### Habakkuk

## Chapter 1

1These are the things that Prophet HabakKuk saw:   
  
 2‘How long, O Lord, must I cry out  
 As You don’t listen [to me]?  
 How long should I yell to You over wrong  
 As You don’t bring us salvation?  
  
 3‘Why have You shown toil and trouble to me,  
 As you look upon misery and irreverence?  
 Right opposite me, there’s judging going on…  
 But it’s the judge that carries away!  
  
 4‘Because of this, the Law has been shaken,  
 And in the end, there’s no justice;  
 For the godless are tyrannizing the righteous,  
 And the justice they receive is perverted!’  
  
5[Then the Lord replied]:  
  
 ‘Look, O you who’s speaking such words…  
 Gaze and wonder at wonders,  
 And thereafter, just pass away!  
 For I’ll do a work in your day,  
 Which you won’t believe and none can describe!  
  
 6‘{Look!} I’ll awaken the ‘{Look!} I’ll awaken the <span class="placename">Chaldean‘{Look!} I’ll awaken the <span class="placename">Chaldean</span> people,  
 And they’ll travel across the breadth of the earth  
 To inherit tents not their own.  
  
 7‘[Their king] is known to be fearsome,  
 And he [creates] his own kind of justice,  
 For his only concern is himself.  
  
 8‘His horses leap higher than leopards,  
 And [their teeth] are like those of And [their teeth] are like those of <span class="placename">ArabianAnd [their teeth] are like those of <span class="placename">Arabian</span> wolves.  
  
 ‘His horsemen will make great advances…  
 They’ll spread [their wings] out like eagles  
 That are eager for something to eat.  
  
 9‘Then, upon those who don’t show him respect,  
 He will bring a consumption…  
 It’ll come upon all who oppose him,  
 And he’ll gather captives like sand.  
  
 10‘Then among all their kings, he will revel…  
 Their sovereignty will be things he plays with,  
 And he will mock every fortress…  
 He’ll build siege mounds around them and win!  
  
 11‘But thereafter, his spirit will change;  
 For, he will repent and then say,  
 This power has come from my God!’  
  
12[And Habakkuk replied:]  
  
 ‘O Jehovah, my God and most Holy One;  
 You’re from the beginning!  
 But, although there’s no reason for us to die,  
 You’ve ordered up justice…  
 For discipline and correction, You’ve shaped us.  
  
 13‘If Your eyes are too pure to look at the bad,  
 And You’ll not view any evil;  
 Why do You endure those who hate You?  
  
 ‘And why do You remain silent and watch  
 As the impious are consuming the righteous?  
 14Will You let us be like the fish in the sea  
 Or like things that crawl [on the ground]  
 Where no one is taking the lead?  
  
 15‘You’ve let [Babylon’s king] catch destruction…  
 Yes, he pulled it up with a hook  
 And lifted it up with his net…  
 Then he brought it all in with his dragnet,  
 And this is why he’s so joyful.  
  
 16‘So to his dragnet, he’ll offer sacrifices,  
 And to it, he will also burn incense.  
 For by it, he’s fattened his portion,  
 And provided himself the choicest of food.  
 17So he’ll keep on casting his net  
 To destroy many nations, not spare them!’