

- (1) When you consider the conditions in our society today, does it make you wonder if things could ever possibly get worse? Does it lead you to speculate that perhaps Jesus is coming back soon? How helpful is it to ask such questions?

- (2) It's important to remember that in the Old Testament, there was no separation between "church" and "state". In a sense, then, Manasseh was both like the President of the U.S. and the pastor of a local church or leader of a denomination. What would it be like if our spiritual leaders were as corrupt as Manasseh?

- (3) Can you identify with Habakkuk's frustration and confusion? Do you find yourself asking God, "Where are you? Why don't you do something about the mess we're in?" Is this a legitimate Christian response to the condition of our world?

- (4) Habakkuk reveals to us that no matter how bad things may be, there is always a purpose (God is in control), judgment will come (God is holy), and hope remains (if one will only repent). How does this help you cope with conditions today?

- (5) What do you make of Manasseh's repentance and return to God? How does this strike you? What does it tell you about God and his longsuffering, mercy, and grace?