



GOD and the NATIONS

- Habakkuk 2:5 – 6
- Vs. 3, God describes the nation that captures the weaker nations as arrogant, proud, treacherous, never-satiated
- A nation that behaves this way is anti-God
- God is requiring no more nor less from the nations than He does from Israel
- Babylon represents the offending nation in this 1st fulfillment of the prophecy

BABYLON:

the representative

BAD GUYS



- End Times anti-Christ comes from the Babylon system
- Habakkuk 2:12
- Micah 3:9 – 10
- Israel had, has, no special merit
- God has chosen them, and for that reason we behave towards them in love and support
- Vs. 13 The subjugated nations work for the tyrant's dreams will come to nothing and burn someday

THE NATIONS IN SUBMISSION TO GOD AND HIS WILL

ISAIAH 11:5 - 9

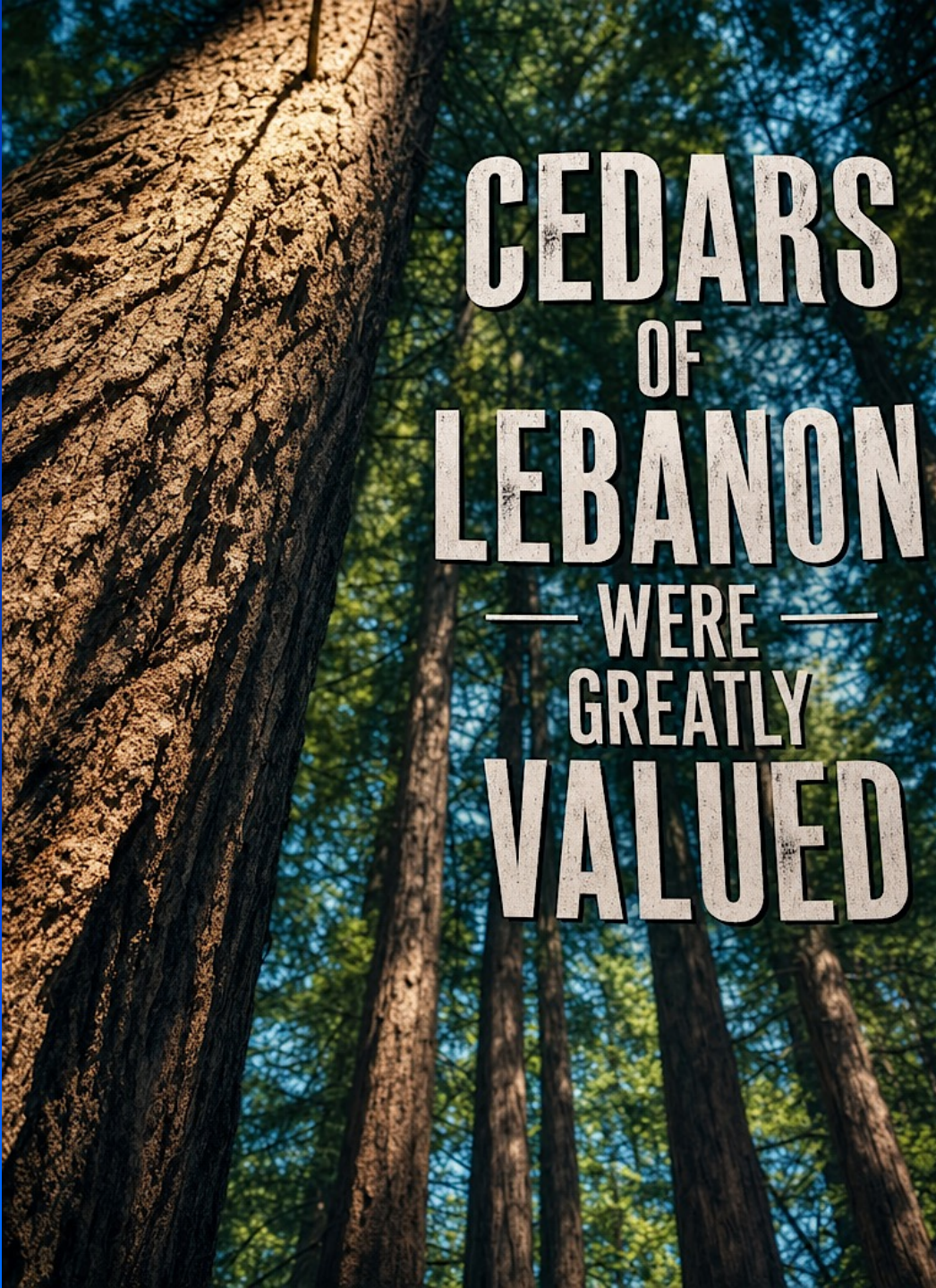
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- Habakkuk 2:14 “the glory of the Lord” appears in the Bible in conjunction with a theophany of God
 - “The Glory” becomes a proper noun, a manifestation of God
 - The waters over the earth represent universality
 - Habakkuk 2:15 The fourth woe oracle

