

God Rules

Habakkuk Chapter 1

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

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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

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



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.

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.



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

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).

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

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).

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).