

# Lessons from Wisdom's Taunt Pt. 2

Habakkuk 2:6-11, Wednesday, July 10, 2024

# Lessons from Wisdom's Taunt Pt. 2

Habakkuk 2:6-11

“But it shall come about, **if you do not obey the LORD your God, to observe to do all His commandments and His statutes with which I charge you today**, that all these curses will come upon you and overtake you: 36 “The LORD will bring you and your king, whom you set over you, to a nation which neither you nor your fathers have known, and there you shall serve other gods, wood and stone. **37 “You shall become a horror, a proverb, and a taunt among all the people where the LORD drives you.**

Deuteronomy 28:15, 36-37

## What is the heart of this crime? What mobilizes this heart? Where does our desire to “have” negatively affect our relationships?

- Eyes that aren't satisfied (perhaps both sides)
- I deserve it
- Normal
- Take what want so more problems to get out of mess
- Moral (right/wrong) reasons to justify their acquisitions which separates relationships
- Opposite of Jesus in Phil. 2 serving at His expense
- When something is great on your mind (desire for more), everything else is smaller (caring for others, satisfying others)

# Lessons from Wisdom's Taunt Pt. 2

Habakkuk 2:6-11

He who oppresses the poor to make more for himself Or who gives to the rich, will only come to poverty. Proverbs 22:16

Wealth obtained by fraud dwindles, But the one who gathers by labor increases it. Proverbs 13:11

# Lessons from Wisdom's Taunt Pt. 2

## Habakkuk 2:6-11

He who oppresses the poor to make more for himself Or who gives to the rich, will only come to poverty. Proverbs 22:16

Wealth obtained by fraud dwindles, But the one who gathers by labor increases it. Proverbs 13:11

Therefore his calamity will come **suddenly**; Instantly he will be broken and there will be no healing. Proverbs 6:15

A man who hardens his neck after much reproof Will **suddenly** be broken beyond remedy. Proverbs 29:1

# Lessons from Wisdom's Taunt Pt. 2

## Habakkuk 2:6-11

**I. Don't Be Like the Chaldeans. Don't Gain at Another's Expense.**

# Lessons from Wisdom's Taunt Pt. 2

Habakkuk 2:6-11

And it came about when Samuel was old that he appointed his sons judges over Israel. 2 Now the name of his firstborn was Joel, and the name of his second, Abijah; they were judging in Beersheba. 3 His sons, however, did not walk in his ways, **but turned aside after dishonest gain** and took bribes and perverted justice.

1 Samuel 8:1-3

## Why do they go after evil gain?

1. Make a name



## Why do they go after evil gain?

1. Make a name
2. Create a secure place

## Why do they go after evil gain?

1. Make a name
2. Create a secure place
3. Protect from evil

## Why do they go after evil gain?

1. Make a name
2. Create a secure place
3. Protect from evil

**instead**

**SHAME**

# Lessons from Wisdom's Taunt Pt. 2

Habakkuk 2:6-11

“Woe to him who builds his house without righteousness And his upper rooms without justice, Who uses his neighbor’s services without pay And does not give him his wages, 14 Who says, ‘I will build myself a roomy house With spacious upper rooms, And cut out its windows, Paneling it with cedar and painting it bright red.’ 15 **“Do you become a king because you are competing in cedar? Did not your father eat and drink And do justice and righteousness? Then it was well with him. 16 “He pled the cause of the afflicted and needy; Then it was well. Is not that what it means to know Me?” Declares the LORD. 17 “But your eyes and your heart Are intent only upon your own dishonest gain, And on shedding innocent blood And on practicing oppression and extortion.”**

Jeremiah 22:13–17

# Lessons from Wisdom's Taunt Pt. 2

Habakkuk 2:6-11

“**Her princes** within her are like wolves tearing the prey, by **shedding blood and destroying lives in order to get dishonest gain.** 28 “**Her prophets** have smeared whitewash for them, **seeing false visions and divining lies for them, saying, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD,’** when the LORD has not spoken. 29 “**The people of the land have practiced oppression and committed robbery, and they have wronged the poor and needy and have oppressed the sojourner without justice.** 30 “**I searched for a man among them who would build up the wall and stand in the gap before Me for the land,** so that I would not destroy it; but I found no one.  
Ezekiel 22:27–30

# Lessons from Wisdom's Taunt Pt. 2

Habakkuk 2:6-11

Then Joshua and all Israel with him, took Achan the son of Zerah, the silver, the mantle, the bar of gold, his sons, his daughters, his oxen, his donkeys, his sheep, his tent and all that belonged to him; and they brought them up to the valley of Achor. **25 Joshua said, "Why have you troubled us? The LORD will trouble you this day."** And all Israel stoned them with stones; and they burned them with fire after they had stoned them with stones. **26** They raised over him a great heap of stones that stands to this day, **and the LORD turned from the fierceness of His anger.** Therefore the name of that place has been called the valley of Achor to this day.

