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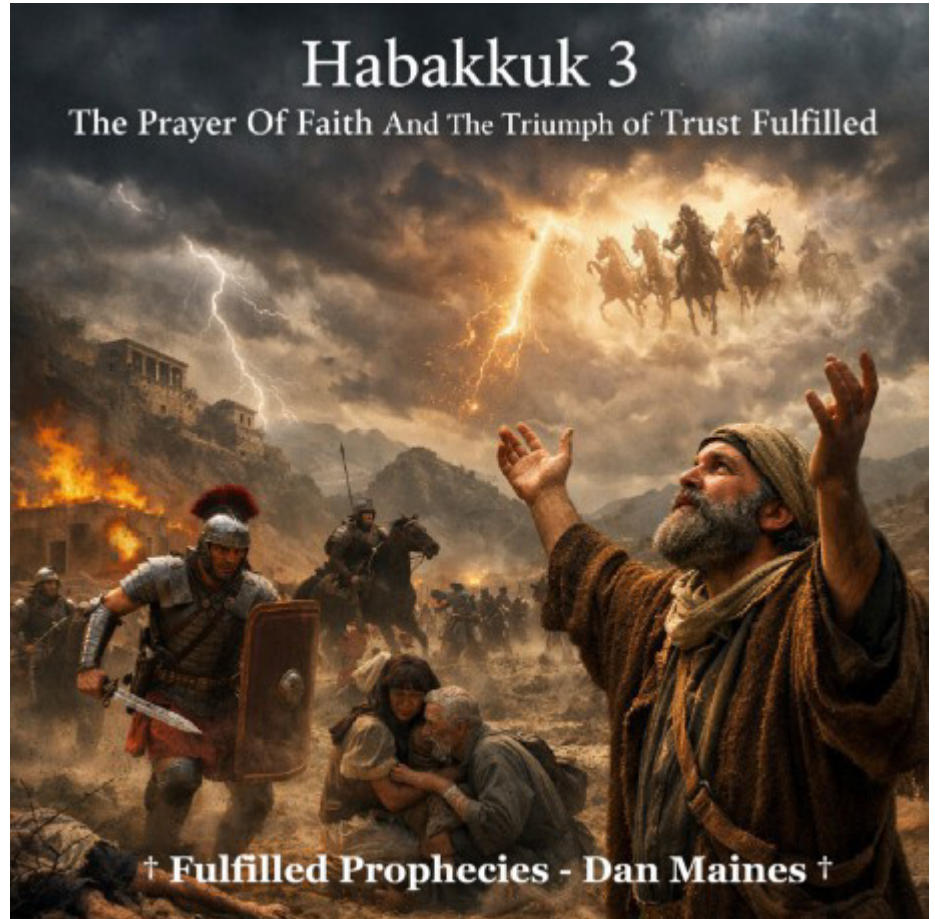
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## Habakkuk 3 The Prayer Of Faith And The Triumph Of Trust Fulfilled



By Dan Maines

## Habakkuk 3 The Prayer Of Faith And The Triumph Of Trust Fulfilled

### Introduction

† Habakkuk begins with confusion and ends with confidence, this chapter is the turning point where fear gives way to faith (Habakkuk 3:16-19)

† The prophet no longer questions God's plan, he now rests in it, even when circumstances haven't changed (Habakkuk 3:17-

18)

† From the fulfilled perspective, this chapter shows us how the righteous lived through the coming judgment that was fulfilled in their generation (Habakkuk 2:4; Matthew 24:13)

### **Habakkuk 3:1**

A prayer of Habakkuk the prophet, according to Shigionoth.

† This is not just prophecy, it's worship, Habakkuk shifts from questioning to praying (Habakkuk 3:1)

† True understanding leads to humility before God, not more arguments (Job 42:5-6)

† This shows the proper response when we see God's sovereignty, we bow, not debate (Romans 11:33-36)

### **Habakkuk 3:2**

LORD, I have heard the report about You and I fear. O LORD, revive Your work in the midst of the years, In the midst of the years make it known; In wrath remember mercy.

† Habakkuk now fears God, not the circumstances, this is the beginning of wisdom (Proverbs 9:10)

† He asks for revival and mercy in the middle of judgment, showing God always preserves a remnant (Isaiah 10:22)

† This was fulfilled in the first century, judgment came on Jerusalem, yet mercy was given to those who believed (Luke 21:20-22)

### **Habakkuk 3:3**

God comes from Teman, And the Holy One from Mount Paran.  
Selah. His splendor covers the heavens, And the earth is full of  
His praise.

