

## DAILY BIBLE READINGS - Week of October 31, 2021

### THEME: "Habakkuk's House" WATCHMEN

#### **Sunday .....Read Habakkuk 2:1-10**

*"I will climb up to my watchtower and stand at my guardpost. There will I wait to see what the Lord says and how He will answer my complaint.*" The prophet was in great distress as a result of Israel being adversely affected by worldly influences causing them to depart from God's ways. This resulted in their losing God's blessing, and things really went down hill. Habakkuk wanted to provide some kind of positive influence as a watchman to warn of impending danger. He could only do what he could do; and to his credit, he did what he could do! Whether or not those in positions of authority would heed the warnings was highly questionable. It is important in our world today for Christians in America to be the light of their world like never before because there has been a turning away from Biblical truth and God's blessing. That compromise of perfect truth has changed our culture into a secular society. All the more reason that God need watchmen to do what they can for the good of our land!

### BACKSLIDERS

#### **Monday .....Read Habakkuk 1:1-3**

*"Why dost thou show me iniquity, and cause me to behold grievance? For spoiling and violence are before me: and there are that raise up strife and contention."* A lot of the people in Israel, God's chosen nation where Jesus will eventually become the King of kings in Jerusalem, went the way of the world instead of staying loyal to God and His laws. This even permeated their religion, and many actually joined with those in heather nations in the worship of their false, manmade gods. This obviously caused contention and strife among the Jewish people, but more importantly caused a reaction from God. God asked them why they would do such a traitorous thing, and He obviously was not pleased. Why would people leave Divine truth and follow the teachings of mortal man instead? It is one thing for atheists to depart from God's truth, but quite another when professing believers go the way of man's teachings rather than the inspired Word of God! These false religions are the result of Satanic influence. Just as Satan duped Eve with false teaching causing her to violate God's perfect truth, so Satan has convinced some professing Christians to deviate from God's truth. God legitimately asks "Why?"

### FUMBLING RULERS

#### **Tuesday .....Read Zephaniah 3:2-4**

*"Her prophets are light and treacherous persons; her priests have polluted the sanctuary."* Sadly, those in positions of leadership, the prophets and priests, were caught up in the trap of substituting manmade doctrine and practices that compromised God's truth. That deviation from God's truth affected the political leadership as well in God's chosen nation when it abandoned God's laws for those completely manmade. This caused those in positions of authority to make decisions that were harmful to the citizenry and bad for the nation. Unfortunately, since our own nation has eliminated Bible reading as a daily practice in our public schools, we have seen a tragic diminishing of God's blessing, and our leaders for the most part have been cheated out of an awareness of God's truth. Our founders had the Bible in its proper place of respect and recognized it to be the Supreme authority on right and wrong. When not followed, manmade laws will call good evil and evil good, just as God warns in Isaiah 5:20: *"Woe unto them that call good evil and evil good, that put darkness for*

*light, and light for darkness."* Israel suffered a severe downfall as a result of their abandoning God's ways, telling us that it would be a good idea to restore God's law to its proper place in the American culture.!

## WRITERS

**Wednesday ..... Read Habakkuk 2:1-2**

*"And the Lord answered me and said, Write the vision and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that reads it."* God obviously has planned for things to be put into writing. This allows things to be passed on verbatim for others; those who could not be present for hearing and for future generations. Praise God for those He used to record the creation account! What a blessing and privilege for all of us that God chose prophets to put His plans for the future into writing. Those who avail themselves of Biblical truth know what to expect in the future, both for the end of the Church Age and for our eternal destination. The Bible, with all other valuable knowledge, is also a book of instructions for living. The purpose of Scriptures is summarized in II Timothy 3:16-17: *"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness; that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto good works."*

## GOD'S TIMING

**Thursday ..... Read Habakkuk 2:3-7**

*"But the vision is for an appointed time."* The one calendar in the universe that is totally accurate is God's calendar. He has determined the ages of history, and His timing for the things in our lives is perfectly arranged. We currently are in the Church Age prophesied in Daniel 9 where we read of a gap in the 490 years of Israeli history that spoke of the crucifixion of the Messiah after 483 years had elapsed after the imperial decree giving the Jewish people approval to return to their homeland to rebuild the temple in Jerusalem. God has the appearing of the Lord in the air at His appointed time to end the Church Age. In II Thessalonians 2:6-7, God mentions that a telling sign that His appearing is near is the increase of lawlessness will be intensified as the restrainer is removed. The Restrainer on lawlessness is the Holy Spirit who indwells the bodies of believers. That is the same thing as saying that true believers will be removed from planet earth, the fulfillment of I Thessalonians 4:16-17: *"For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first; then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and we shall forever be with the Lord."* God has an appointed time!

## REVIVAL

**Friday ..... Read Habakkuk 3:1-2**

*"O Lord, I have heard thy speech, and was afraid: O Lord, revive thy work in the midst of the years..."* The prophet prayed to God for a revival, a restoration of God's ways and an end to compromising with ungodly leaders. The only real solution with an increase of negativity in society is for people of faith to be recommitted to godly living and obedience to Scriptures, the law of God. If all professing Christians determined to live their lives as the light of the world as ordered by our Savior, there indeed would be a revival followed, I believe, by another great awakening and salvation of lost souls. Only God knows how close the True Church is to completion. We do know when the Church is complete, the Church Age is over to bring on the catching away of the Church to be with the Lord forever. To accomplish the completion of the Church, Christians in their neighborhoods and workplaces must be the witnesses for our Lord and bring people to Christ.

## STRENGTH

**Saturday.....Read Habakkuk 3:18-19**

*"Yet I will rejoice in the Lord; I will joy in the God of my salvation. The Lord God is my strength, and He will make my feet like hinds' feet, and He will make me to walk upon high places."* That revival will occur when Christians truly live their lives in the strength of the Lord in the power of the Holy Spirit. That means a real priority on worship both private and corporate with, hopefully, the inclusion of young people. It means a real emphasis on prayer to implore the power of God to counteract the darkness of the world. It is vital for believers in our day to make the claim made by the prophet: *"The Lord is our strength."* Obedience to His Word and His Spirit is our power!