

When God Chooses the Worse Option Wk. 1
Ancient Voices for a Fractured Age Series
TEXT: Habakkuk 1:1-13 (ESV)

Big Idea: Faith is trusting God's character when God's methods and strategy make no sense.

I. HABAKKUK QUESTIONS GOD'S DELAY

"The oracle [or the "burden"] that **Habakkuk** the prophet saw. O LORD, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not hear? Or cry to you 'Violence!' and you will not save? Why do you make me see iniquity, and why do you idly look at wrong? Destruction and violence are before me; strife and contention arise. So the law is paralyzed, and justice never goes forth. For the wicked surround the righteous; so justice goes forth perverted." **Habakkuk 1:1-4**

Personal Application: Have I allowed my expectations of God's timing to become a greater focus than my understanding of God's character?

II. GOD REVEALS A PLAN HABAKKUK NEVER EXPECTED

"Look among the nations, and see; wonder and be astounded. For I am doing a work in your days that you would not believe if told. For behold, I am raising up the Chaldeans [Babylonians], that bitter and hasty nation, who march through the breadth of the earth, to seize dwellings not their own..." **Habakkuk 1:5-11**

Personal Application: Am I willing to trust God when His answer looks nothing like the outcome I had hoped for?

III. HABAKKUK MUST DECIDE WHAT HE BELIEVES ABOUT GOD

"Are you not from everlasting, O LORD my God, my Holy One? We shall not die. O LORD, you have ordained them as a judgment, and you, O Rock, have established them for reproof. You who are of purer eyes than to see evil and cannot look at wrong, why do you idly look at traitors and remain silent when the wicked swallows up the man more righteous than he?" **Habakkuk 1:12-13**

Personal Application: When I can't understand God's ways, will I allow His character to speak louder than my confusion?