



“Take Up the Taunt”

Habakkuk 2:5-20

January 26, 2020

Questions for Application and Fellowship

MY STORY

1. Have you ever engaged in a taunt? Have you ever been taunted? In sports? In a fight? In jest? In a drama or play? Or, in something far more serious?

QUICK REVIEW

As the prophet Habakkuk stood in Jerusalem and pondered the state of his nation, Judah, he must have been dumbfounded. So much evil thrived, completely in the open. Learning God’s plan to use the wicked, cruel Babylonians of Chaldea, Habakkuk’s turmoil was only deepened and made worse. Habakkuk was at wits’ end, and he cried out to God with his struggle. God answered with truth that speaks into the believers’ struggle with evil in every age. Habakkuk 2 presents a vision of impending judgment upon the wicked to fuel and sustain the faith of God’s people.

Read Habakkuk 2:5-20

Five Taunts for Babylon:

1. A Taunt Against _____ (2:6-8)
2. A Taunt Against _____ (2:9-11)
3. A Taunt Against _____ (2:12-14)
4. A Taunt Against _____ (2:15-17)
5. A Taunt Against _____ (2:18-20)

Was any point in this weekend’s message particularly challenging, encouraging or helpful for you?

Why did God want you to hear this message now?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. Babylon was guilty of plundering others for their own gain. Why do you think people steal from others? What is your level of temptation in terms of material things? Do you worry about having enough? Do you desire more?

2. How can the temptations for selfish hoarding and evil gain be resisted by the practice of faith? How do we grow in such faith?

I Timothy 6:6-10; 17-19
Hebrews 13:5-6

3. Where have you struggled with vain initiative, or “vainglory,” or the attempt to bring honor, prestige and glory to your own name? How can such a desire for self-promotion be transformed? Read Philippians 2:1-11.

4. The Babylonians were known for their use of wine and strong drink. Habakkuk speaks to the connection between drunkenness and sexual perversion. How would you define the biblical perspective on alcohol? Which portions of Scripture come to play?

5. In His response to Habakkuk’s complaint, the Lord recognizes Babylon’s idolatry. Throughout the pages of the Bible we see various forms of idolatry addressed: the worship of self (Hab. 1:11), the worship of false deities (Hab. 2:18-20), the worship of created things (Romans 1:21-25), the worship of appetites and pleasure (Philippians 3:20). Where have you seen idolatry practiced? In which forms? Which are YOU most susceptible too?