



"We proclaim Him, warning every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, so that we may present every man mature in Christ."

Col 1:28

"Shame, Stones, and Silence!"

Habakkuk 2:15-20

July 12, 2026

Hab 2:15-20

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16 "You will be filled with disgrace rather than honor. Now you yourself drink and expose your own nakedness. The cup in the Lord's right hand will come around to you, And utter disgrace will come upon your glory.

17 "For the violence done to Lebanon will overwhelm you, And the devastation of its beasts by which you terrified them, Because of human bloodshed and violence done to the land, To the town and all its inhabitants.

18 "What profit is the idol when its maker has carved it, Or an image, a teacher of falsehood? For its maker trusts in his own handiwork When he fashions speechless idols.

19 "Woe to him who says to a piece of wood, 'Awake!' To a mute stone, 'Arise!' And that is your teacher? Behold, it is overlaid with gold and silver, And there is no breath at all inside it.

20 "But the Lord is in His holy temple. Let all the earth be silent before Him."

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I. Shame (15-17)

- This is the fourth pronouncement of judgment upon the Chaldeans.
- Though they are intelligent, well educated, and wealthy, they are wicked and evil.
- **Note:** What we see externally about someone is not important. It is what is in their heart.
- Mankind is totally depraved. Meaning, sin resides in every crevice of our lives.
- Rom 3 . . .

Rom 3:10-18

10 as it is written,

"THERE IS **NONE** RIGHTEOUS, NOT EVEN ONE;

11 THERE IS **NONE** WHO UNDERSTANDS, THERE IS **NONE** WHO SEEKS FOR GOD;

12 **ALL** HAVE TURNED ASIDE, TOGETHER THEY HAVE BECOME USELESS; THERE IS **NONE** WHO DOES GOOD, THERE IS NOT EVEN ONE."

13 "THEIR **THROAT** IS AN OPEN GRAVE, WITH THEIR **TONGUES** THEY KEEP DECEIVING, ""THE POISON OF ASPS IS UNDER THEIR **LIPS**";

14 "WHOSE **MOUTH** IS FULL OF CURSING AND BITTERNESS";

15 "THEIR **FEET** ARE SWIFT TO SHED BLOOD,

16 **DESTRUCTION** AND MISERY ARE IN THEIR PATHS,

17 AND THE **PATH** OF PEACE THEY HAVE **NOT KNOWN**."

18 "THERE IS **NO** FEAR OF GOD BEFORE THEIR EYES."

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I. Shame (15-17)

- God uses the example, to describe the Chaldeans, of someone getting someone drunk to take advantage of them.
- They "mix the drink", get them drunk, and then take advantage of them.
- In our society it is called "drink spiking" or "date rape drugs."
- The Chaldeans would cause their neighboring cities, lands, nations, and peoples to stagger like drunkards, conqueror or "rape" them, and then gloat over their "nakedness and shame."
- God is saying to Habakkuk, "Trust me, I know exactly what they are doing."

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Rev 19:11-16

11 And I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse, and He who sat on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and wages war.

12 His eyes are a flame of fire, and on His head are many diadems; and He has a name written on Him which no one knows except Himself.

13 He is clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God.

14 And the armies which are in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, were following Him on white horses.

15 From His mouth comes a sharp sword, so that with it He may strike down the nations, and He will rule them with a rod of iron; and He treads the wine press of the fierce wrath of God, the Almighty.

16 And on His robe and on His thigh He has a name written, "KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS."

17 "For the violence done to Lebanon will overwhelm you, And the devastation of its beasts by which you terrified them, Because of human bloodshed and violence done to the land, To the town and all its inhabitants.

- What the Chaldeans did to Lebanon, will come back and with violence be done to them.

'Lebanon'

Isa 14:5

5 "Even the cypress trees rejoice over you, and the cedars of Lebanon, saying,

'Since you were laid low, no tree cutter comes up against us.'

"beasts" – animals that are terrified and exterminated when the forest was cut down.

- Terror, bloodshed, and violence will flood the Babylonian empire to its ultimate destruction as they had done to other lands, towns, and people.

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- The Chaldeans were proud of their conquests but God says they are a disgrace.
- God will make sure that they "get a taste of their own medicine."
- They will be the victims of being made drunk and their shame exposed.
- The Lord's cup of wrath will eventually be drunk by the Chaldeans.
- In their day of glory, disgrace will overtake the day.
- When the Medes and Persians descend on Babylon (Chaldeans), Babylon will be reduced to nothing.
- God continues to use nations to accomplish his purposes.
- History is strewn with the rise and fall of nations who once were invincible empires but who under their own weight of their own corruption, collapsed.

