

Habakkuk 3

The Prophet Worshipping (The Minor Prophets)

If you were with us this weekend service – looked at Ch.1-2 Habakkuk.

A) Habakkuk who's name means wrestler – was wrestling with God's way.

B) Conditions of his society were growing wicked and injustice was rampant

C) Habakkuk had been praying about these conditions for a long time – No answer.

**O Lord, how long shall I cry, And You will not hear?
Even cry out to You, {Scream} "Violence!" And You will not save.**

D) Habakkuk – said Lord you need to do something!
1) Revival

God answered: I am listening – I am doing something- not going to like it!

A) Sending a nation more wicked than yours {the Babylonians} to be the rod of correction for my people

B) Habakkuk – What? How? Doesn't seem right? Doesn't seem like you?
1) You should be judging them not us

C) Habakkuk goes to his Prayer spot – his tower to WAIT AND WATCH

GOD REVEALS 3 THINGS:

A) #1 – **I am Fair** The Babylonians are a tool now – but they will be destroyed – BECAUSE I AM FAIR

B) #2 – **I am still on the Throne** – One day in the future the world will see My glory revealed

C) #3 – In the meantime Habakkuk – **the Just will live by faith**

In those two Chapters we see the Prophet – Moving from wrestling with God's way to embracing God's will!

A) He moves from walking by sight to LIVING BY FAITH!

B) He moves from wrestling to watching to here in Ch.3 Worshipping –
1) Worship is the response to God's revelation

G. Campbell Morgan said, **"Our joy is in proportion to our trust. Our trust is in proportion to our knowledge of God."**

C) Chapter 3 is a song with 4 stanza's – separated by the word Selah

1) Selah means to pause and consider – respond

D) So that is how we are going to look at this tonight

1) Go through each stanza and then pause – Respond in worship – prayer – reflection – waiting

A prayer of Habakkuk the prophet, on Shigionoth. { Song set to lively music

2 O Lord, I have heard Your speech and was afraid;

O Lord, revive Your work in the midst of the years!

In the midst of the years make it known; In wrath remember mercy.

3 God came from Teman, The Holy One from Mount Paran. Selah

The Prophet begins his song by crying revive Your work in the midst of the years

A) Lord let your work – Live – Revive it – bring it back to life - **Personally – corporately - nationally**

B) I know you need to judge but **In wrath remember mercy.**

C) He is acknowledging that He knows the Lord is just and true in His ways -

Song of Heaven: Revelation 15:3 – In the midst of God's wrath being poured out on the World

A) Heaven is singing – **Just and true are your ways**
In light of who you are – Perfect sense

B) TV Show when we were kids – **Father Knows Best**

1) Our Father does know best - We sing together so often: He is a good good father

C) Consider your situation: Remember that tonight

Just and true and your ways – Good father

1) Revive – your work – personally corporately - nation

V.3b His glory covered the heavens, And the earth was full of His praise. 4 His brightness was like the light; He had rays flashing from His hand, And there His power was hidden.

5 Before Him went pestilence, And fever followed at His feet. 6 He stood and measured the earth; He looked and startled the nations. And the everlasting mountains were scattered, The perpetual hills bowed. His ways are everlasting.

7 I saw the tents of Cushan in affliction; The curtains of the land of Midian trembled.

8 O Lord, were You displeased with the rivers, Was Your anger against the rivers, Was Your wrath against the sea, That You rode on Your horses, Your chariots of salvation?

9 Your bow was made quite ready; Oaths were sworn over Your arrows. **Selah**

Everything about this stanza – reveals the glory of God!

A) V.3a He is called the Holy one – phrase Isaiah used 30 times in his book.

B) V.3b – His glory covered the heavens –

1) Isaiah 6 – I saw the Lord seated on his throne – exalted – train.... Filled the temple

C) The Seraphim – cried Holy Holy Holy is the Lord and the whole earth is filled with His Glory

D) Habakkuk is expressing that same truth – God's glory is seen –

His Brightness – Lightning Flashing

A) Paul on road to Damascus – knocked off horse – blinded by bright light – brighter than sun at NOON

B) Jesus as a bright light – Glory

C) Habakkuk – Glory seen in His power!

