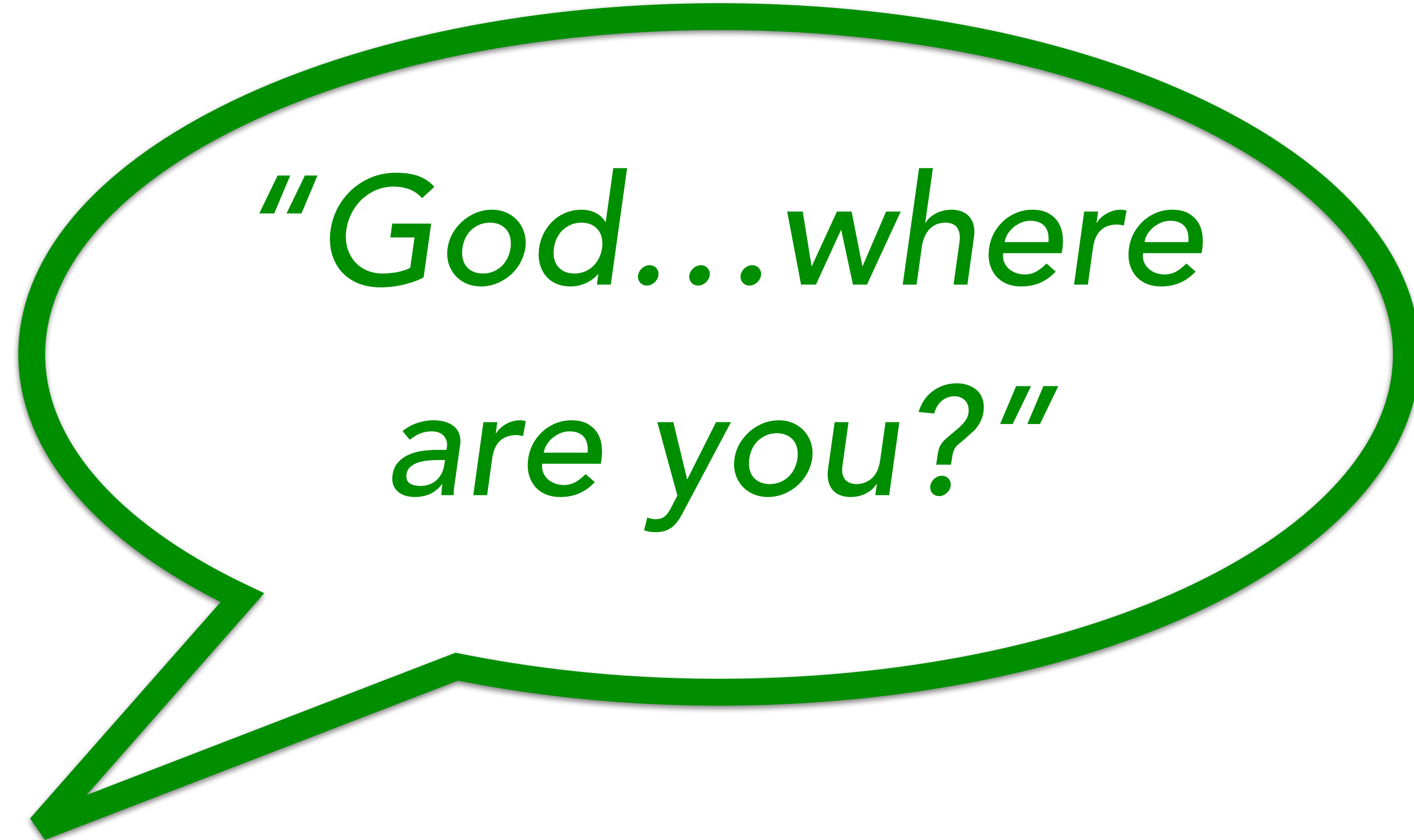


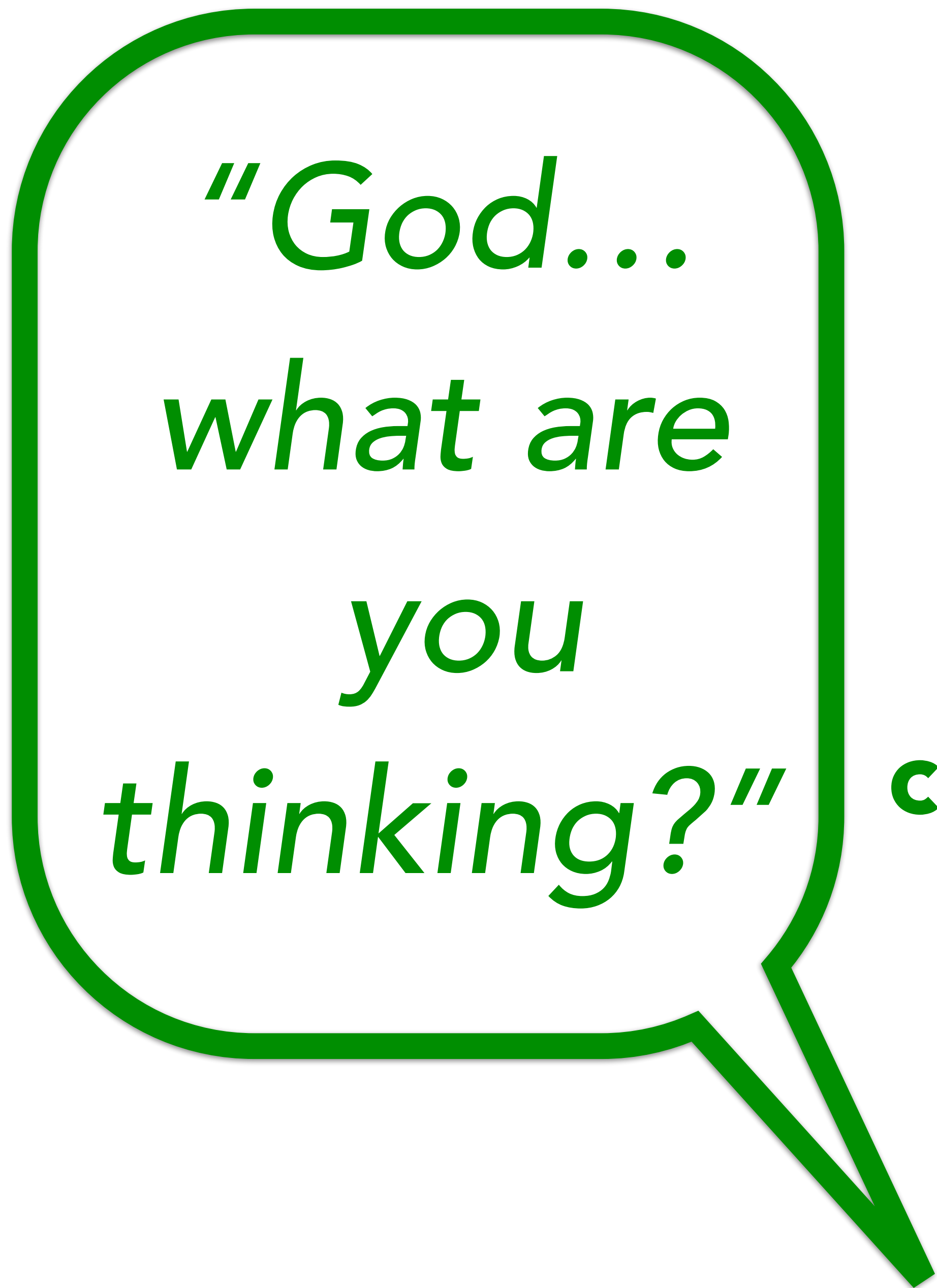
**What do you do when
God doesn't answer
your prayers the way
you want Him to?**

Maybe God is silent.



