as an Influence for Evil Both Politically and Spiritually Will Come To an End with the _____ of Jesus Christ

• **The glory of the LORD is revealed in _____**

2 Corinthians 4:6, "For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ."

Habakkuk's vision looks forward to an "appointed time" (2:3) when Jesus Christ will rule the world from Jerusalem.

Zechariah 14:8-9, Psalm 22:27-28,

Revelation 11:15-16, "The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!"

God Will One Day _____ the World through Jesus Christ