

# Habakkuk 3:1-2

1. Habakkuk has received and understood the message/revelation from the Lord. This has caused Habakkuk to adjust his view. This means Habakkuk has had to adjust what he can expect the Lord to do in answering his prayer.
2. Chapter 2 ended with the Lord in his holy temple which leads to chapter 3 worshipping the Lord from a new perspective based on:
  - a. Habakkuk “hearing”
  - b. The Lord’s report
3. Chapter 3 unites the revelations of chapter 1-2.
4. Habakkuk was Israel’s prophet and served as a mediator who asked questions and provided answers/responses from God. Habakkuk sums up these questions and answers with this poem/song/prayer.

Habakkuk 3:1 – “**A prayer of Habakkuk the prophet, according to Shigionoth.**”

7692 [e]	5921 [e]	5030 [e]	2265 [e]	8605 [e]
šig·yō·nō·wṭ.	‘al	han·nā·bî;	la·ḥă·baq·qūq	tə·pîl·lāh
· שִׁיגִינֹת:	עַל	הַנָּבִיא	לְחַבְקֻק	תְּפִלָּה 1
Shigionoth	on	the prophet	of Habakkuk	A prayer
N-mp	Prep	Art   N-ms	Prep-I   N-proper-ms	N-fs

1. “prayer” - *tepillah*
  - a. This is the heading of five Psalms
    - i. 17
    - ii. 86
    - iii. 90
    - iv. 102
    - v. 142
  - b. “prayer” – *tepillah* – is a term that is commonly associated with laments along with:
    - i. calls for the Lord’s intercession
    - ii. calls for vindication against oppression, injustice or *hamas*
      1. Psalm 4:1; 6:9; 17:1; 35:13; 54:2; 55:1 69:13, etc. and 1 Kings 8:28-54 when Solomon brought the Ark into the Temple.
  - c. Having recognized the Lord is in his temple in 2:20, Habakkuk now goes to that temple to pray.
  - d. This prayer indicates that Habakkuk has come to terms with the Lord’s answer and understands (as much as possible) the Lord’s intentions and plans.
  - e. This prayer is written to be sung in the temple by the people that Habakkuk is speaking to as a prophet providing answers.
2. “Habakkuk the prophet”
  - a. This is a new section of the book
  - b. This is written in a different style
  - c. This is Habakkuk the prophet responding to the Lord’s answers
3. “shigionoth”
  - a. Psalm 7 which is a lament
  - b. the term is a musical directive along with the preposition “on” or “according to”

- c. The etymology and meaning of *shigionoth* is uncertain
- d. It would appear to be a genre of music. Modern examples of music genre would be rock, pop, jazz, country, folk, blues, funk, disco, etc.
- e. This is a cry for justice, as is the whole book of Habakkuk
- 4. This is a song to be sung in the Temple and by the people of God in the dark days ahead as the Lord works out his ultimate plan of salvation
- 5. This is a song sung in response to the revelation given to Habakkuk
- 6. Moses wrote a song in Deuteronomy for future generations to use to recount their history (Deut. 31:19-21)

Habakkuk 3:2 – “O LORD, I have heard the report of you, and your work, O LORD, do I fear. In the midst of the years revive it; in the midst of the years make it known; in wrath remember mercy.”

8141 [e]	7130 [e]	6467 [e]	3068 [e]	3372 [e]	8088 [e]	8085 [e]	3068 [e]
šā-nîm	bə-qe-reb	pā-'ā-lə-ḵā	Yah-weh	yā-rē-ʾī	šim-'ā-ḵā	šā-ma-'tī	Yah-weh
שָׁנִים	בְּקֶרֶב	פְּעֻלָּךְ	יְהוָה	יִרְאַתִּי	שִׁמְעֶךָ	שָׁמַעְתִּי	יְהוָה 2
of the years	in the midst	Your work	Yahweh	[and] was afraid	your speech	I have heard	Yahweh
N-fp	Prep-b   N-msc	N-msc   2ms	N-proper-ms	V-Qal-Perf-1cs	N-msc   2ms	V-Qal-Perf-1cs	N-proper-ms

  

2142 [e]	7355 [e]	7267 [e]	3045 [e]	8141 [e]	7130 [e]	2421 [e]
tiz-kō-wr.	ra-ḥēm	bə-rō-ḡez	tō-w-ḡī-'a';	šā-nîm	bə-qe-reb	ḥay-yê-hū,
תִּזְכֹּר:	רַחֵם	בְּרֹגֶז	תּוֹדִיעַ	שָׁנִים	בְּקֶרֶב	חַיֵּיהוּ
remember	mercy	in wrath	make [it] known	of the years	in the midst	revive
V-Qal-Imperf-2ms	V-Piel-InfAbs	Prep-b   N-ms	V-Hifil-Imperf-2ms	N-fp	Prep-b   N-msc	V-Piel-Imp-ms   3ms

1. “I have heard your report”
  - a. This is exactly what Habakkuk chapters 1 and 2 are – the Lord’s report
  - b. Habakkuk has heard the Lord’s response to his questions
2. “I fear” is the typical response to hearing the Word of the Lord and understanding the fullness of his “work”
  - a. Deut 13:12; 17:13; 19:20; 21:21
  - b. Often angels who brought the message of the Word said, “Fear not” because the natural result is fear.
  - c. Habakkuk had been told in 1:5 by the Lord that “I am working a work (*po’al po’el*)”
3. “in midst of the years” goes with “in the time of trembling remember mercy”
  - a. The “midst of years” refers to the time between the two acts of judgment:
    - i. The Lord’s judgment of Judah by Babylon
    - ii. The Lord’s judgment of the world in his wrath
4. “revive it” or “live” is from Habakkuk 2:4
  - a. Habakkuk wants the Lord to preserve his life, Israel’s life, the believer’s life
5. “time of trembling”
  - a. refers to the time of agitation, excitement or disturbance.
  - b. It also occurs in verses 3:7 and 3:16
  - c. It is the time when the foundations are being shaken
6. Habakkuk is petition for three things:
  - a. That the Lord will preserve life
  - b. That the Lord will provide understanding
  - c. That the Lord will remember mercy