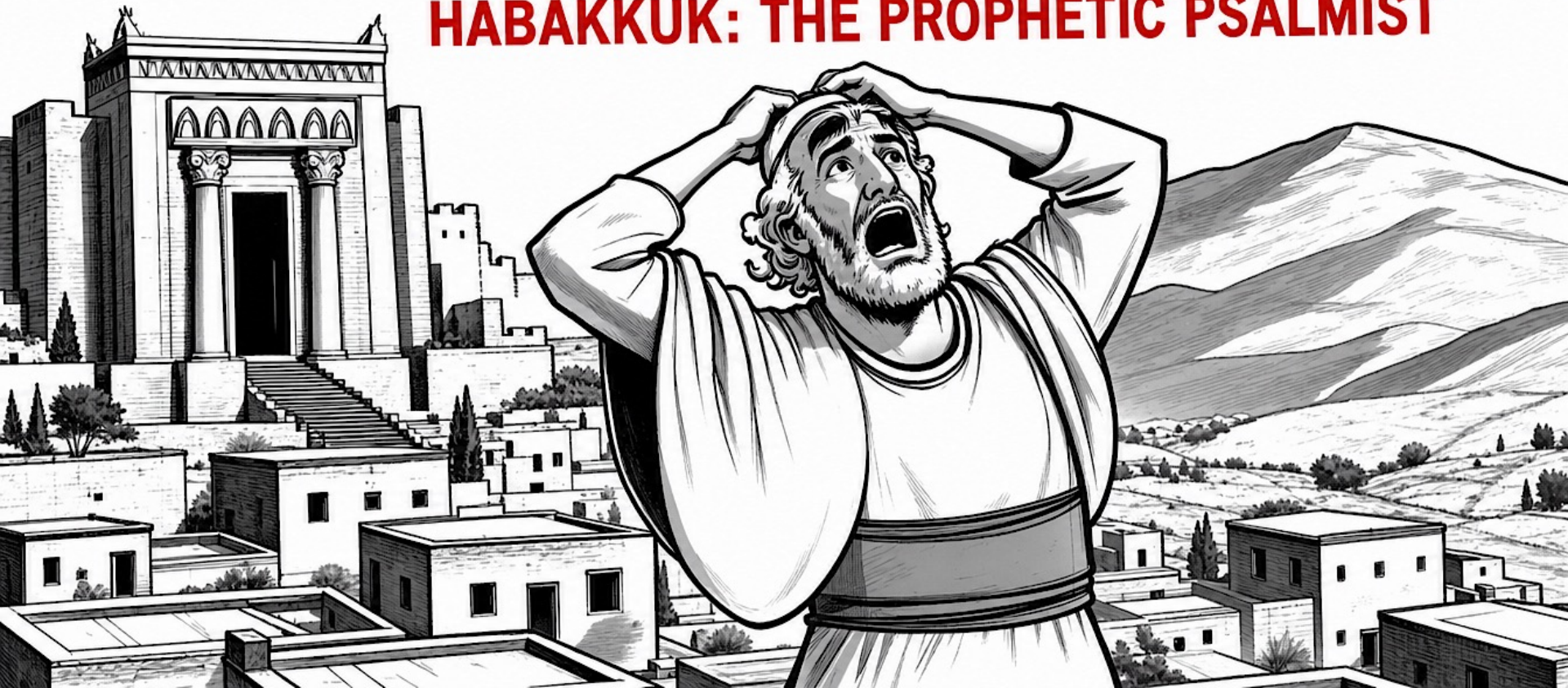


HABAKKUK: THE PROPHETIC PSALMIST



- Habakkuk the final Minor Prophet before Judah's exile
- All we know about the Prophet his name
- Habakkuk 3:19 "For the leader... with instruments..."
- Many legends about Habakkuk, none are reliable
- He probably prophesied from 610 to 606 B.C.

