



SERIES: MAY- JULY: THE MAIN THING

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Friday, 6/10/22

Scripture: Habakkuk

TITLE: Habakkuk - The Righteous Will Live By Faith

Have you ever been angry with God? Have you ever wondered how there can be so much evil and violence in the world? If you've been in a place like this of struggle, pain, and doubt, then I want to encourage you to take a look at the book of Habakkuk.

The key theme of This book is that God is in control, and He will bring justice in His way and in His own time.

This book is written towards the end of the time of the nation of Judah around 605 B.C. The author is Habakkuk himself. The interesting thing about this book is that he's speaking directly to God. In this book, we get to see into the heart and mind of a person who is struggling with fears, doubts, and questions for God.

The book is essentially a series of questions and charges that Habakkuk has for God. He wants answers for why God allows the evil and injustice that he sees in the nation of Judah all around him. The people all around him are violent and corrupt and take advantage of one another. Habakkuk is wondering when God will do something about it.

God's responses to Habakkuk's questions are essentially this, He will raise up the nation of Babylon to bring down Judah and bring justice for their evil. But this doesn't seem to be a very good answer for Habakkuk. Ultimately, God points to the fact that He will bring down Babylon and every evil nation at some point in His own way. God promises that He will one day restore His people and bring an end to all the injustice and corruption in the world.

God gives his response this way in Habakkuk 2:2-4:

“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.”

I love this passage for two reasons, it tells us that even when God's response seems slow or non-existent, He will act, and an answer is coming. Even when our soul is struggling and suffering with all the evil we see around us, we are told this wonderful encouragement that is quoted three times in the New Testament: the righteous will live by faith.

That idea should be our big takeaway from the book of Habakkuk. Yes, there is evil and pain and suffering in the world all around us. Yes, we all struggle with doubt when it doesn't seem like God is there or that He cares. But we must read his word and trust that He will act just as He has throughout human history.

God did bring down the nation of Babylon, God did send a Savior just like you promised. So even when the evil of this world seems overwhelming, we can trust that He will return again and bring us to be with Him in heaven just as He said He would. So let's learn from Habakkuk's example and remember this, even in the hardest times, the righteous will live by faith!