

Trust The Justice Of God Habakkuk 1:1-4

Life Is Sometimes Troubling

We believe God is in control, yet evil seems to rule the day

Seems our world is falling apart

The preacher tells us this is nothing new - **Ecclesiastes 1:9**

Consider an example from the Old Testament that might help us

Habakkuk 640-615 BC

Prophet sent to warn of Chaldeans coming to punish Judah during the days of Jeremiah

Concerned that God was using a wicked nation to punish the righteous

A lesson in trust for our time of trouble

Habakkuk Had Serious Spiritual Questions

Sent to declare doom on Judah. Babylon was being raised up by God to take out Judah

Habakkuk's honesty is evident in his questions to God - **Habakkuk 1:2-4,13**

Psalms had similar frustrating questions - **Psalms 44:24; 74:10; 79:5; 80:4; 89:46**

He just about gave up on God's justice - **Psalms 73:1-17**

Jeremiah struggled with these questions - **Jeremiah 12:1-4; 15:15-21**

Even today wonder, how a just God allows despicable injustice to exist?

Try to explain in our mind why sin not punished way we think it should be - **Isaiah 55:8**

We are often frustrated with questions, but not many answers - **Habakkuk 1:4**

See everything held dear lost to godless nation God strengthened

Wrestled with age-old problem of why innocent suffer while ungodly prosper - **Habakkuk 1:12-13**

Habakkuk Had Patience

Even frustrated, Habakkuk knew God had a reason & he was determined to wait for it - **Habakkuk 2:1**

Faith told him there was method to madness and God would reveal His answer sooner or later.

David had similar faith in God's justice at darkest hour of his life - **Psalms 5:1-6**

This same patience is required in Christians today. - **Romans 12:19; Hebrews 10:30-31**

Though all is lost and we cannot understand, we must be patient for God's purpose to be known

Habakkuk Had Great Faith

Even with his questions, he trusted in God - **Habakkuk 3:1-7,17-19**

Habakkuk's confident & absolute faith was key trait of his character.

With a message of calamity and frustrating questions he remains patient because of strong faith

Habakkuk's faith led him to take his unresolved problems to God

So it should be for us - **Philippians 4:4-7; 1Peter 5:6-7; Hebrews 13:5-6**

Who do we turn to when times look dreary? How strong is our faith?

Habakkuk Walked By Faith, Not Sight

Began with frustration & perplexity - but ends with triumphant acclaim - **Habakkuk 1:2; 3:17-19**

From tragedy to triumph; worry to worship; fear to faith

Though immediate circumstances totally against, ultimate triumph certain.

Habakkuk solved problem through wholehearted confidence in God.

God will right the evils over which we have no control. - **Job 42:1-6; Psalms 73:21-28**

We err greatly when we walk by sight rather than faith.

God's providential sovereignty will reconcile apparent inconsistencies. He can turn our tragedies to triumph? Worry to worship? Fear to faith? - **1Corinthians 15:54-58; 2Corinthians 4:16-5:7**

Our faith allows us to hold our heads high - **Romans 8:31,35,38-39**

Regardless of the crises of life - we must trust in God.

Though all is lost - resolve to trust in the triumph God promises to the steadfast - **Revelation 2:10**

We need to move with boldness concerning the future.

Habakkuk Is Our Example

His struggle with God's justice common to all who seek righteousness

He can be used as a pattern for our lives.

May we learn to face life's struggles with confidence, knowing the future holds tremendous blessing for all who fear & obey God.

Develop the attitude of the Psalmist - **Psalms 119:18,33-34**

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