

Encouragement in the Storm (Hab. 2:1-4,14,20)- Lecture 5

Habakkuk 2:1-4,14,20

20 But the Lord is in his holy temple: let all the earth keep silence before him.

INTRODUCTION:

In Habakkuk 1 the prophet had been worrying and wondering. He had been debating with God, trying to convince God to change His mind.

In chapter 2 the prophet watched and waited. *"I will stand upon my watch, and set myself upon the tower, and will watch to see what he will say unto me, and what I shall answer when I am reproved"* (v. 1).

Habakkuk gave God a chance to answer him. So often in the problems of life we do so much talking that we don't take time to listen.

God did answer the Prophet Habakkuk. God answered by giving him a _____ of what the world is like and what God is doing in verse 2.

Habakkuk had a _____ where he met with God.

I. Habakkuk's _____

The Prophet Habakkuk received two instructions from the Lord:

A. _____ (Habakkuk 2:2)

The idea is that the message was _____.

Habakkuk was _____ to write a clear, permanent record of what the Lord gave to him.

B. _____ Habakkuk 2:3

See Heb. 10:35-38

You can see the connection between Hebrews 10 and Habakkuk 2. In Hebrews 10 the little word "it" becomes "he." "For yet a little while, and he that shall come will come, and will not tarry."

The Holy Ghost applies this to the _____.

II. God's Condemnation of _____.

The prophet was commanded to write, and he was commanded to wait. Then God gave to him the vision. As you read Habakkuk 2, you'll notice that there is a dark background of judgment, the wrath of God.

Five woes are listed in chapter 2:

1- *"Woe to him that increaseth that which is not his!"* (v. 6). This is a woe, a condemnation, against _____.

- 2- "Woe to him that coveteth" (v. 9). This is a condemnation of _____.
- 3- "Woe to him that buildeth a town with blood" (v. 12). God condemned _____ the people.
- 4- "Woe unto him that giveth his neighbor drink" (v. 15)—a condemnation of strong _____.
- 5- "Woe unto him that saith to the wood, Awake; to the dumb stone, Arise, it shall teach!" (v. 19)—a woe against _____.

These sins were being committed by the nation of Babylon, but they were committing these sins because of their _____.

III. Three Assurances

Against this dark background of judgment and wrath—the wrath of God leveled against these awful sins—we have three very wonderful assurances.

They shine like the sun after a storm. In Habakkuk 2:4,14,20, to encourage the prophet and to encourage you and me today, God gave us these three very comforting assurances.

A. Assurance of God's Grace (Hab. 2:4).

The first half of that verse describes the _____.

The last half of that verse is talking about the believer.

This is the assurance of the grace of God.

Habakkuk 2:4 is quoted and explained in three books in the New Testament.

1- You'll find it in _____ where the theme of the book is the just. How can a sinner be justified before God?

2- This verse is quoted in _____ where the theme of the book is how the just shall live. If you want to know what it means to live by the grace of God, you should read Galatians.

3- It's quoted in _____ where the theme of the book is by faith. This little statement "*The just shall live by his faith*" is **amplified** in three books in the New Testament.

The contrast in Habakkuk 2:4 is between the _____ and the _____ in Judah.

People who live by faith are not puffed up, because _____ has a way of humbling you. When you live by faith, you are trusting God, not trusting yourself. Some have said, "The opposite of faith is not unbelief; it is really _____."

B. Assurance of _____

In Habakkuk 2:14 we have the assurance of God's glory.

What is the glory of the Lord? The glory of the

Lord means the **sum of all of God's** _____.

Glory is not just an attribute or characteristic of God; glory is characteristic of

_____ His attributes.

The statement that the earth "*shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea*" is not a new statement.

Back in Numbers 14, when the people of Israel disobeyed at Kadesh-Barnea and would not go into the Promised Land, God had to judge them.

Moses had to intercede for the children of Israel because God threatened to destroy them. Numbers 14:20-21.

The nation of Israel was going to lose the glory of the Lord. What happened as a result? _____.

God will not allow the _____ and the _____ of wicked people to keep Him from revealing His glory.

In Isaiah 6, when Isaiah saw the throne room of God in heaven, he heard the seraphim calling to each other, "*Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory*" (v. 3).

When the angels look down, they see that God is working out His _____: "*The whole earth is full of his glory.*"

See Psalms 72:18-19.

The promise was given to Moses: "*The earth shall be filled with the glory of the Lord*" (Num.14:21).

From the perspective of heaven, the earth is _____. But we're also asked to pray that the earth will be filled with the glory of God: "*Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven*" (Matt. 6:10).

It's interesting to trace the glory of God in the Old Testament.

a. _____ dedicated the tabernacle, and God's glory moved in (see Ex. 40:34,35).

b. The Israelites built the temple, and the glory of God moved in (see II Chron. 5:13,14). If you'll read the first 11 chapters of Ezekiel, you'll see the glory departing. When did the glory return to Israel? _____

Today the glory of God dwells in His _____ and in the _____ of His people, and one day that glory is going to cover the earth, "*as the waters cover the sea*" (Hab. 2:14).

C. Assurance of God's Government

In Habakkuk 2:20 -"*But the Lord is in his holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before him.*"

He is reminding us God is in control; so be _____.

God is in control—be silent. "Let all the earth keep silence before him" (v. 20).

Psalm 46:10.

See the grace of God—"The just shall live by his faith" (Hab. 2:4).

See the **glory of God**—"The earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea" (v. 14).

And see the **government of God**—"But the Lord is in his holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before him" (v. 20).

_____ keeps us from relying upon the Lord.

In the middle of the storm Israel was facing, in the darkness of it all, God gave light about his _____ in their situation. There was good news about God's grace, His glory and His government. No matter what comes our way, if we are in Christ we are on the winning side. There is light in the midst of the darkness for God's dear children.