† This describes God's coming in judgment language, not a  
physical descent, but covenant action (Isaiah 19:1)

† Teman and Paran point back to God's past deliverance,  
showing He acts consistently in history (Deuteronomy 33:2)

† This same language is used of Christ's coming in judgment  
against Jerusalem (Matthew 24:30)

### **Habakkuk 3:4**

His radiance is like the sunlight; He has rays flashing from His  
hand, And there is the hiding of His power.

† God's power is overwhelming yet often hidden, people don't  
recognize it until judgment falls (Isaiah 26:11)

† This reflects how Christ came in power in AD 70, though  
many didn't see it as divine judgment (Luke 19:41-44)

† The flashing rays symbolize unstoppable authority, nothing  
can resist His decree (Psalm 97:4)

### **Habakkuk 3:5**

Before Him goes pestilence, And plague comes after Him.

† Judgment is described in terms of disease and destruction,  
just like the siege of Jerusalem (Luke 21:11)

† Josephus records pestilence and suffering during the Roman  
siege, matching this imagery

† God uses natural and historical means to carry out divine judgment (Amos 3:6)

### **Habakkuk 3:6**

He stood and surveyed the earth; He looked and startled the nations. Yes, the perpetual mountains were shattered, The ancient hills collapsed. His ways are everlasting.

† Nations are shaken when God acts, this is covenantal upheaval, not literal mountains collapsing (Isaiah 13:13)

† The mountains represent kingdoms and powers being brought down (Daniel 2:35)

† This was fulfilled when the old covenant system was removed and replaced with the everlasting kingdom (Hebrews 12:26-28)

### **Habakkuk 3:7**

I saw the tents of Cushan under distress, The tent curtains of the land of Midian were trembling.

† The surrounding nations are affected by God's actions, showing His authority over all peoples (Jeremiah 25:29)

† Fear spreads when God's judgment is revealed, no one is untouched (Revelation 6:15-17)

† This reflects the fear that came upon the Roman world during the upheaval of that time

### **Habakkuk 3:8**

Did the LORD rage against the rivers, Or was Your anger against the rivers, Or was Your wrath against the sea, That You

rode on Your horses, On Your chariots of salvation?

† This is symbolic language, God is not angry at nature, but uses imagery to describe His power (Psalm 18:7-15)

† The chariots represent divine warfare, God coming to judge and deliver (2 Kings 6:17)

† This shows both judgment and salvation happening together, destruction for the wicked, deliverance for the righteous (Malachi 4:1-2)

### **Habakkuk 3:9**

Your bow was made bare, The rods of chastisement were sworn. Selah. You cleaved the earth with rivers.

† God reveals His weapons, meaning His judgment is now active and visible (Ezekiel 21:3-5)

† The rods represent discipline, covenant judgment against disobedience (Leviticus 26:28)

† This was fulfilled when judgment came upon Jerusalem for rejecting Christ (Matthew 23:37-38)

### **Habakkuk 3:10**

The mountains saw You and quaked; The downpour of waters swept by. The deep uttered forth its voice, It lifted high its hands.

† Creation imagery reflects the shaking of nations and systems (Haggai 2:6-7)

† The deep responding shows total upheaval, nothing remains untouched (Psalm 77:16-18)

† This aligns with the language Jesus used about the destruction of that generation (Matthew 24:29)

### **Habakkuk 3:11**

Sun and moon stood in their places; They went away at the light of Your arrows, At the radiance of Your gleaming spear.

† This is prophetic language, not literal cosmic events, it represents the fall of ruling powers (Isaiah 13:10)

† Sun and moon symbolize authority structures being darkened (Genesis 37:9-10)

† Jesus used this same language to describe the fall of Jerusalem (Matthew 24:29)

### **Habakkuk 3:12**

In indignation You marched through the earth; In anger You trampled the nations.

† God is portrayed as a warrior, executing judgment on nations (Isaiah 63:3)

† This trampling represents total defeat, nothing escapes His justice (Psalm 110:5-6)

† This was fulfilled in the judgment of the Jewish nation and its rejection of Christ (1 Thessalonians 2:14-16)

### **Habakkuk 3:13**

You went forth for the salvation of Your people, For the salvation of Your anointed. You struck the head of the house of the evil,

To lay him open from thigh to neck. Selah.