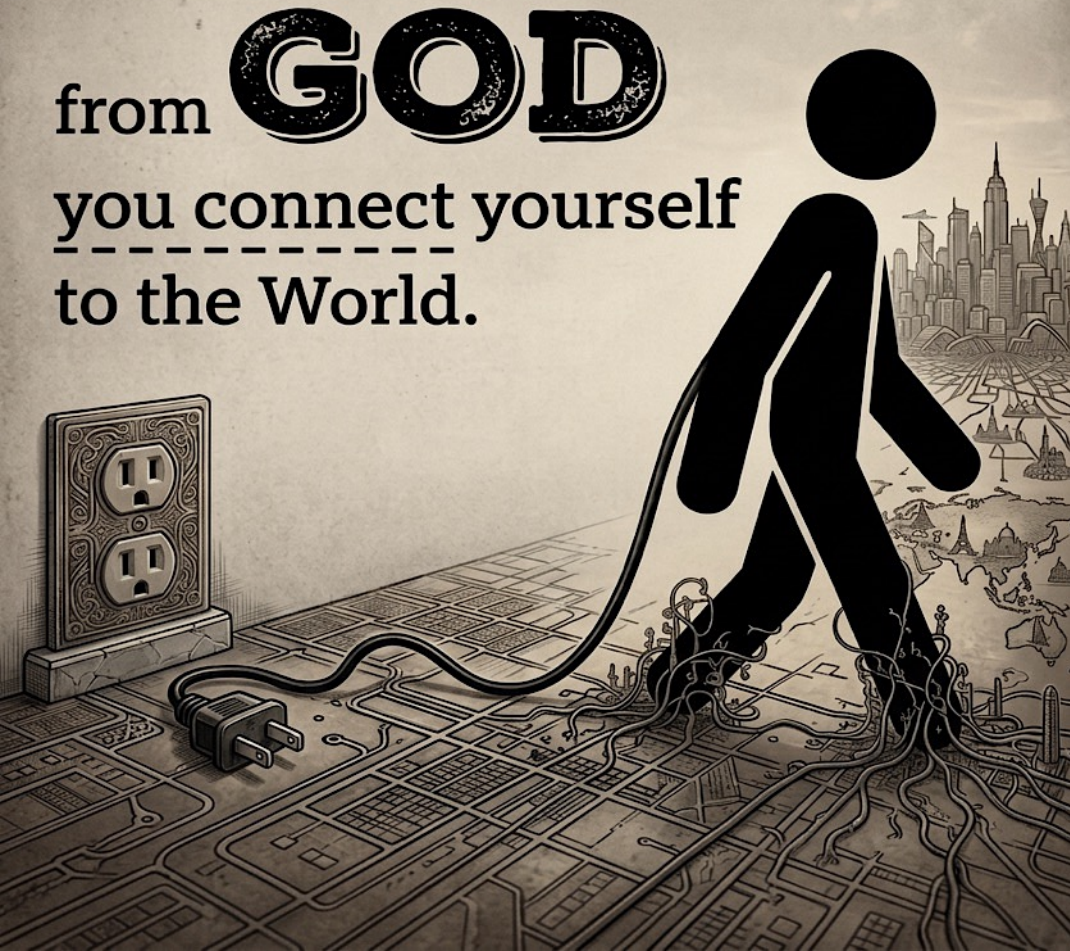
Faith & Confusion



- After a long string of bad kings, Judah was in decline
- Immorality reigned; the keepers of the faith had become liars, idolaters, and greedy for money
- Psalm 13 David: “How long, Yehoveh?”
- Habakkuk was baring his soul to God, as like David
- Is our silence the right thing to do when we’re not happy with God?

EXPERIENCE VS. THEORY

If you **DISCONNECT** yourself
from **GOD**
you connect yourself
to the World.



- Habakkuk determined to keep on praying
- Every prophet prophesied within his own circumstances
- Franz Delitzsch
- Because of the earlier prophets, Habakkuk knew God was not only God of Israel but also of the world
- Immorality, wickedness, corruption know no geographical boundaries



EXPERIENCING COMES WITH RISKS

God

- Habakkuk 3:16 God's response isn't much comfort
- God reveals that His people are going to suffer right along with the world
- Trusting God comes with a cost, brings obligations
- Habakkuk encounters the God who is not dormant or passive
- It is easy to say "God's will be done". But, it can be much harder to endure that will

