BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH

www.crbiblebaptist.com Independent, Dispensational, Evangelistic, Missionary 5037 Center Pt. Rd. NE Cedar Rapids, IA 52402 Pastor Randall Vartabedian 319-393-4638

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• How long did God sit by and do nothing?

I ask that not to be irreverent or to question His doings, but to reveal it to be a thought had by many a God fearing person. God lets man go on because we have free will to choose our path. He does send someone to call attention to truth and point out error but He does not often interfere (*seems seldom*).

When we have a sense of moral right and see injustices abounding it is easy to question why God hasn't shown His hand. Though the Bible states He gives space for repentance the harm that is done in the mean time seems unwarranted.

What it boils down to is that we think we could handle the matter better. Our human nature stands up and we sit in judgment. We become the final authority. It is the clay telling the potter; it should be molded this way or that way.

• Thank God He remembereth our frame and puts up with our vain ramblings and questionings.

Habakkuk saw what was going on in his day and stated this before His God. Hab 1:4 Therefore the law is slacked, and judgment doth never go forth: for the wicked doth compass about the righteous; therefore wrong judgment proceedeth.

Jeremiah too couldn't accept the dealings that he was caught in the midst of. Jer 12:1 Righteous *art* thou, O LORD, when I plead with thee: yet let me talk with thee of *thy* judgments: Wherefore doth the way of the wicked prosper? *wherefore* are all they happy that deal very treacherously?

Future: The tribulation saints suffered under the antichrist and figured "God you really ought to take care of this now.

Rev 6:10 And they cried with a loud voice, saying, How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth?

• Here is a view from God Himself on some wicked measures of man and His delayed response.

Ps 50:18 When thou sawest a thief, then thou consentedst with him, and hast been partaker with adulterers.

Ps 50:19 Thou givest thy mouth to evil, and thy tongue frameth deceit.

Ps 50:20 Thou sittest *and* speakest against thy brother; thou slanderest thine own mother's son.

Ps 50:21 These *things* hast thou done, and I kept silence; thou thoughtest that I was altogether *such an one* as thyself: *but* I will reprove thee, and set *them* in order before thine eyes.

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Ro 11:34 For who hath known the mind of the Lord? or who hath been his counsellor?

"How do our Thoughts differ from God's Thoughts?"

Intro. Man was created in the image of God in a number of ways; but because of the fall of man he became defiled and lost the Godlike image.

Body - Physical Form (Jesus Christ is the "express image of God")

Soul – Intellect & Emotion (Father)

Spirit – God consciousness (Holy Spirit)

Isa 55:8 For my thoughts *are* not your thoughts, neither *are* your ways my ways, saith the LORD.

Isa 55:9 For *as* the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

God's thoughts have been recorded in the Holy Bible

Example: Jer 29:11 For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end. God's thoughts led to actions – recorded in the Bible & history.

Man's thoughts likewise have been exposed.

- 1. Genesis 6:5 evil
- 2. Psalm 94:11 vain
- 3. Isaiah 53:6 self interests
- 4. 2nd Sam.13:2 restricted by good upbringing
- 5. Numbers 24:11 True but not realized how true
- 6. Sometimes guided by the Holy Spirit Holy Bible; spirit-filled Christian Peter in announcing who Jesus was Mt. 16

Which have you personally validated? Romans 7:19; 7:21 – evil Psalm 119:113 – vain Ecclesiastes 2:10 – self interests 2nd Sam. 22:24 – restricted by good upbringing John 5:44 – should seek the honour that comes from God

Tonight at 5:00 Study in Habakkuk

Monday at 4:45 Hiawatha Care Center

Wed. at 5:30 Visitation

Wed. at 7:00 Bible Study & Prayer (Any present prayer requests?)

Missionary of the week: Mooberry - Brazil

How are the memory verses coming along?