

The Peril of Pride **Lecture 6**

Habakkuk 2:4-8

INTRODUCTION:

The Prophet Habakkuk was trembling for his country—the nation of Judah—but he thought that God was unjust. God was using the wicked nation of Babylon to chasten Judah, but who was going to judge Babylon?

God declared Babylon's judgment in a series of five woes given in Habakkuk 2—five woes that denounced the sins of that nation.

- 1- In verses 6-8 God denounced their _____,
- 2- In verses 9-11 their _____,
- 3- In verses 12-14 their exploitation of _____.
- 4- In verses 15-17 He pronounced woe upon those who promote strong drink and _____.
- 5- In verses 18-20, God denounced those who were involved in _____.

But the root or origin of these five horrible sins is given in Habakkuk 2:4,5—it is the sin of _____. (Num.32:23).

Babylon eventually was judged, and her own sins brought her _____.

Nations today commit the same sins as in Habakkuk's day.

The root of these sins is pride.

Many theologians believe that pride is the _____ of all sin.

Babylon would eventually be destroyed by her own sin. And if you and I practice these sins, they will destroy us.

I. The Sin of Pride

Let's consider the sin of pride. (Habakkuk 2:4-5).

4 Behold, his soul which is lifted up is not upright in him: but the just shall live by his faith.

5 Yea also, because he transgresseth by wine, he is a proud man, neither keepeth at home, who enlargeth his desire as hell, and is as death, and cannot be satisfied, but gathereth unto him all nations, and heapeth unto him all people:

A. Pride Puffs Us Up

To begin with, pride puffs us up. "*Behold, his soul that is lifted up [puffed up within him] is not upright in him" (Hab. 2:4).*"

Pride has a way of puffing us up so that we have a false _____ of ourselves.

How can you always tell whether or not a person has true humility?

Pride has a way of puffing us up and giving us a false _____ of how big we are.

B. Pride Twists Us

Pride has a way of twisting us. "Behold, his soul that is lifted up is not upright in him" (Hab. 2:4).

That phrase means that he is _____; he is not straight. Pride has a way of setting its own standards.

C. Pride Makes Us Restless

Pride has a way of making us restless. Notice what Habakkuk 2:5 says:

"He transgresseth by wine, he is a proud man, neither keepeth at home."

He compares the proud man to the _____ man. In what three days does he do so?

1- Doesn't have control of his thinking.

2- A drunken man will have a false _____ and a false sense of _____.

3- A drunken man feels he can do anything.

D. Pride brings competition.

What was one of the biggest problems of Jesus' disciples?

(Luke 9:46-48)

Note:

The child is greater because the child is humble. How can you see that in a child?

E. Pride Makes Us Greedy

Habakkuk 2:5 says, "Who enlargeth his desire as hell."

Death is very greedy. We talk about people who are as greedy as death. Death is always out to _____ someone. The grave is always looking for someone.

The people weren't satisfied with what they had. Like a drunken person, they were greedy for _____.

God had something to say about Babylon's pride- (Jer. 50:31-32).

"Pride goeth before destruction, and an _____ spirit before a fall" (Prov. 16:18).

"*Shall not all these [defeated nations] take up a parable against him, and a taunting proverb against him*" (Hab. 2:6). What does that mean?

II. Woe Upon Selfish Ambition

In Habakkuk 2:6-8 we have the first of these five woes—

A. Judgment against their selfish ambition. (2 Cor.5:9). There's nothing wrong with godly ambition.

That phrase "we labor" means "we are _____." It's a good thing to be ambitious to please the Lord.

Paul used the same word translated "**labour**" in Romans 15:20: "Yea, so have I strived to preach the gospel, not where Christ was named." That word "**strived**" can mean I was ambitious. "What was Paul ambitious to do?"

A. Robbers and Debtors

In what sense were the people robbers?

"Woe to him that increaseth that which is not his!" (Hab. 2:6). So..... they were robbers and yet He said they were _____.

What God was saying is this: When the Babylonians swooped down on other nations and stole all of the wealth, they were really only _____ it. They were heaping up a lot of debt, and payday was going to come someday.

"Be sure your sin will _____ you out." (Num. 32:23)."

"If we sow to the flesh, we will of the flesh reap _____" (see Gal. 6:8).

A person will reap exactly what he sows. "Be not deceived, God is not mocked, for whatever a man _____, that shall he also reap" (v. 7).

These nations were going to exact the debt one of these days, and judgment was going to come.

B. Losers

These people were also called losers. "*Because thou hast spoiled many nations, all the remnant of the peoples shall spoil thee*" (Hab. 2:8). What does the statement mean?

True success is _____ in service.

The Babylonians were proud. Jesus said that if you want to be a true success, you must be humble. The Babylonians had selfish ambition.

How do most people view success today?

Success to us means that you are big— you are important and puffed up.

True success means being ambitious to _____ the Lord and to _____ others.
(See Luke 22:27).

(See Prov 6:16-19).

Notice that the first thing listed as to what the Lord hates is “a proud look.” A proud look is looking down your nose at others, while on the other hand we learn that God is no respecter of person. Everyone is important to the Lord.

See Deuteronomy 8:17-19. The person who depends upon self and not upon the Lord, that person becomes self-centered and not _____ centered.

Four ways to deal with your pride:

1-

2-

3-

4-