1) His power over creation – Rivers, Mountains, Seas – all subject to Him.

D) Jesus in a boat with His disciples – storm/ asleep

1) Your storm – Resting – not freaking out

E) They woke him up – Be Still - Who is this man that even the wind and seas obey Him!

Let's respond to the Lord right now – He is on the throne – Great in His glory – great in His power

A) Your Storm – He is at rest – He got you!

B) Another storm – Jesus came walking on the Water

Love that picture – the storm – over their heads

1) Was UNDER HIS FEET!

C) Let's praise Him for His power and glory over all situations

D) You tonight – Acknowledge His glory – He is on the throne – every situation.

Response

As we come to V.9b – Habakkuk expands on this picture of God's power and glory

V.9b You divided the earth with rivers.

10 The mountains saw You and trembled; The overflowing of the water passed by.

The deep uttered its voice, And lifted its hands on high.

11 The sun and moon stood still in their habitation; {Joshua's long day} At the light of Your arrows they went, At the shining of Your glittering spear

12 You marched through the land in indignation; You trampled the nations in anger.

13 You went forth for the salvation of Your people, For salvation with Your Anointed.

You struck the head from the house of the wicked, By laying bare from foundation to neck. **Selah**

Here is what He is saying: Not only is your power and glory and Sovereignty seen over creation –

A) But also over the nations! You marched through the land in indignation; You trampled the nations in anger.

B) Habakkuk is worshipping God for His power over the enemy!

C) Habakkuk remembers how God has saved in the past,

1) and it makes him full of faith for what God can do right now and in the future

Recall – Jesus words – Greater is He that is in You than He that is in the World

A) More than conquerors through Him who loved us

B) Think back right now on God's past faithfulness in your life.

1) Saved you from own destruction

C) Time he healed –

D) The time he provided – looked hopeless

Response – Praise Victories

Habakkuk has gone from Wrestling to Rejoicing to Resting – Finally – RELYING

14 You thrust through with his own arrows The head of his villages. They came out like a whirlwind to scatter me; Their rejoicing was like feasting on the poor in secret.

15 You walked through the sea with Your horses, Through the heap of great waters. {EGYPT RED SEA}

16 When I heard, my body trembled; My lips quivered at the voice; Rottenness entered my bones; And I trembled in myself, That **I might rest** in the day of trouble. When He comes up to the people, He will invade them with his troops.

Here is where it all comes to a head – everything is moving toward this moment – V.17

17 Though the fig tree may not blossom, Nor fruit be on the vines; Though the labor of the olive may fail, And the fields yield no food; Though the flock may be cut off from the fold, And there be no herd in the stalls—

18 Yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will joy in the God of my salvation.

BECAUSE

19 The Lord God is my strength; He will make my feet like deer's feet, And He will make me walk on my high hills.

To the Chief Musician. With my stringed instruments

FINAL STANZA – THINGS might get worse!

A) **Shortage of food – flocks** – tough times are in our future. – Part of God's judgment

B) **But I will rejoice**- I will joy in the God of my salvation –

C) Why? **The Lord is my strength** – He will uphold me like the deer

D) My strength is not in what this world has to offer

E) My strength is in the Lord

I will Joy in the God of my Salvation:

A) Ever doubt God's love? – Ever find yourself wrestling with His plan

B) One place we need to look – reminded – God of our salvation – CALVARY – ROMANS 8

³¹ What then shall we say to these things? If God *is* for us, who *can be* against us? ³² He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?

God says: Gave you My best – My Son in your greatest need – Free you – save you – redeem you

A) Make you mine – Do you really think – having done all that – I am going to bail on you NOW!

³³ Who shall bring a charge against God's elect? *It is* God who justifies.

³⁴ **Who is he who condemns?** *It is* Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, **who also makes intercession for us.**

³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? *Shall* tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

³⁷ Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors **through Him who loved us.**

³⁸ For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, ³⁹ nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

REST / REJOICE / RELY – HIS LOVE – HIS STRENGTH – HIS GRACE -