

Messages from the Minor Prophets
Where Is God When I Need Him?
Why Won't He Act?

July 12, 2009, Pt. 6

Who's To Blame?

"O Lord, **how long must I call for help before you listen**, before you save us from violence? Why do you make me see such trouble? How can you endure to look on such wrongdoing ... The wicked far outnumber the righteous, so that justice has become perverted." *Habakkuk 1:2-3 GNT; 1:4 NLT*

Habakkuk's 2 Complaints:

- 1) Why does the evil in Judah _____
- 2) How can a just God _____ to punish those who are more righteous than they?

The Problem of: Evil

- If God is a loving God why does He _____?
- _____
- Personal _____

Doubt Is _____ of Faith

"**What's God going to say to my questions?** I'm braced for the worst. I'll climb to the lookout tower and scan the horizon. I'll wait to see what God says, how he'll answer my complaint." *2:1 MSG*

- Sincere Questions are always valid – people who stop searching but still ask questions _____, not seeking

God Has ...

1. A _____

"And **we know** that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." *Romans 8:28 NIV*

2. A _____

"The righteous will live by his faith" *Habakkuk 2:4 NIV*

3. A _____

"Not only so, but **we also rejoice in our sufferings**, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us." *Romans 5:3-5 NIV*

4. _____

"A day is like a thousand years to the Lord, and **a thousand years is like a day**." *2 Peter 3:8 NLT*

How Can I Respond When Things Go From Bad to Worse?

"Though the fig tree should not blossom And there be no fruit on the vines, Though the yield of the olive should fail And the fields produce no food, Though the flock should be cut off from the fold And there be no cattle in the stalls, **Yet I will exult in the Lord**, I will rejoice in the God of my salvation. The Lord God is my strength, And He has made my feet like hinds' feet, and makes me walk on my high places." *3:17-19 NASB*

1. I _____ God

2. I _____ in God

3. I _____ in God

4. I _____ His Strength