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II. Stone (18,19)

- Not only will the Chaldeans be judged for their exploitation and abuse of other nations, but for their idolatry.
- There is no profit in worshipping idols. Totally worthless.

• **Why? 6 reasons:**

1. Idols are a product of human imagination. (18a)
2. Idols teach us a lie. (18b)
3. Idols rise no higher than the human that created them. (18c)
4. Idols don't communicate. (18d)

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- Judgment is pronounced on those who worship idols.

5. Idols expose the insanity of giving a command to a dead object – wood or stone. And that they are a source of knowledge (able to teach us) about life.

Really? (19a)

6. Idols are sealed up. Dead. Nothing is breathing, Nothing is alive. Nothing answers. Can't protect. Can't save anyone. Can't tell anyone what to do.

(19b) **"Behold . . ."** – pay attention, wake up!

Idolatry is a joke, and you are a fool for believing in it.

Isa 41:24

24 Behold, you (idols) are of no account, And your work amounts to nothing;

He who chooses you is an abomination.

Isa 44:9

9 Those who fashion a graven image are all of them futile, and their precious things are of no profit;

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Rom 1:21-32

21 For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks, but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened.

22 Professing to be wise, they became fools,

23 and exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible man and of birds and four-footed animals and crawling creatures.

25 For they exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.

28 And just as they did not see fit to acknowledge God any longer,, to do those things which are not proper, God gave them over to a depraved mind

29 being filled with all unrighteousness, wickedness, greed, evil; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, malice; they are gossips,

30 slanderers, haters of God, insolent, arrogant, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents,

31 without understanding, untrustworthy, unloving, unmerciful;

32 and although they know the ordinance of God, that those who practice such things are worthy of death, they not only do the same, but also give hearty approval to those who practice them.

1 Kings 18:27-28

27 It came about at noon, that Elijah mocked them and said, "Call out with a loud voice, for he is a god; either he is occupied or gone aside, or is on a journey, or perhaps he is asleep and needs to be awakened."

Jer 2:26-28

And their priests and their prophets,

27 Who say to a tree, 'You are my father,'

And to a stone, 'You gave me birth.'

For they have turned their back to Me,

And not their face;

But in the time of their trouble they will say,

'Arise and save us.'

28 "But where are your gods

Which you made for yourself?

Let them arise, if they can save you

In the time of your trouble;

2 ways idolatry is expressed:

1. **Externally** – physical idols (traditional idols) – statues, shrines, totems, objects, anything created out of a material substance, or virtually anything created living or dead.
2. **Internally** – Idols of the heart – money, power, sex, self, career, romance, athletics, family, children, politics, profit, Christmas, music, peer approval, art, comfort, etc.

“Anything can be an idol. And everything has been an idol.”

- Tim Keller

20 “But the Lord is in His holy temple. Let all the earth be silent before Him.”

- God draws a contrast.
- 3 reasons why we worship God:
 1. He is alive.
 2. He is holy.
 3. He is God over all of the earth.

Our response:

- Be silent. **הָחָה** (haw-saw) - to hush, hold your tongue, keep silent.

Ps 46:10

10 Be still, and know that I am God;

Ps 62:5

5 My soul, wait in silence for God only,

For my hope is from Him.

Ecc1 5:1,2

1 Guard your steps as you go to the house of God and draw near to listen rather than to offer the sacrifice of fools; for they do not know they are doing evil.

2 Do not be hasty in word or impulsive in thought to bring up a matter in the presence of God. For God is in heaven and you are on the earth; therefore let your words be few.

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Why is it so difficult to “be still?”

1. We like to talk.

“Sometimes we should just shut up and be quiet.”

- Rich Cathers

2. We allow the constant noise of the world to keep our thoughts occupied.
3. Our lives are filled with activity.

What should you do when you are “still?”

1. Calm your mind.
2. Let go of distractions.
3. Think about who God is.
4. Rest in His promises.

Application

1. The power and strength of a nation can result in the abuse of that power.
2. No abusive nation will escape the wrath of God.
3. Idolatry is spiritual insanity.
4. There are times when God desires us to worship Him in our silence.