

HABAKKUK

Trusting God when you don't understand him.

HABAKKUK'S DRIVING QUESTION

WHY DOESN'T GOD SEEM FAIR? How long, O LORD, must I call for help, but you do not listen? Or cry out to you, "Violence!" but you do not save? Why do you make me look at injustice? Why do you tolerate wrong? Habakkuk 1:2-3

• **Habakkuk means to "embrace" or to "wrestle."**

" The oracle that Habakkuk the prophet received.

Oracle = utterance, a burden.

Why do you make me look at injustice? Why do you tolerate wrong? Destruction and violence are before me; there is strife, and conflict abounds. 4 Therefore the law is paralyzed, and justice never prevails. The wicked hem in the righteous, so that justice is perverted. (3-5)

HABAKKUK'S PROBLEMS WITH GOD

- . 1) **YOU DON'T SEEM TO CARE.**
- . 2) **YOU AREN'T DOING MUCH WHEN YOU COULD.**
- . 3) **WHAT YOU ARE DOING DOESN'T SEEM FAIR.**

GOD'S RESPONSE

"Look at the nations and watch- and be utterly amazed. For I am going to do something in your days that you would not believe, even if you were told. Habakkuk 1:5

A DEEPLY COMMITTED BELIEVER • CAN EXPRESS SIMULTANEOUS QUESTIONS AND FAITH.

O LORD, are you not from everlasting? My God, my Holy One, we will not die. O LORD, you have appointed them to execute judgment; O Rock, you have ordained them to punish. Your eyes are too pure to look on evil; you cannot tolerate wrong. Why then do you tolerate the treacherous? Why are you silent while the wicked swallow up those more righteous than themselves? Habakkuk 1:12-14

Questions:

How do we handle the contradiction between fact and faith?

Habakkuk wanted God to reverse the trends, to change society and to restore law and order.

Do you feel this tension in today's society?