*"God...where
are you?"*

**Maybe you ask for
one thing...and
what you receive
is something
completely different.**



*"God...
what are
you
thinking?"*

**Maybe you ask for
one thing...and
what you receive
is something
completely different.**

**Maybe the answer
is a flat-out "NO!"**

"God...Why NOT!?"

How do you respond?

~ Anger?

~ Doubt?

~ Blame?

~ Distrust?

Habakkuk 1

***The prophet Habakkuk
lived in difficult days.***

Godliness was non-existent.

Violence & lawlessness was rampant.

***The wicked prospered and
there was no justice.***

***So Habakkuk prayed a
reasonable and
righteous prayer...***

Habakkuk 1:1-4

~ God...Help!

Habakkuk 1:5

God:

***“Look at the nations and watch—
and be utterly amazed.***

***For I am going to do something in
your days that you would not believe,
even if you were told.”***

~ Yes!

Habakkuk 1:6

God:

***“So I am raising up the Babylonians,
that ruthless and impetuous people,
who sweep across the whole earth
to seize dwellings not their own.”***

~ Wait! What?

Habakkuk 1:12 NIV

***“Lord, are you not from
everlasting?”***

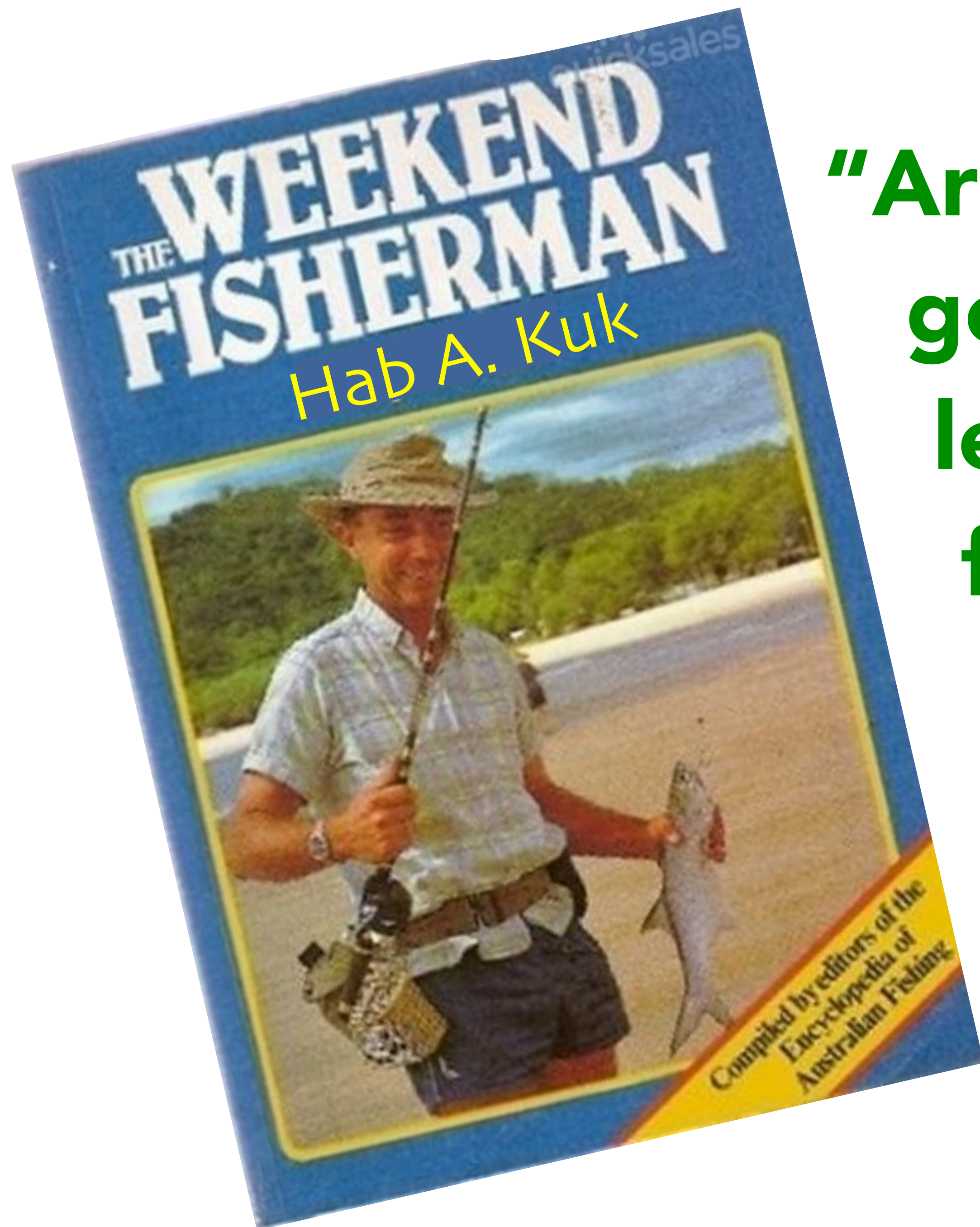
Habakkuk 1:12 MSG

***“God, you’re from eternity, aren’t you?
Holy God, we aren’t going to die, are we?
God, you chose **BABYLONIANS** for
your judgment work? **Rock-Solid God,**
you gave **THEM** the job of discipline?
But you can’t be serious!”***



**This is when
we learn that
Habakkuk knew
a little about
fishing!**

~ Habakkuk 1:14-17 MSG



"Are you going to let this go on and on? Will you let this Babylonian fisherman fish like a weekend angler, killing people as if they're nothing but fish?"

Habakkuk 1:17 MSG

Habakkuk 2 *(in a nutshell)*

God:

***"I'm doing something far bigger
than what you can see.***

