

Recap of 8/19/18 (Hab 2:2-20):

1. Have you ever asked God why? Why is there evil? Why do the wicked prosper while God's people suffer? Why did this happen to me? Why did you heal that person but not this person? Habakkuk is a great book for us when we get into a 'why God?' mood. Charles Ryrie said Habakkuk is "A defense of God's goodness and power in view of the existence of evil." Habakkuk asks God why and is surprised by the answer. As we study this book, I hope we come to the same conclusion he did -- ultimately our why questions only have one satisfying answer. Who God is. Although we may want to know why, it is only the person of God that truly brings comfort and satisfaction. Even when everything seems to be going wrong, we should live by faith; faith in who God is, what He has done for us, and His plans for the future!
2. In chapter 2, we see God's second answer to Habakkuk. God let's Habakkuk know that the future is sure and He has a plan. The wicked will not prosper forever, they will be used for God's purposes and judged for their actions. Habakkuk is told that the righteous will live by faith (2:4).
3. The bulk of chapter two is comprised of God declaring five woes on evil doers (2:6-19). This type of poetry is sometimes referred to as a "taunt song." The five woes are: 1) woe to those who take what is not theirs(2:6-8); 2) woe to those who exalt themselves(2:9-11); 3) woe to those who are violent and murderers (2:12-14); 4) woe to those who take advantage of their neighbors (2:15-17); and 5) woe to idol worshipers (2:18-29).
4. In 2:20 we get the bottom line, "But the Lord is in His holy temple. Let all the earth be silent before Him." In other words, relax, God is in charge!