

# Habakkuk 2

JPS [\[Online\]](#)

**The LORD Answers Again**

**1**I will stand upon my watch, And set me upon the tower, And will look out to see what He will speak by me, And what I shall answer when I am reproved.

**2**And the LORD answered me, and said: 'Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, That a man may read it swiftly.

**3**For the vision is yet for the appointed time, And it declareth of the end, and doth not lie; Though it tarry, wait for it; Because it will surely come, it will not delay.'

**4**Behold, his soul is puffed up, it is not upright in him; But the righteous shall live by his faith.

**5**Yea, moreover, wine is a treacherous dealer; The haughty man abideth not; He who enlargeth his desire as the nether-world, And is as death, and cannot be satisfied, But gathereth unto him all nations, And heapeth unto him all peoples.

### **Woe to the Chaldeans**

**6**Shall not all these take up a parable against him, And a taunting riddle against him, And say: 'Woe to him that increaseth that which is not his! How long? and that ladeth himself with many pledges!'

**7**Shall they not rise up suddenly that shall exact interest of thee, And awake that shall violently shake thee, And thou shalt be for booties unto them?

**8**Because thou hast spoiled many nations, All the remnant of the peoples shall spoil thee; Because of men's blood, and for the violence done to the land, To the city and to all that dwell therein.

**9**Woe to him that gaineth evil gains for his house, That he may set his nest on high, That he may be delivered from the power of evil!

**10**Thou hast devised shame to thy house, By cutting off many peoples, And hast forfeited thy life.

**11**For the stone shall cry out of the wall, And the beam out of the timber shall answer it.

**12**Woe to him that buildeth a town with blood, And establisheth a city by iniquity!

**13**Behold, is it not of the LORD of hosts That the peoples labour for the fire, And the nations weary themselves for vanity?

**14**For the earth shall be filled With the knowledge of the glory of the LORD, As the waters cover the sea.

**15**Woe unto him that giveth his neighbour drink, That putteth thy venom thereto, and maketh him drunken also, That thou mayest look on their nakedness!

**16**Thou art filled with shame instead of glory, Drink thou also, and be uncovered; The cup of the LORD'S right hand shall be turned unto thee, And filthiness shall be upon thy glory.

**17**For the violence done to Lebanon shall cover thee, And the destruction of the beasts, which made them afraid; Because of men's blood, and for the violence done to the land, To the city and to all that dwell therein.

**18**What profiteth the graven image, That the maker thereof hath graven it, Even the molten image, and the teacher of lies; That the maker of his work trusteth therein, To make dumb idols?

**19**Woe unto him that saith to the wood: 'Awake', To the dumb stone: 'Arise!' Can this teach? Behold, it is overlaid with gold and silver, And there is no breath at all in the midst of it.

**20**But the LORD is in His holy temple; Let all the earth keep silence before Him.