

50 weeks in the word

- Each week:
- One Chapter
- One Verse
- One Bible Study

matthew 13:17

For truly, I say to you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it.

An hourglass with sand falling into an open book. The hourglass is on the left, and the open book is on the right. The sand is falling from the top bulb into the bottom bulb, which is resting on the pages of the book. The background is dark.

WAIT AND SEE

LESSONS IN HABAKKUK

righteous living

Habbakuk 2

habakkuk complaints

- What Habakkuk sees:
 - Iniquity
 - Destruction and violence
 - Strife and contention
 - Perverted justice
 - Wickedness swallowing up the righteous
- He is rightly angry at the state of what he sees.

God's answer

- God is going to bring judgement against Judah for their disobedience.
 - The nation was warned of this from the beginning.
- But God is going to use Babylon, an evil nation to bring justice.
- Habakkuk does not understand this, questions God, but ultimately chooses to wait and see what God is going to do.

habakkuk 2:2–5

And the LORD answered me: “Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so he may run who reads it. For still the vision awaits its appointed time; it hastens to the end—it will not lie. If it seems slow, wait for it; it will surely come; it will not delay.

“Behold, his soul is puffed up; it is not upright within him, but the righteous shall live by his faith.

“Moreover, wine is a traitor, an arrogant man who is never at rest. His greed is as wide as Sheol; like death he has never enough. He gathers for himself all nations and collects as his own all peoples.”

coming judgement

- God, while still bringing judgement, is not making the judgment a secret.
- He tells Habakkuk to write it on tablets so that people know, and that people should run when they see it.
 - **Habakkuk 2:2:** *And the LORD answered me: "Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so he may run who reads it."*

live by faith

- v.2:4: *“Behold, his soul is puffed up; it is not upright within him, but the righteous shall live by his faith.*
 - If this is the way that we are called to live, then we better understand what faith is.
- Faith is allegiance or believing loyalty to Jesus Christ as Lord.
- Faith involves three things.
 - Believe
 - Confess
 - Live it out

believe

- Faith includes believing true things about God.
- This applies to salvation.
 - *Romans 10:9: because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.*
- Simply having the right facts about Jesus does not make you saved.
 - Demons know the right thing Jesus.

confess

- Faith involves a declaration of Jesus as Lord.
 - **Romans 10:9–10:** *because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.*
- This is why baptism is important.
 - **1 Peter 3:21:** *Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,*

live it out

- Ask yourself this: When someone asked Jesus how to be saved did he generally tell them to believe certain things or say a certain prayer or did He tell them to do certain things?
 - Good Samaritan, Rich young ruler, Zacchaeus, “Follow me”
- **John 3:36:** *Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him.*

living by faith

- Post salvation, living by faith encompasses the same three things.
- You live by faith right now by believing true things about God, proclaiming truth with your mouth, and by living it out.
- According to what God told Habakkuk, this is how you live.

living by faith

- Believe true things about God and especially how God views you.
 - God is the cause of all the problems in my life.
 - Jesus could never love me because of the things I've done.
 - God is distant and does not care about my situation.
 - He gives things to others, but not to me.
- Getting our beliefs right is key to living by faith.
 - **Colossians 3:2–3:** *Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.*

living by faith

- Right belief shapes the right words.
- Your words have power.
 - **Proverbs 18:21:** *Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruits.*
- Words that you speak shape who you are and who others are.
 - **Ephesians 4:29:** *Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear.*

living by faith

- Knowing the right things and saying the right things are good, but it is incomplete if you are not actively living out your beliefs.
 - **James 1:22:** *But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.*
 - **James 2:17:** *So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.*
- God has given you righteousness, the Holy Spirit, authority, and power to be used not set on a shelf.

living by faith

- This is simple, but it is not easy.
- This is accessible for you.
- You are not alone.

reflection