

# Five Woes! And Two Wows! A Study of the Book of Habakkuk

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**Key Truth:** All the world will be Awestruck by God's Glory.

In these verses, which conclude God's response to Habakkuk's second complaint, the prophet sees five "Woes" decreed upon the empire of Babylon. The text concerns Babylon, but God also leaves the descriptions sufficiently general so that the indictments could also apply to others, even the Israelites themselves! Additionally, Habakkuk sees what we might call, two "Wows!" (vv. 14 & 20) in which God speaks of his glory and awe-inspiring presence, ending all complaints from Habakkuk and settling, once and for all, God's sovereign authority to judge and save.

## DISCUSS

Read **Habakkuk 2:5-20** and discuss with the group a statement or concept that stood out to you or impacted you in the sermon on "**Five Woes! And Two Wows!**"

## DIG IN

### 1. Five Woes.

Explain the significance of the word "Woe!" (see also Isaiah 6:1-5; Matthew 23:13-29). What is God declaring through Habakkuk?

What "Woes" do you think God would declare on the world today?  
What about the church?

According to verses 6-13, what is God condemning in the Babylonians in the first three "Woes!"?

How might these first three "Woes!" be related?

In what ways would the people of Judah also be guilty of such things?

Explain the condemnation according to the fourth "Woe!" (vv. 15-17). How might that be evident in 21st-century America?

In what ways do we tend to downplay the sin of idolatry (fifth "Woe!")?

### 2. Two Wows. (Habakkuk 2:14 & 20)

**Read v. 20:** What is God telling Habakkuk here? Why?

**Read v. 14:** What is God's vision for eternity here? How does Jesus' name play a role in the whole earth being 'filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD'?

Do these verses make you say, "Wow!"? Why or why not?

## DO

In what ways will you personally put what you have learned through this sermon into practice this week?