† Judgment and salvation happen together, God delivers His people while destroying the wicked (Exodus 14:13-14)

† The anointed points to Christ and His people, protected through the coming judgment (Luke 21:28)

† The striking of the head represents the defeat of leadership and authority opposed to God (Psalm 2:9)

### **Habakkuk 3:14**

You pierced with his own spears The head of his throngs. They stormed in to scatter us; Their exultation was like those Who devour the oppressed in secret.

† The enemy is destroyed by his own weapons, showing God's justice is fitting (Esther 7:10)

† Those who oppressed God's people are judged by the very means they used (Psalm 7:15-16)

† This reflects how Rome and apostate Israel turned on each other during the siege

### **Habakkuk 3:15**

You trampled on the sea with Your horses, On the surge of many waters.

† The sea represents chaos and nations, God has authority over all of it (Psalm 65:7)

† His control over the waters shows complete sovereignty over history (Isaiah 17:12-13)

† Nothing is outside His control, even the rise and fall of empires (Daniel 4:35)

### **Habakkuk 3:16**

I heard and my inward parts trembled, At the sound my lips quivered. Decay enters my bones, And in my place I tremble. Because I must wait quietly for the day of distress, For the people to arise who will invade us.

† Habakkuk still feels fear, but now he waits in trust, this is mature faith (Psalm 37:7)

† Waiting quietly shows submission to God's timing (Lamentations 3:26)

† This mirrors the believers who endured until the judgment of Jerusalem (Hebrews 10:36-37)

### **Habakkuk 3:17**

Though the fig tree should not blossom And there be no fruit on the vines, Though the yield of the olive should fail And the fields produce no food, Though the flock should be cut off from the fold And there be no cattle in the stalls,

† This describes total economic collapse, exactly what happened during the siege (Luke 23:29-30)

† Everything visible is gone, yet faith remains (2 Corinthians 5:7)

† This shows that true faith is not dependent on circumstances

### **Habakkuk 3:18**



Yet I will exult in the LORD, I will rejoice in the God of my salvation.

† This is the climax of faith, joy in God regardless of situation (Philippians 4:4)

† Salvation is not tied to earthly stability, but to God's covenant faithfulness (Romans 5:1-2)

† This is how the righteous lived during the end of that age, trusting in Christ

### **Habakkuk 3:19**

The Lord GOD is my strength, And He has made my feet like hinds' feet, And makes me walk on my high places. For the choir director, on my stringed instruments.

† God gives stability and strength even in chaos (Psalm 18:33)

† Walking on high places means victory and security (Deuteronomy 32:13)

† This is the position of believers after fulfillment, secure in Christ and His finished work (Ephesians 2:6)

### **Historical References**

† Josephus, Wars of the Jews, Book 5-6, records famine, pestilence, and collapse during the siege of Jerusalem, matching Habakkuk's imagery

† Tacitus, Histories 5.13, describes the destruction and fear surrounding Jerusalem's fall

† Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History 3.5, records the escape of Christians before the destruction, showing mercy in judgment

## **How It Applies To Us Today**

† We don't walk by sight, we walk by faith, just like Habakkuk, trusting God even when circumstances don't make sense (2 Corinthians 5:7)

† Judgment has already come on the old covenant system, we're not waiting for it, we're living in the fulfilled kingdom (Hebrews 12:28)

† Our joy isn't tied to what we see in the world, it's rooted in what Christ has already accomplished (Colossians 2:13-14)

† Even when life feels unstable, God is still our strength and footing, nothing can move us from Him (Romans 8:38-39)

## **Q & A Appendix**

**Q** How do we know this was fulfilled and not future

**A** Jesus tied these judgment events to His generation in Matthew 24:34, and the destruction of Jerusalem in AD 70 matches the language used

**Q** Is this talking about a literal cosmic event

**A** No, the same language is used in Isaiah 13:10 and Matthew 24:29 for the fall of nations, not literal stars falling

**Q** What does it mean that the righteous live by faith

**A** Habakkuk 2:4 shows that survival through judgment depended on trusting God, fulfilled in those who followed Christ

**Q** Why does Habakkuk rejoice even in loss

**A** Because his hope is in God, not circumstances, as seen in Habakkuk 3:18 and Philippians 4:4

**Q** How does this apply after fulfillment

**A** We're not waiting for judgment, we're living in the established kingdom, resting in what Christ has already completed,  
Hebrews 12:28

**† This is the fulfilled perspective we proclaim at Fulfilled Prophecies †**

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## Source Index

† Habakkuk 3

† Josephus, Wars of the Jews, Book 5-6; Tacitus, Histories 5.13; Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History 3.5

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