THE 4TH WOE:

Hab. 2:15 - 17

- Leaders of empires tend to conquer nations and strip them of everything valuable
- Drink, cup, staggering, naked form a picture
- Means to stagger, be irrational, unstable, make bad decisions, be shamed
- Shame = social status
- Shame was mostly about individuals, not nations





CEDARS OF LEBANON — WERE — GREATLY VALUED

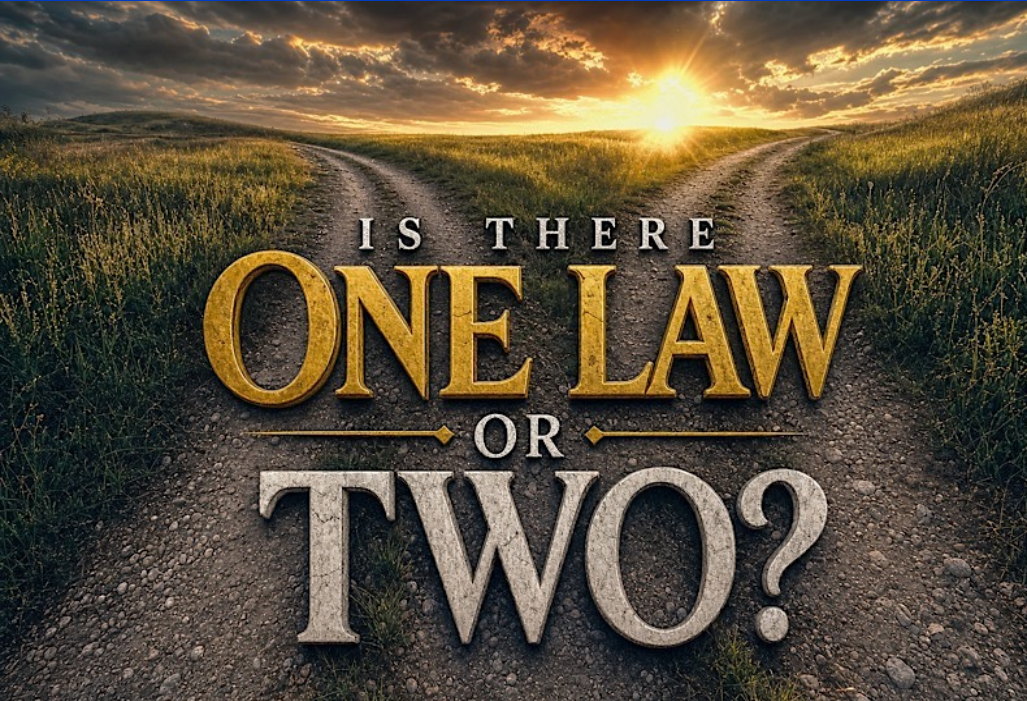
- Chaldean's abuses tied back to the behavior of the Judeans in Habakkuk 1: 2 – 4
- Vs. 16 is a poetic couplet with vs. 15, and is about the reversal of what Babylon did coming back upon them
- Vs. 17 Likely about Babylon devastating Lebanon's forests
- Isaiah 14:3 - 8

THE LAND, THE CITY, THE PEOPLE **ALWAYS** REFERS TO ISRAEL

Hab. 2:17



- Last half of vs. 17 as we find it in our Bibles written with great liberties to get something intelligible
- Nearly certainly a word was dropped or misspelling happened by a copier
- Probably meant to once again connect what the tyrant nation did with the violence to Lebanon, and the Judean's bloodshed in Jerusalem and God's silence and inaction about it



- Walter Kaiser, Jr.
“God requires justice, righteousness, holiness of all nations...”
- The Bible never proposes multiple legitimate systems of morality and ethics!
- Hab. 2:18 – 20
- Vs. 20 is simply a conclusion, a brief prayer, not part of the woe

