

Sermon Discussion

28 June 2020

Read Habakkuk 3:17-19 together

Dig Deeper

The recounting of God's faithfulness in Israel's past (v. 1-15) draws the reader's mind to the great and mighty deeds of the Lord on behalf of his people down through history. And all these deliverances and provisions foreshadow the ultimate mighty deed of history: the coming of Christ. Through his life, death, and resurrection, he delivers us from sin's bondage. And at the end of history, Christ will establish us in the eternal promised land of heaven.

This is why, even amid many difficulties and uncertainties, we can continue to "rejoice in the LORD" (v. 18) in prayer, looking to him as the "God of my salvation" (v. 18). When life crumbles all around us (v. 17), we need not despair. God has not abandoned his purposes. He remains with us, even in the trials and struggles.

1. What kind of trials does Habakkuk describe in v. 17? How serious are these trials for an agrarian society? How would such a person normally react? What kind similar trials might we face today?
2. Read Deuteronomy 26:1-13. How does understanding the way giving worked in the OT help you view your own giving? What differences or similarities do you notice?
3. Think about the different ways you spend money. What would your spending patterns communicate about where your treasures lie?
4. After reading v. 18, why would Habakkuk rejoice even though there is bad news for God's people?
5. How has Habakkuk's attitude changed from the beginning of the book? What accounts for this difference?

Application & Prayer

- What is your current giving to the church? Ask God if this is the amount He wants you to give. Ask yourself (and God!) if this amount is a sacrifice to you in a way that changes your life.
- Confess to God all of the things that your heart treasures above Him.
- Ask Him to deepen your trust and joy in Him, even when you are doubt and struggle to know His plan.