

"The Lord is in his holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before him."

Now the verses between v.1 and 14 are dealing with the Chaldeans and showing God is going to punish the Chaldeans. You don't need to worry about the Chaldeans destroying him that is greater than they are for God is going to work with them too, but now He is going to work with you.

Then the latter part from v.14 to 20 goes back to God's judgment upon the Israelites and takes up individual sins and shows the wickedness of alcoholism, the wickedness of pronography, the wickedness of injustices that were developing in that land as they are in ours.

Then the third ch. is a prayer of Habakkuk, a prayer in which he praises the Lord for His goodness and control and describes the Lord's coming in ~~gXXX~~ glory and power and then has a most marvellous ending summarizing the teaching of the whole book starting in v.17:

"Although the fig tree shall not blossom, neither shall fruit be in the vines . . . Yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will joy in the God of my salvation." The message of Habakkuk is the message of faith, the message that is quoted as the determining thing by Paul in Romans, (1:17) and in Gal.3:11 and in Heb. 10:38. It is the center of our attitudes as we endeavor to serve our Lord is to know that He is sovereign, and He is in control. He has a standard none of us can reach but He blesses those who are striving those who are reach the standard and he forgives in Jesus Christ if we put our trust in Him. Let us pray:

Our Father we thank you for Jesus Christ, our Saviour, and we thank you for Habakkuk with his enquiring mind, with his seeing of situations and desiring to find the answer. We praise you for the way you spoke to Habakkuk and gave him the words that were quoted three times in the NT as the very summary of the teaching of Christianity, as ~~XXXX~~ its very heart.

Help us to know your holy Word. Help us above all to come to know Jesus Christ who is the center of it from Genesis to Revelation, who is its primary subject and help us to know the God who controls all things in accordance with His good purpose.

Help us not to be filled with pride or lifted up when we are successful. Help us not to feel sad or humiliated when after doing our best we find we are accomplishing little. Help us to know all things are in your hands. The Lord is in His holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before Him. Amen.