



"The Lord, My Joy and My Strength"

Habakkuk 3:16-20

February 8, 2020

Questions for Application and Fellowship

MY STORY

1. Are you an optimist or a pessimist?

QUICK REVIEW

As the prophet Habakkuk stood in Jerusalem and pondered the state of his nation, Judah, he must have been dumbfounded. So much evil thrived, completely in the open. Learning God's plan to use the wicked, cruel Babylonians of Chaldea, Habakkuk's turmoil was only deepened and made worse. Habakkuk was at wits' end, and he cried out to God with his struggle. God answered with truth that speaks into the believers' struggle with evil in every age. Habakkuk 3 records the prophet's personal response to the historic work of God as he continues to process all he has heard from God.

Read Habakkuk 3:16-20

Growing faith resolves to...

1. Take _____ in the LORD (3:16)
2. Take _____ in the LORD (3:17-18).
3. Take _____ in the LORD (3:19).

Was any point in this weekend's message particularly challenging, encouraging or helpful for you?

Why did God want you to hear this message now?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. Have you ever faced circumstances in life that have shaken you to the core as described in verse 16?
2. The language of waiting quietly is that of patient rest in the Lord, similar to the ceasing of the Sabbath Day. Read Psalm 46. What truths in that Psalm help God's people to be still?
3. How can we distinguish between the times in life when God wants us to be active and when God wants us to be still?
4. The language of joy is used twice in Habakkuk. First, we read of the "pagan fisherman's" joy in 1:15-16. Then we read of Habakkuk's joy in 3:17-18. What differences do you see in the two experiences of joy? Which joy is preferable? Why?
5. Read I Thessalonians 5:16-18. How is Habakkuk an example of this kind of living? How does he inspire the same in your life?
6. In 3:19, Habakkuk describes a light footed and confident experience through the high and lofty perils of life. Where does that strength come from? How is this experienced? (See Habakkuk 2:4; Matthew 14:22-33)