

HABAKKUK

══════ O LORD, HOW LONG? ══════

Text: Habakkuk 2:9-20

1. Woe to the greedy. - Habakkuk 2:9-11

Woe to him that coveteth an evil covetousness to his house: God addressed the greedy man, and told him that he was ripe for judgment. The greedy man did his best to protect himself (**set his nest on high**), yet all his best defense would come to nothing.

For the stone shall cry out of the wall: Habakkuk pictured a beautiful house built by a greedy man, and the very stones of the house would **cry out from the wall** against the man's greed.

2. Woe to the violent. - Habakkuk 2:12-14

Woe to him that buildeth a town with blood: The LORD was not only displeased with the greedy, He also pronounced a woe against the *violent*.

For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord: The violent man thinks that *his* might makes right, so he feels free to abuse others for his gain.

If your success is only possible by abusing others you will ultimately have sorrow and distress!

3. Woe to the drunk. - Habakkuk 2:15-17

Woe unto him that giveth his neighbour drink: Through the prophet Habakkuk, the LORD rebuked both the drunk and those who promoted drunkenness. Though they thought that alcohol made them feel good, God rightly says they were **filled with shame instead of glory**.

The cup of the Lord's right hand shall be turned unto thee: The drunk and those who promote drunkenness loved their own cup full of drink; now God promises a **cup** for them, a cup of judgment and just recompense for their sin.

4. Woe to the idolater. - Habakkuk 2:18-20

Woe unto him that saith to the wood, "Awake": Having dealt with the greedy man, the violent man, and the drunk then God spoke to the idolater – who treated inanimate objects as if they had life and intelligence.

There is no breath at all in the midst of it. But the Lord is in his holy temple: In contrast to lifeless idols, the LORD was alive and well **in His holy temple**.

The foolishness of the idolater will be exposed by the majesty of the living God.



GROWTH GROUP DISCUSSION

1. Explain the difference between a Warning and a Woe.
2. Have you seen tases behaviors end in sorrow or distress?
3. Are any of these a temptation for you?