

## God Rules

Habakkuk Chapter 1

## God Rules

- ▶ He Is Lord Of Heaven And Earth.  
Acts 17:22-31

— "Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people" (Proverbs 14:34).  
— "It is an abomination to kings to commit wickedness: for the throne is established by righteousness" (Proverbs 16:12).

2

## God Rules

- ▶ God judged the world. Genesis 6-9
- ▶ Babel. Genesis 11:1-9
- ▶ Amorites. Genesis 15:16
- ▶ Sodom and Gomorrah. Genesis 18-19; Note 19:23-25

3

## God Rules

Israel warned: Deuteronomy 4, 8, 30; Joshua 23:16ff

- ▶ Would not listen. Isaiah 9:8ff  
*"Prepare to meet thy God." cf. Amos 4:6-13*
- ▶ Assyria to be the instrument of God's wrath.  
Isaiah 10:5ff

4

## God Rules

Israel taken captive by Assyria. 722 B.C.  
2 Kings 17:1-18

### Stubborn:

- ▶ "Hardened their neck" (verse 14)
- ▶ "Rejected statutes ... " (verse 15)
- ▶ Idolatry. (verse 17)

Hezekiah's prayer. 19:19  
Judah spared without weapons. 2 Kings 18-19;  
Hosea 1:7

5





## God Rules

Assyria to be destroyed. Isaiah 10:12-19

- ▶ In 612 BC Nabopolassar united the Babylonian army with an army of Medes and Scythians ...
- ▶ Prophecies of **Zephaniah** (Zephaniah 2:13-15) and **Nahum**, fulfilled.
- ▶ Complete destruction of Assyria warning to the Egyptians. Ezekiel 31:1ff

8

## God Rules

Judah to be destroyed by Babylon. Jeremiah 25:8-11

- ▶ In 605 BC, in the fourth year of Jehoiakim's reign, Nebuchadnezzar, King of Babylon, invaded Judah (Jeremiah 46:2), besieged Jerusalem, and carried away captives to Babylon.
- ▶ Jehoiakim destroyed the scroll. Jeremiah wrote again. Jeremiah 36:28-31
- ▶ Zedekiah appointed King of Judah. Jerusalem falls (586 BC) **Jeremiah 39:6-8**

9



Map used by permission of S. Scott Rutherford Jr., Roseville, AL

10

## God Rules

Babylon to be destroyed. Isaiah 13:1, 17-22; Jeremiah 50-51

- ▶ Grandeur of Babylon, the capital of Chaldea, "*the glory of kingdoms*" and "*the beauty of the Chaldeans' pride.*" (*Isaiah 13:19*)  
*cf. Daniel 4:30 "I have built..." cf. Isaiah 10*
  - Two walls about eleven miles long. Outer wall was 25-feet thick and the inner one was 23-feet thick. Population 500,000.
- ▶ Babylon, the "*great city*" has "*become heaps, a dwelling place for jackals*" **Jeremiah 51:37.**

11

## God Rules

- ▶ In 539 BC, Babylon was conquered by Cyrus (*cf. Isaiah 44:27ff*), leader of the Medo-Persian alliance.
- ▶ Herodotus says that the army of Cyrus diverted the Euphrates River and then marched up the dry riverbed under the city walls. Babylon fell without a fight.

12



## God Rules

► All the world should see, "***the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will, and setteth up over it the basest of men.***" Daniel 4:17; cf. Daniel 2

► All the world should see, "***The Lord is in his holy temple: let all the earth keep silence before him.***" Habakkuk 2:20

14

## God Rules

- **The King of Assyria was in the hand of God,** "... *the rod of mine anger*" against sinful nations, "*howbeit he meaneth not so, neither doth his heart think so; but it is in his heart to destroy and cut off nations not a few*" (Isaiah 10:5-7).
- **The King of Babylon was in the hand of God.** God said that after using Assyria to chastise and destroy sinful nations, "*I will punish the fruit of the stout heart of the king of Assyria, and the glory of his high looks*" (verse 12).

15

## God Rules

► **Medes and Persians in the hand of God** ... God saw the sins of Babylon and announced woes against it (Habakkuk 2:5-20). "***But the Lord is in his holy temple: let all the earth keep silence before him***" (verse 20). Habakkuk 3

► The prophet learned that we must "***wait***" for God to fulfill His purposes in His own time and way, for "***the just shall live by his faith***" (2:1-4). ***NOTE: ROMANS 1:16-17***

16

## Conclusion: God Rules

- People should see our unshakeable faith in God! cf. Hebrews 12:28
- All the world should see in us the reverence expressed by Habakkuk, "***The Lord is in his holy temple: let all the earth keep silence before him***" (2:20).

17

## Conclusion: God Rules

2 Corinthians 5:11 "Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men" KJV

Romans 11:22 "Behold then the goodness and severity of God: toward them that fell, severity; but toward thee, God's goodness, if thou continue in his goodness: otherwise thou also shalt be cut off." ASV

- God has appointed a day. Acts 17:30-31
- Let the erring Christian confess his sins, repent, and pray God's forgiveness (Acts 8:22-24).
- Let those who have never obeyed the gospel put their faith in Christ, repent, confess his name, and be immersed in water for the remission of sins. (Mark 16:15-16; Acts 2:38; Romans 10:10).

18