

HABAKKUK 2:12–20

“Woe to him who builds a town with blood

and founds a city on iniquity!

13 Behold, is it not from the Lord of hosts

that peoples labor merely for fire,
and nations weary themselves for nothing?

14 For the earth will be filled

with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord
as the waters cover the sea.

15 “Woe to him who makes his neighbors drink—

you pour out your wrath and make them drunk,
in order to gaze at their nakedness!

16 You will have your fill of shame instead of glory.

Drink, yourself, and show your uncircumcision!

The cup in the Lord’s right hand

will come around to you,
and utter shame will come upon your glory!

17 The violence done to Lebanon will overwhelm you,

as will the destruction of the beasts that terrified them,
for the blood of man and violence to the earth,
to cities and all who dwell in them.

18 “What profit is an idol

when its maker has shaped it,
a metal image, a teacher of lies?

For its maker trusts in his own creation
when he makes speechless idols!

19 Woe to him who says to a wooden thing, Awake;

to a silent stone, Arise!

Can this teach?

Behold, it is overlaid with gold and silver,

and there is no breath at all in it.

20 But the Lord is in his holy temple;

let all the earth keep silence before him.”

SERMON REFLECTIONS

1. Do you ever doubt that God will respond to the injustices happening in the world?

How has this passage encouraged you to trust God in the midst of those doubts?

2. As you witness injustices by those who hold great power, what does it mean to you that God will one day bring an end to their glory?

3. What are some examples of our culture turning the created order on its head? Do you find yourself struggling to live contrary to the ways the culture beckons you to live?

4. Read Habakkuk 2:19-20. What is the most significant difference between Yahweh and idols?

5. Do you ever find yourself using “created things” to give you what only Yahweh can provide? What kind of impact has this passage had on how you relate to or use these things that can so easily become idols?