UNCOMPROMISING FAITH

... the just shall live by his faith Habakkuk 2:4

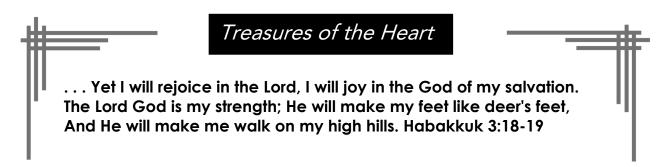


Background Information

The concluding psalm of praise springs forth from a heart that heard God, and determined to believe God by faith. As the book draws to a close, we see that through his communion with God, the prophet came into a deeper knowledge of God's character and ways. Understanding God's power, he chooses to trust in His Word, His timing and His power to perform it. God can take us like Habakkuk, from the valley, to the mountaintop, if we will only go to the watchtower to listen, wait and watch for God to move.

In his closing words he doesn't hide from the impending danger, he cries out for revival for the nation and the strength to endure the coming judgment. We live in a fallen world. We know that God loves His people too much to let them settle for rival gods in their lives. No matter what God allows to bring judgment to His people, we can always trust that He is using it to draw them to Himself.

Habakkuk learns that *the just shall live by his faith*. Faith in the sovereign God requires belief in the Word of God, trust in the timing of God and reliance on the power of God to help you endure whatever comes into your life.





What does it say?

The first step is getting the lay of the land. Carefully observe the text looking to see where you might dig to find hidden treasure. Mark your text looking for repeated words, contrasts or similarities. Look for answers to, Who? What? When? Where? Why or How?

Habakkuk 3:1-7

1 1 A prayer of Habakkuk the prophet, on Shigionoth.

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 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.

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Digging Deeper

Dig deeper using other resources such as a dictionary, concordance, maps and cross-references Notate where you found it to share with the group. Look for commands to obey or question to be answered. What does God want you to know about Himself?

Habakkuk 3:8-15

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 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; 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

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.

Habakkuk 3:16-19

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.

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. 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.

What does it mean?



What lesson can I draw from my observations? Ask yourself, "What was the intended meaning of the original author?" Is there a command to obey, or a warning to heed? An example to follow or avoid? State each lesson in a simple sentence that you could share with someone else. (aim for 10 words or less).

Habakkuk 3:1-7		
Habakkuk 3:8-15		
Habakkuk 3:16-19		

ow can I apply it?

Ask yourself, "What course of action do I need to take to apply each lesson?" How should it change me? What does it challenge me to do? Does it point out error in my attitude or actions? (aim for 10 words or less)

Habakkuk 3:1-7			
Habakkuk 3:8-15			
Habakkuk 3:16-19 _			

Challenge: Use cross-references to find correlating scripture that backs up a main point of the chapter. Summarize your findings in your own words.
What Did God Say?
See if you can discover what God wants us to understand. What does He want us to understand about His ways? Which of His attributes is He displaying? When we are questioning the circumstances that surround us, understanding Who God is helps us trust Him when we don't see Him working. Simply stat what God is trying to communicate about Himself. New: Can you discover what the prophet learned about God through his prayer? Simply state the truths he learned.
What words or phrases are repeated? Repeated words help us discover the main point.
Define three words: does it supply any added meaning to the text?



See if you can boil down the meaning of each section into one or two words. This helps you fully understand what the author is trying to convey. (It's fun to alliterate if you want to try) Did you catch the vision?

Habakkuk 3:1-7
Habakkuk 3:8-15
Habakkuk 3:16-19
Title State the main point of the passage in the form of a title.
Flex Your Muscles Can you discover an N.T. example of this O.T. truth?

Radiating His Truth...

Revival is a work of God, not the achievement of man. There is something man can and must do for revival - simply cry out to God and plead for His reviving work. - David Gusik

Message Notes