

Route 66
The Prophecy of Habakkuk

I. Introduction

- A. Have you ever asked “Why?”

II. Proposition

- A. Driving question: “Why do the wicked or unrighteous go unpunished?”

III. Exposition

A. **Habakkuk’s First Complaint: “Why do You tolerate iniquity?” (1:1-11).**

1. Habakkuk complains about the unrighteousness in Judah (1:2-4).
2. **The Lord’s Answer: “I am at work to judge, though you do not see it” (1:5).**
 - a. The Lord is raising up the Chaldeans (Babylonians) (1:6-11).
3. Comfort: Even when we cannot see God at work, He is working!

B. **Habakkuk’s Second Complaint: “Why would you bring justice at the hands of a wicked nation?” (1:12-2:1-20).**

1. The wicked still prosper?
 - a. The Chaldeans had a reputation for wickedness (1:12-17).
2. Habakkuk will stand by and wait God’s answer (2:1).
3. **The Lord’s Answer: “The righteous shall live by his faith” (2:4).**
 - a. The righteous person will continue in integrity and faithfulness even when he doesn’t understand God’s ways.
 - 1). God will judge the Chaldeans (Babylonians) (2:5-20).
 - b. The only appropriate response is faith, trust in the goodness of God and His ways!
 - 1). Jeremiah 46:28 (ESV) Fear not, O Jacob my servant, declares the LORD, for I am with you. I will make a full end of all the nations to which I have driven you, but of you I will not make a full end. I will discipline you in just measure, and I will by no means leave you unpunished."
4. Faith is the only thing that pleases God:
 - a. Romans 1:17; Galatians 3:11; Hebrews 10:32-39
 - b. Faith is the foundation for righteousness!

C. **Habakkuk’s Prayer: “In Your wrath, remember mercy” (3:1-16).**

IV. Conclusion

A. **Habakkuk’s Response: “Regardless of my circumstances, I will rejoice in the Lord” (3:17-19).**

1. ILLUS: Cuba, immigration, Cancun

B. Application:

1. Remember who God is (3:1-16).
2. Trust in God (2:4).
 - a. Trust in God despite your circumstances.
 - 1). Past grace . . . Future grace . . . God is always faithful!
3. Rejoice in all things (3:17-19).