This Present **EVIL WORLD**

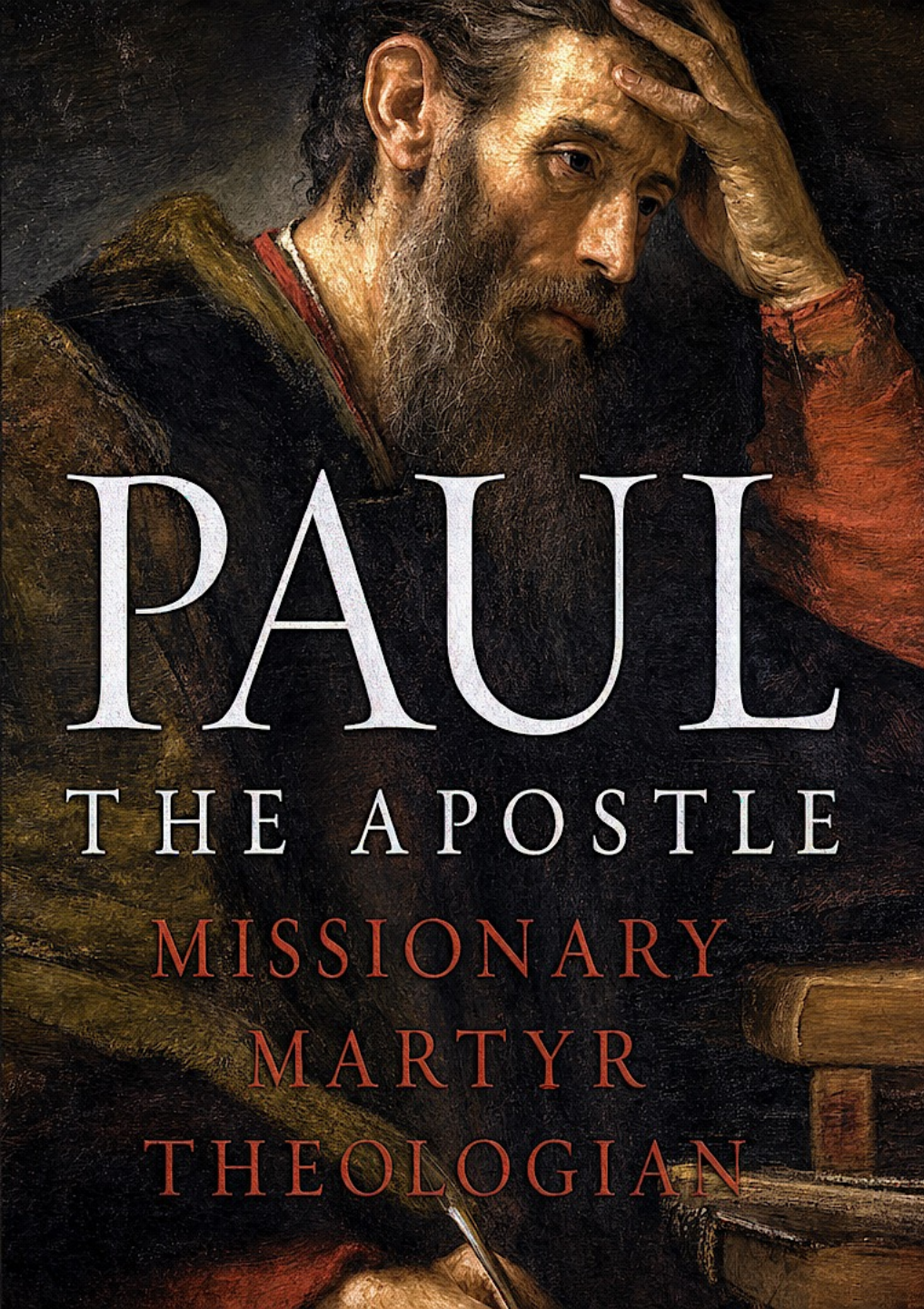
— HABAKKUK CHAPTER 1 —

- Dark forces do have great power and can cancel out our hopes during these current lives
- Habakkuk arranged in 2 parts: 1) Chapters 1 & 2, a contentious conversation, and 2) Chapter 3, Habakkuk begs God for fulfillment of His promised judgment
- Chapter 1:1 The superscription
- **Massa** usually translated as prophecy, oracle, or burden

A PROPHET'S VISION

- Moses heard audibly from God
- Habakkuk and other prophets received “visions”
- 1Kings 22:19
- Isaiah 6:1 – 4
- Job, Enoch and Psalms describe it the same way
- Habakkuk 1:2
- Habakkuk cries out to God, but there is no answer





PAUL

THE APOSTLE

MISSIONARY

MARTYR

THEOLOGIAN

- Theology comes through teachers
- Prophets were not teachers or theologians
- Prophets brought the message; theologians interpreted it
- Habakkuk 1:3
- The beautiful ideal of Israel has been lost
- Habakkuk has questions for God:
1) How long? 2) Why?
- Habakkuk knew God could do something, but He had not



WHEN GOD IS SILENT

HABAKKUK 1:1-4

- We live in the same kind of world, today, that Habakkuk did
- What had been immoral and shameful a few decades ago is now accepted and glorified
- All that kept Habakkuk together was his faith in God
- The best answer is: “Be still and know that I am God”

THE TORAH

FOR I GIVE YOU GOOD DOCTRINE;
DO NOT FORSAKE MY TORAH.

- PROVERBS 4:2

- Habakkuk 1:4 When the Torah is not followed
- Nothing is more validating to Hebrew Roots and Messianic; nothing is more damning to the Church
- Franz Delitzsch: "Torah is the revealed Law in all its substance, which was meant to be the soul, the heart of political, religious, and domestic life"
- Constantinian Church leadership is doing exactly what Israel's religious leadership did

*“My God, My God,
Why Have You Forsaken Me?”*

Matthew 27:46



- If the Torah is gone, so is righteous justice
- Habakkuk's complaint? Why is God doing nothing about it.
- Habakkuk 1:5
- The entire community is supposed to pay attention
- Habakkuk lays the blame at God's door
- Many Bible characters felt abandoned...
Moses, Jeremiah, Isaiah, Job and others
- He couldn't see that the injustice IS God's punishment!