Joshua 7:24-26

## Why do they go after evil gain?

- |                          |         |                                |
|--------------------------|---------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Make a name           | instead | <b>SHAME</b>                   |
| 2. Create a secure place |         |                                |
| 3. Protect from evil     | instead | <b>DEATH &amp; DESTRUCTION</b> |

# Lessons from Wisdom's Taunt Pt. 2

Habakkuk 2:6-11

The terror of a king is like the growling of a lion; He who provokes him to anger **forfeits his own life**. Proverbs 20:2

“As for the censers of these men who **have sinned at the cost of their lives**, let them be made into hammered sheets for a plating of the altar, since they did present them before the LORD and they are holy; and they shall be for a sign to the sons of Israel.” 39 So Eleazar the priest took the bronze censers which the men **who were burned** had offered, and they hammered them out as a plating for the altar, 40 **as a reminder to the sons of Israel that no layman who is not of the descendants of Aaron should; so that he will not become like Korah and his company come near to burn incense before the LORD**—just as the LORD had spoken to him through Moses. Numbers 16:38-40

New American Standard Bible : 1995 update. 1995. LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.



# Lessons from Wisdom's Taunt Pt. 2

Habakkuk 2:6-11

And Jehu drew his bow with his full strength and shot Joram between his arms; and the arrow went through his heart and he sank in his chariot. 25 Then Jehu said to Bidkar his officer, "Take him up and cast him into the property of the field of Naboth the Jezreelite, for I remember when you and I were riding together after Ahab his father, that the LORD laid this oracle against him: 26 **'Surely I have seen yesterday the blood of Naboth and the blood of his sons,' says the LORD, 'and I will repay you in this property,' says the LORD.** Now then, take and cast him into the property, according to the word of the LORD."

2 Kings 9:24–26

New American Standard Bible : 1995 update. 1995. LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

## Why do they go after evil gain?

- |                          |         |                                  |
|--------------------------|---------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Make a name           | instead | <b>SHAME</b>                     |
| 2. Create a secure place | instead | <b>TENSION &amp; INSTABILITY</b> |
| 3. Protect from evil     | instead | <b>DEATH &amp; DESTRUCTION</b>   |

# Lessons from Wisdom's Taunt Pt. 2

Habakkuk 2:6-11

“As for the terror of you, **The arrogance of your heart has deceived you,** O you who live in the clefts of the rock, Who occupy the height of the hill. Though you make your nest as high as an eagle’s, **I will bring you down from there,” declares the LORD.** 17 “Edom will become an object of horror; everyone who passes by it will be horrified and will hiss at all its wounds.

Jeremiah 49:16–17

“**The arrogance of your heart has deceived you,** You who live in the clefts of the rock, In the loftiness of your dwelling place, Who say in your heart, ‘Who will bring me down to earth?’ 4 “Though you build high like the eagle, Though you set your nest among the stars, **From there I will bring you down,” declares the LORD**

Obadiah 3–4

# Lessons from Wisdom's Taunt Pt. 2

Habakkuk 2:6-11

**“the rich are inebriated with false confidence**, when they surpass all others; for they think not themselves to be mortals, but imagine that they have another life, **as though they had a world of their own, free from all dangers.**”

John Calvin

Nebuchadnezzar's prayer to Markuk:

**“Life for many generations, an abundant posterity, a secure throne, and a long reign, grant as thy gift”**

# Lessons from Wisdom's Taunt Pt. 2

Habakkuk 2:6-11

**“the rich are inebriated with false confidence**, when they surpass all others; for they think not themselves to be mortals, but imagine that they have another life, **as though they had a world of their own, free from all dangers.**” John Calvin

Nebuchadnezzar's prayer to Markuk:

**“Life for many generations, an abundant posterity, a secure throne, and a long reign, grant as thy gift”**

**II. Don't be like Babylon: Don't seek identity and security at the expense of others.**

# Lessons from Wisdom's Taunt Pt. 2

Habakkuk 2:6-11

“Though everyone says this as to others, yet no one as to himself. Let us therefore take heed that, when we reprove injustice in others, we come without delay to ourselves, and be impartial judges. Self-love so blinds us, that we seek to absolve ourselves from that fault which we freely condemn in others. **In general things men are always more correct in their judgment, that is, in matters in which they themselves are not concerned; but as soon as they come to themselves, they become blind, and all rectitude vanishes, and all judgment is gone.**” “Had they been contented with some moderate portion, **they might have lived cheerfully and happily, as we see to be the case with all the godly; who though they possess but little, are yet cheerful, for they live in hope, and know that their supplies are in God’s hand, and expect everything from his blessing.** Hence then, their cheerfulness, because they have no anxious fears. **But they who inebriate themselves with riches, find that they carry a useless burden, under which they lie down, as it were, sunk and buried.**” John Calvin

## What sobers you as you hear this proverb/taunt against Babylon?

- Can only manipulate & control for so long before justice comes
- Nothing hidden that won't be revealed
- Think through our justifications (watch our emotions)
- Subtly slip into doing this ourselves (think through path that leads here)
- By not serving God's purposes, we put expectations on Him & others—trample on what God values
- These actions don't tend to go unnoticed
- So easy to be satisfied by other things than God
- Fall – man sought to gain happiness/prosperity, security apart from God & lose it all.

