Revolution Church

January 19, 2020

**“Wait For It!”**

Habakkuk – watchman on the wall

Prophet during the final decades of Israel’s Southern Kingdom. During the rise of the Babylon Empire.

This is during a dark time of injustice and idolatry. God seems to be quite distant during this time.

This book is different than the other prophets because instead of Habakkuk addressing the people of Israel, this book is a record of prayers directly to God.

Habakkuk comes before the Lord with his struggle:

“Is God good when there is so much evil in the world?”

“Has God lost His desire to even be in communication with us anymore?”

“Will God rescue us again and restore Israel again, or is He finished with us?”

How long do we have to wait for God to step in and work?”

**Chapters 1 and 2** are a back and forth conversation (argument) between Habakkuk and God.

Complaint 1 – Torah is neglected, violence and injustice, and corrupt leaders.

Response 1 – God says He will use Babylon to bring judgement on Israel.

Complaint 2 – How could you think to use such an evil nation that is worse than Israel? God, you are more Holy than that!

Response 2 – God says, write this down, this is going to be about an appointed time when things will change. The Righteous will live by their Faith!

-God will bring down Babylon.

-God can use corrupt kingdoms without approving of their lifestyle.

-All nations will be accountable for living against God’s ways.

**Chapter 3**

God’s answer to Habakkuk in Chapter 3 is an answer to all generations:

Hopeful Praise – Trust and Joy in the Covenant promises of God.

**The BIG question we all ask …WHEN?**

Habakkuk 1:2

How long, O Lord, must I call for help?
    But you do not listen!

**God’s common response, “I’m doing something about it, but WAIT!”**

Habakkuk 2:2-3

**2**Then the Lord said to me,

“Write my answer plainly on tablets,
    so that a runner can carry the correct message to others.
**3**This vision is for a future time.
    It describes the end, and it will be fulfilled.
If it seems slow in coming, wait patiently,
    for it will surely take place.
    It will not be delayed.

**The correct way to wait – Trust and Joy!**

**Is your heart prepared more than your**

**hands are to receive the answer??**

Habakkuk 3:17-19

**17**Even though the fig trees have no blossoms,
    and there are no grapes on the vines;
even though the olive crop fails,
    and the fields lie empty and barren;
even though the flocks die in the fields,
    and the cattle barns are empty,
**18**yet I will rejoice in the Lord!
    I will be joyful in the God of my salvation!
**19**The Sovereign Lord is my strength!
    He makes me as surefooted as a deer,
    able to tread upon the heights.

**QUESTIONS to ask yourself in the waiting:**

1. God is working while you are waiting, do you believe it?

	1. Prepare your heart to be satisfied with God either way.
	2. Trust God’s sovereignty and providence no matter what.
2. At the crossroads of emotions and faith, what will you choose?

	1. The circumstances we face are not boundaries God uses for His miracles. Remember Lazarus!
3. Can you allow God to work in you and work things out of you in the waiting?

	1. God’s timing is better than your timing. He determines the end from the beginning on His time table, not yours.

Psalm 27:14

Wait patiently for the Lord.
    Be brave and courageous.
    Yes, wait patiently for the Lord.

**Just because you believe you have run out of time does not mean you did. It is more important to run into God’s time!**