

YAG 6th RETREAT
Pulai Springs, JB
8-10 November 2007
Theme: “Revive me”

Session 2

6. A Study of Habakkuk
A brief Outline

- a) Concerns felt by the prophet Habakkuk
 - i) Prevalence of wickedness in Israel Habakkuk 1:1-4
 - ii) Answer of the Lord Habakkuk 1:5-11
- b) Concerns about God’s answer/solution offered
 - i) Would God’s answer be too drastic? Habakkuk 1:12-2:1
 - ii) God’s further reply Habakkuk 2:2-20
- c) Habakkuk’s long prayer as a response Habakkuk 3:1-19
- d) The subject of Revival in the book of Habakkuk

*“O LORD, I have heard Your speech and was afraid;
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 3:2*

7. Key thoughts/words/phrases

Concept of “The fear of the Lord” well applied in Habakkuk Habakkuk 3:2

- a) “Afraid”
 - i) Of God’s speech (Cf. Habakkuk 1:5-11; 2:2-20)
 - ii) Of God’s revealed plan concerning the discipline of Judah and the Babylonians
 - iii) Of the suffering that would come as a result of the Babylonians
 - iv) Evaluation of this sense of “fear”
- b) “Revive Your work in the midst of the years”
 - i) Acceptance of God’s revealed will

- ii) Plea for Revival versus total destruction
- c) “In the midst of the years make it known”
 - i) That true Revival prayed for had indeed taken place
 - ii) That God had once again returned to His people
- d) “In wrath remember mercy”
 - i) Acceptance of God’s righteous anger (Cf. Psalm 90)
 - ii) Plea for “mercy”
 - iii) Foundational theological truths
(Exodus 34:5-7; Psalm 86: 5, 13, 15)

8. Renewed Faith

a) “Though-Faith”
*“Though the fig tree may not blossom, nor fruit be on the vines;
 Though the labor of the olives may fail, and the fields yield no food;
 Though the flock may be cut off from the fold, and there be no herd in the stalls-
 Yet I will rejoice in the LORD; I will joy in the God of my salvation”*
Habakkuk 3:17-18

- i) A faith that accepts that Adversity may prevail
- ii) A faith that will always find joy in the Lord

b) Strengthened faith
*“The LORD God is my strength;
 He will make my feet like deer’s feet,
 And He will make me walk on my high hills”* Habakkuk 3:18

- i) Living in God’s strength Habakkuk 3:19
- ii) Deer’s feet Habakkuk 3:19
- iii) Walking on the high hills Habakkuk 3:19

ADDENDA – OTHER PROPHETS WHO PRAYED FOR REVIVAL

1. Hosea

*“Come, let us return to the LORD;
For He has torn, but He will heal us;
He has stricken, but He will bind us up.
After two days He will revive us;
On the third day He will raise us up,
That we may live in His sight.”* *Hosea 6:1-2*

2. Isaiah

*“For thus says the High and Lofty One
Who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy;
I dwell in the high and holy place,
With him who has a contrite and humble spirit,
To revive the spirit of the humble,
And to revive the heart of the contrite ones”* *Isaiah 57:15*

STUDIES IN HOSEA

Lessons from the history of ancient Israel

1. Things taken for granted

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| a) The mercies of the Lord | Hosea 1:6... Lo-Ruhammah |
| b) The covenant-relationship of being God’s people | Hosea 1:9... Lo-Ammi |
| c) Closeness of relationship to God | Hosea 2:2... Wife/mother |
| d) Material blessings | Hosea 2:9 |
| e) Betrothal Covenantal-Love | Hosea 2:16-23 |

2. Things that caused the downfall of Israel

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| a) Idolatry | Hosea 2:13; 3:1; 4:12 |
| b) Lack of true knowledge of God | Hosea 4:1, 6 |
| c) People-failure | Hosea 4:4 |
| d) Priest-failure | Hosea 4:4, 9 |
| e) Prophet-failure | Hosea 4:5 |

f) Stubbornness	Hosea 4:16
g) Rebellion	Hosea 4:18
h) Dishonor	Hosea 4:18
i) Short-lived faithfulness	Hosea 6:4
j) Pride	Hosea 6:5; 7:10
k) Murder	Hosea 6:8
l) Unrepentant	Hosea 7:10
m) Foolishness	Hosea 7:11
n) Lies against God	Hosea 7:13
o) Devising of evil	Hosea 7:15
p) Transgression of Covenant	Hosea 8:1
q) Forgetting God	Hosea 8:14
r) Corruption	Hosea 9:9
s) Wickedness/Evil	Hosea 9:15; 10:15
t) Trusting in self	Hosea 10:13
u) Backsliding	Hosea 11:7
v) Deceit	Hosea 11:12
w) Oppression	Hosea 12:7
x) Materialism (wealth)	Hosea 12:8
y) Bloodshed	Hosea 12:14
z) Increasing of sins	Hosea 13:2