

# “THE JUST MAN, BECAUSE OF HIS FAITH, SHALL LIVE”

## The Book of Habakkuk

**Who wrote The Book of Habakkuk?**

The Book of Habakkuk was written by the prophet, Habakkuk.

**How did The Book of Habakkuk get its name and/or what does that name mean?**

The Book of Habakkuk was named after its author, Habakkuk.

**When did these events take place?**

Habakkuk prophesied between 605 B.C. and 597 B.C.

**For more about The Book of Habakkuk:** See page 973 in the [Fireside Catholic Youth Bible](#).

When you were a kid, were you very good at negotiating punishments with your parents or teachers? You know those times when the whole class was caught doing something you weren't supposed to or when the big brawl on the playground was finally broken up. Or maybe, at home, it was the first time you missed curfew, and you knew you were late. Sometimes, in these cases, you probably discovered it was just best to take the punishment (whatever it might be) and live with it.

But that didn't mean you couldn't ask for an explanation of why you were being punished or an estimate of how long your punishment would last. You especially wanted to make sure that whoever was in charge knew that “you didn't start it” or that perhaps you didn't do anything more than just be there when it happened. If that was the case, you probably wanted to know if everyone else involved was getting punished in a similar way..

The Prophet Habakkuk found himself in just the same position. By the year 600 B.C., he could already tell that Israel was headed for trouble. It's leaders were corrupt and it's people, as a whole, had turned away from God. Idolatry and sin of every kind had captured the hearts and minds of the Hebrew people. Habakkuk warned the Hebrew people of the punishment that was to come. Then, he did even more than that. He challenged God to explain why everyone should be punished at all. And, he gained assurance that he, like the others who feared the Lord, were safe. The Lord revealed to Habakkuk that “the just man, because of his faith, shall live.

The Book of Habakkuk teaches us that God knows who is ultimately responsible for the trouble we are in as a society. And it assures us that they will be judged and punished accordingly in due time. The good news is God sees our role in this fight even clearer than we do. He sees our heart and our intentions and not just who is left standing. Why is that important? Habakkuk first heard the answer: “For in the end, only the just man shall live in Him.”

**Interesting Fact:** Habakkuk is the first Prophet on record to openly question God.

**Bonus Point:** On what day will the sun forget to rise?