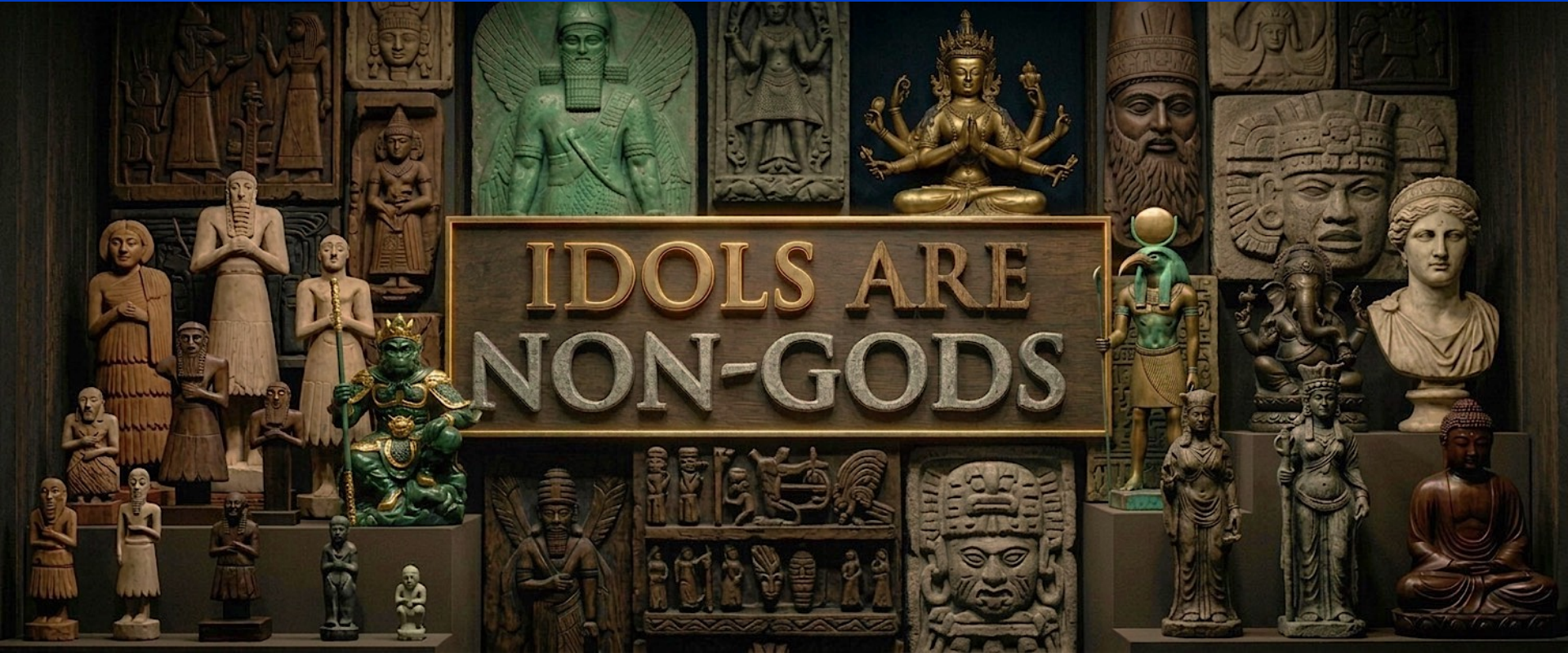
WOE TO THE GOD-MAKERS

WHY PEOPLE THINK THEY CAN GET AWAY WITH ANYTHING

~ HABAKKUK 2:18-20 ~



- Habakkuk not directing this vs. 18 “question” to the pagan nations, but rather to the faithful
- Israel’s biggest historical stumbling block? Idolatry!
- The new virtue of the 21st century: Tolerance
- God holds the nations just as responsible for their idolatry as He does Israel
- “Ignorance of the Law is no excuse”



- Prophets were not popular because they were not tolerant, and were brutally frank
- Jews of Habakkuk's era (and before and after) often had idols, or tolerated those who did
- What we admire and strive for will often lead to what we become
- A favorite "good luck charm" is an idol

WHEN SILENCE IS THE BEST RESPONSE



- Trust in idols was widespread
- Jeremiah 2:21 – 28
- Hab. 2:20 a prayer
- This concludes the dialogue between Habakkuk and God
- Job 40:4
“I am too ashamed. I have nothing to say. I lay my hand over my mouth”.
- God is watching and making note of every sin in everyone