

Westminster Shorter Catechism Question #35

Q: What is sanctification?

A: Sanctification is the work of God's free grace, whereby we are renewed in the whole man after the image of God, and are enabled more and more to die unto sin, and live unto righteousness.

Habakkuk

New Covenant Presbyterian Church

Old Testament Survey

4/10/22

I. Background

- a. Author: Habakkuk
 - i. Not referenced elsewhere
- b. Genre: prophecy
- c. Setting
 - i. Date unclear
 - ii. A time of apparent prosperity and sinfulness for the Israelites

II. Outline

- a. Superscription (1:1)
- b. First exchange (1:2-11)
 - i. The prophet's complaint (1:2-4)
 - ii. God's response (1:5-11)
- c. The second exchange (1:12-2:5)
 - i. The prophet's complaint (1:12-17)
 - ii. God's response (2:1-5)

DQ: Where else in the scriptures does Habakkuk 2:4 show up? How does this illuminate its meaning and the whole of the book?

- d. Woes against the oppressor (2:6-20)
 - i. The plunderer plundered (2:6-8)
 - ii. The fortified dismantled (2:9-11)
 - iii. The builder undone (2:12-14)
 - iv. The shameless shamed (2:15-18)
 - v. The idolater silenced (2:19-20)
- e. Habakkuk's psalm (3:1-19)
 - i. A prayer (3:1-2)
 - ii. The divine warrior (3:3-15)
 - iii. The prophet living by faith (3:16-19)

DQ: Why does the last chapter end with "to the choirmaster: with stringed instruments"? What does this add to the teaching of the book?

III. Key Themes

- a. The problem of evil
 - i. God's apparent inaction when his people are sinful
 - ii. God's use of sinful nations for his tool of chastening for his own people

IV. Christ in Habakkuk

- a. "I am doing a work in your days that you would not believe if told"
- b. "The righteous shall live by faith"
- c. "Yet I will rejoice in the Lord"

1. Dillard, Raymond B., and Tremper Longman. *An introduction to the Old Testament*. Zondervan, 1994.
2. Sproul, R.C. *The Reformation Study Bible: English Standard Version*. Reformation Trust, 2015.
3. Robertson, O. Palmer. *The Books of Nahum, Habakkuk, and Zephaniah*. Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing, 1990.