# Lessons from Wisdom's Taunt Pt. 2

Habakkuk 2:6-11

He who **profits illicitly** troubles his own house, But he who hates bribes will live.

Proverbs 15:27

But they lie in wait for their own blood; They ambush their own lives. 19  
So are the ways of everyone who **gains by violence**; It takes away the life of its possessors.

Proverbs 1:18-19



## How can these seemingly good desires (a good family name, protecting yourself and your family, and seeking to be out of evil's reach) lead to evil—to cutting off life from others?

- Your “drive” should benefit society (ie. Payday loans – what is the personal equivalent ?)
- When these are focused on themselves (got them at expense of everything truly valuable)
- In pursuing these in themselves, people viewed as objects (means to an end)
- Trusting heart stays within God's boundaries to procure God's legitimate means
- Sobering that all gains made are temporary (not eternal perspective – living for the moment)
- American dream gets mixed with Kingdom of God so that God's goals sacrificed & we don't even notice (i.e. Till everyone complete in Christ – Col. 1:28ff.)
- 1 Sam.25 – Nabal, get used to being “god” because over all and providing

**Where do we look to set ourselves apart from commoners, to put our nest on high? (where do we work hard for identity and security)**

■

# Lessons from Wisdom's Taunt Pt. 2

Habakkuk 2:6-11

**More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord,** for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish so that I may gain Christ, **9 and may be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own derived from the Law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which comes from God on the basis of faith,** **10** that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death; Philippians 3:8–10

Now in a large house there are not only gold and silver vessels, but also vessels of wood and of earthenware, and some to honor and some to dishonor. **21** Therefore, if anyone cleanses himself from these things, **he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified, useful to the Master, prepared for every good work.** **22** Now flee from youthful lusts and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, **with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart.** 2 Timothy 2:20–22

New American Standard Bible : 1995 update. 1995. LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

# Lessons from Wisdom's Taunt Pt. 2

## Habakkuk 2:6-11

1. Which kingdom are you building EVEN when you seek to serve God?

# Lessons from Wisdom's Taunt Pt. 2

Habakkuk 2:6-11

1. Which kingdom are you building EVEN when you seek to serve God?
2. When you are disgusted by injustice, look carefully at God's justice.

# Lessons from Wisdom's Taunt Pt. 2

Habakkuk 2:6-11

For after all it is only just for God to repay with affliction those who afflict you, 7 and to give relief to you who are afflicted and to us as well when the Lord Jesus will be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels in flaming fire, 8 **dealing out retribution to those who do not know God and to those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. 9 These will pay the penalty of eternal destruction,** away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power, 10 when He comes to be glorified in His saints on that day, **and to be marveled at among all who have believed**—for our testimony to you was believed.

2 Thessalonians 1:6–10

# Lessons from Wisdom's Taunt Pt. 2

Habakkuk 2:6-11

“Then summoning him, his lord said to him, ‘You wicked slave, I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. 33 **‘Should you not also have had mercy on your fellow slave, in the same way that I had mercy on you?’** 34 **“And his lord, moved with anger, handed him over to the torturers until he should repay all that was owed him.** 35 “My heavenly Father will also do the same to you, if each of you does not forgive his brother from your heart.”

Matthew 18:32–35

# Lessons from Wisdom's Taunt Pt. 2

Habakkuk 2:6-11

“But such people never may presume that God’s mercies will continue any longer than the present moment. Divine retribution is sure to come, and it may come without additional prior warning.”

O. Palmer Robertson



# Lessons from Wisdom's Taunt Pt. 2

Habakkuk 2:6-11

The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance. 10 **But the day of the Lord will come like a thief**, in which the heavens will pass away with a roar and the elements will be destroyed with intense heat, and the earth and its works will be burned up. 11 Since all these things are to be destroyed in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness,

2 Peter 3:9-11

# Lessons from Wisdom's Taunt Pt. 2

Habakkuk 2:6-11

“But such people never may presume that God’s mercies will continue any longer than the present moment. Divine retribution is sure to come, and it may come without additional prior warning.”

O. Palmer Robertson

**“While the mills of God may grind slowly, they grind exceedingly fine.”**

O. Palmer Robertson

# Lessons from Wisdom's Taunt Pt. 2

Habakkuk 2:6-11

For where **jealousy and selfish ambition exist**, there is **disorder** and **every evil thing**.

James 3:16

**But if you bite and devour** one another, **take care that you are not consumed** by one another.

Galatians 5:15

“Do not judge so that you will not be judged. 2 **“For in the way you judge, you will be judged; and by your standard of measure, it will be measured to you.**

Matthew 7:1–2

# Lessons from Wisdom's Taunt Pt. 2

## Habakkuk 2:6-11

The fear of the LORD leads to life, So that one may sleep satisfied,  
untouched by evil.

Proverbs 19:23