

# The Chosen ---Study #4 LCR, Marion

## Habakkuk 1

1 The oracle that the prophet Habakkuk saw. <sup>2</sup>O LORD, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not listen? Or cry to you “Violence!” and you will not save? <sup>3</sup>Why do you make me see wrongdoing and look at trouble?

Destruction and violence are before me; strife and contention arise.

<sup>4</sup>So the law becomes slack and justice never prevails.

The wicked surround the righteous— therefore judgment comes forth perverted.



In this episode of the Chosen all of the chaos is beginning to break in on Simon. We have the continued saga with the Romans, his broken



relationships with the other Fishermen (Zebedee and the boys), his home woes with a sick Mother-in-law and an unhappy wife. And yet in the midst of all these real problems and concerns; there are lights that begin to break in!

1. One of the themes that The Chosen seems to want to bring to the forefront is the complexity of the characters. Simon is both foolish and wise, he is brash and yet also thoughtful. Matthew is a traitor to his people (working for the Romans) yet also seems to have a real concern for Simon. Nicodemus is aristocratic and learned, yet he seeks out John the Baptizer and wants to ask questions. How do you think these complexities relate to

modern day followers of Jesus?

2. Peter in the boat seems to have a moment of pure lament/prayer between him and God. He suggests that God does one thing; but it only then leads to tragedy and more misery. Can a person of faith every have such questions for God? Does Simon have a point? What have you seen that seems to make no sense if God is indeed present and for us?

3. What did you make of the scene where even with the help of Zebedee, James and John, the fishermen didn't catch anything? Finally, Simon doesn't go it alone, but the results are the same. Do you think God orchestrates such things, or is it simply 'bad luck' when even with our best efforts things don't work out?



4. Miracles. Simon needed a miracle and he got it. What struck me was that the miracle of the great catch of fish could not have been realized if it wasn't for the 'miracle' of reconciliation between Zebedee/boys and Simon. He needed them beside him. The miracle came, but it still necessitated hard work and struggle. What might this say about how God works in our lives?

5. Often Zebedee is depicted as simply being left behind in the boat (Matthew 4:21-22 <sup>21</sup> As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. <sup>22</sup> Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him.) How does Zebedee's reaction to Jesus calling his boys differ from what you've always imagined? Does adding new details or nuances that aren't in scripture help you understand the story better?