***I'm well aware of the
Babylonians heart.***

***In fact, their wickedness will
lead to my judging them as well."***

Habakkuk 3

Habakkuk says two things...

**“Lord, I have heard of your fame;
I stand in awe of your deeds,
Lord.**

**Repeat them in our day,
in our time make them known.**

**In your justice, please show
mercy!”**

1

Verses 1-2

Habakkuk 3

Habakkuk says two things...

Oh God!

**Do again what
you've done
before!**

1

Verses 1-2

Habakkuk 3

But whatever you do,

God...

I'm going to

TRUST you!

2

Verses 17-19

Habakkuk 3:17-19 MSG

***“Though the cherry trees don’t blossom
and the strawberries don’t ripen.***

***Though the apples are worm-eaten and
the wheat fields stunted.***

***Though the sheep pens are sheepless
and the cattle barns empty —***

Habakkuk 3:17-19 MSG

“I’m singing joyful praise to God.

I’m turning cartwheels of joy

to my Savior God.

Counting on God’s Rule to prevail,

I take heart and gain strength.

I run like a deer.

I feel like I’m king of the mountain!”

***Though cancer is afflicting me
or someone I love —
I'm singing joyful praises to God.
I'm counting on God's rule to prevail.
I take heart and gain great strength!***

***Though stress and worry are my
usual "go to" responses —
Yet I will rejoice in the Lord.
I will be happy in the God of my
salvation, trusting that He will give
me the speed of a deer and bring
me safely over the mountains.***

***Though people I love aren't
walking with you, God —
I won't get discouraged.***

I won't lose heart.

I won't give up praying.

***And I won't stop believing that you,
God, are able to do more than
I can ask or even imagine!***

***God — I'm choosing
to trust you.***

I'm choosing to rest in you.

***I'm choosing to find
my JOY in you.***