

Recognizing Good News in Prophetic Judgement

A prophet's job was to warn God's people of his coming judgement, so there are some pretty dismal, gloomy passages in the Old Testament that list sin after sin after sin. When we read Habakkuk's warnings, it's easy to recognize the sins in our lives and our world today. But rather than ignore these difficult to read passages, we should turn to them first when we need hope for the state of the world today. If we do, we'll uncover seeds of hope and begin to recognize the good news inherent within the warnings.

AWARENESS Before listening reflect on what you already know or understand about topics we'll cover in the episode.

- How do you define prophetic judgment? How is it used in the Bible?
- What does it mean to place your confidence in someone or something?



LISTEN TO THE EPISODE: [Recognizing Good News in Prophetic Judgement](#)

READ [Habakkuk 2:20](#)

REFLECTION After listening, consider the following questions:

- In segment 1, host Dave Bast comments that Habakkuk's list of woes in [chapter 2 verses 6-17](#) sounds a lot like modern sins or crimes. Think about what's at the heart of each of Habakkuk's warnings and rewrite the verses with modern language and equivalent modern crimes and sins...Does this help you relate to Habakkuk's laments?
- It's good news for us that every time God issues a somber warning, he also issues an invitation to repent, renounce our sins, receive forgiveness, and return to him. But sometimes we forget that that invitation is for ALL people. Is there any person or group of people for whom you desire judgment so bad that you'd prefer they not be forgiven? Read [Jonah 3 - 4](#). Place this burden at the Lord's feet and seek his help daily to share his eyes and heart for broken, sinful people.
- After listening to the discussion in segment 2, what does it mean to you that "The Lord is in his holy temple?" How might your understanding affect your attitude and approach in worship?
- When was the last time you were silent before the Lord? After listening to segment 3, what do you think your silence communicates to God?

RELATED PASSAGES for further study

[Matthew 23](#), [Psalm 139:7-10](#), [1 Kings 19:11-13](#), [Jonah 3-4](#)

CONCLUSION

Reflect on Habakkuk's list of woes and the modern equivalents you considered; be silent before the Lord. Are you too focused on how others should be repenting and returning to God's ways? Do YOU need to repent, receive forgiveness, and renounce your sins? Pray for hearts and minds to return to the Lord; thank him for his seemingly endless patience and love for his people, but also for being a just God who will seek justice for the oppressed and abused.

“The Lord is in his holy temple; let all the earth be silent before him.” *Habakkuk 2:20*

<https://groundworkonline.com/episodes/recognizing-good-news-in-prophetic-judgement>

Printed on December 4, 2024