St Martins C3 – November 15, 2026
Habakkuk – Faith When Life Doesn't Make Sense
Minor Prophets

Sermon Notes:

Welcome to week four of our exploration of the Minor Prophets. Today's prophet is one of the least known role models of faith in Scripture. Yet, when we step into his shoes, we discover a way of navigating our difficult seasons.

If you have ever felt like God's ways don't make sense then today you will find a new person to emulate. Habakkuk goes to God with his doubts. Surprisingly, he is not rejected by God, but is invited to see that God is in control.

What's Happening in the World

Habakkuk prophesies more than 100 years after the exile of the northern kingdom of Israel in 722 BC. The Babylonians are rising as the major world power. They defeat the Assyrians in 612 BC and the Egyptians in 605 BC. Judah itself is exiled in 586 BC.

The book of Habakkuk is probably written in 610 BC, and in it Habakkuk laments the evil and injustice he sees around him.

Read Habakkuk 1:2-4

Habakkuk was a pessimist. He saw all the things that had gone wrong and could go wrong. If you have ever said, “If God is good why is this happening?” then you have been in the same place as Habakkuk. Our souls ache for better days. Why won’t God bring them?

Read Habakkuk 1:5-2:1

God will rid Judah of violence by using Babylon to send Judah into exile. Habakkuk is flabbergasted. He does not like the idea of an evil nation being used by God. So, he questions God again, then he waits for God’s response.

Read Habakkuk 2:1-5; 20

God encourages Habakkuk to live by faith and not to trust in himself. These words echo down the centuries as an encouragement for us to trust God in all things.

Read Habakkuk 3:1-2; 16-19

After pondering the words of God, Habakkuk chooses to trust in God and rejoice in what He will do in the world. His statement that he will trust God even if everything goes wrong is one of the grandest declarations of resilient faith in all of Scripture.

May we be more like Habakkuk, trusting God even when life doesn’t make sense. Wherever we are on the journey between questioning, complaining, waiting and rejoicing, may we sense God’s care for the situations we are going through. He cares more about our world than we ever could.

Questions for Connect Groups:

Key Point

Grow a resilient faith that is greater than your circumstances.

Questions

What stood out to you from this week's message?

What does this message tell you about God and humans?

If you were at Prophets Day in heaven who would you most want to talk to and what would you talk to them about?

How is Habakkuk a role model of faith?

When have you cried out to God and said "why" or "how long"? What would you cry out to Him about right now?

When does questioning God cross the line to slandering Him?

What does it look like to have faith in God even when life doesn't make sense?

Think through when you have been in each of these places: questioning, waiting, and trusting. How did you move forward?

How does Habakkuk's conclusion in chapter 3:17-19 help you?

How can the group support you in your difficulties?

Monday Devotion: Where is the Justice?

Habakkuk is conveniently split into five sections for us. In the first, Habakkuk complains about violence, breaking of the covenant, and injustice from leaders. An important word in Habakkuk is “see” or “watch”. What injustice do you see?

Scripture
Habakkuk 1:1-4

Observation (What stands out to you?)

Application (What will you do?)

Prayer (What do you want to say to God?)

Tuesday Devotion: Justice is Coming

God's response is for Habakkuk to *see* the justice that He will bring. It was amazing that the Babylonians (also known as Chaldeans) would arise and become the dominant power of the day. Yet, God knew and He chose to use them to bring judgment on Judah. God moves in unexpected ways.

Scripture
Habakkuk 1:5-11

Observation (What stands out to you?)

Application (What will you do?)

Prayer (What do you want to say to God?)

Wednesday Devotion: Huh, God?

Habakkuk does not understand how can God use a brutal, pagan, and immoral nation to destroy His people. He then chooses to wait on God for a response. We, too, can bring our complaints for God to answer and wait patiently for His response.

Scripture
Habakkuk 1:12-2:1

Observation (What stands out to you?)

Application (What will you do?)

Prayer (What do you want to say to God?)

Thursday Devotion: Trust Me, I Know What I'm Doing

God does not reprimand Habakkuk for questioning Him, but trust Him and live by faith. He shows Habakkuk that He will judge the Babylonians and declares five woes upon them.

Scripture
Habakkuk 2:2-20

Observation (What stands out to you?)

Application (What will you do?)

Prayer (What do you want to say to God?)

Friday Devotion: I Will Trust, I Will Rejoice

In this final movement of Habakkuk, he sings a song of praise to God. He envisions God as a divine warrior displaying His power in creation with deliverance like in the Exodus. Habakkuk's conclusion is that he will trust God, come what may. May we gain the same conviction.

Scripture
Habakkuk 3

Observation (What stands out to you?)

Application (What will you do?)

Prayer (What do you want to say to God?)