

Grace Point: A Weekly Sermon Discussion

An Introduction to Habakkuk

Ice Breaker: If you had been a prophet which one would you have wanted to be/not be?

Over the years my understanding of the minor prophets has been misinformed. They are minor and not major after all. This has significantly influenced my understanding and acceptance of them. Add to that the abnormal names, ancient places, and unfamiliar word pictures - and you've got a temptation to skip over these records of God's message to His people.

DISCUSS: What has been your impression of the prophets in the OT?

The message of the prophets can be confusing and challenging for us since many of us don't have a good handle on the events of their times. Understanding what was happening in their time is extremely helpful for our understanding of their message.

DISCUSS: Where does the message of the prophets (and then Habakkuk specifically) fit in the message of the Bible? How does it relate specifically to the covenants with Israel?

DISCUSS: "Why is it important to teach the historical context of the OT in the church? How can leaders best present this material?" (Questions used from Eric Tully's book *Reading the Prophets as Christian Scripture*)

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DISCUSS: What pitfalls often distract us from the message of the prophets? How do we distinguish between the promises made specifically to Israel and the message to us today? How does the message of the prophets (and Habakkuk specifically) point us to Christ?

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