



Teaching Notes: Ray Davis

March 27, 2011

Trusting in Troubled Times - Habakkuk

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Habakkuk 2:1-4

“Waiting on the Lord”

Because we live in an almost instant everything society it makes it hard to wait for almost anything. Waiting is a very important theme in the Bible that will help us in troubled times. In chapter two we have the interlude of Habakkuk waiting for God’s second response to him.

We Are To Wait On God...

Responsibly v1a “I will take my stand at my watchpost”

(Isa. 26:8; Gal. 6:9; Rom. 14:10-12) During troubling times people often do two things that are detrimental to their ability to get through the hard times: 1) Migrate away (withdraw) from spiritual disciplines. 2) Medicate because we want to feel good so we do things with money, sex, food, drugs that we shouldn’t do.

Objectively v1b “and station myself on the tower.”

Cities built towers so that they could see what was coming i.e. weather, enemies, etc. (Prov. 18:10; Ps. 9:9-10; Phil. 4:13; 2 Pet. 1:3-4)

Patiently v3 If it seems slow, wait for it;

It doesn’t happen to you but comes as a byproduct of two deliberate actions: 1) Stop playing God (Humility). (James 4:13-17) 2) Start seeing troubles as an opportunity for personal growth. (James 1:2-3, Rom. 5:3-5; Job 23:10)

Affectionately Hab. 1:12 O “Lord my God, my Holy One” Hab. 3:17-18 Yet, I will rejoice in the Lord. (Job 1-2; Ps. 16:2, 4, 8, 11) This means to love Him in and of Himself regardless of what you may or may not get from Him.

Faithfully v4 The righteous will live by faith. (Rom. 1:17; Gal. 3:11; Heb.10:38) One of the most important verses in the Bible! (2 Cor. 5:7; Heb. 11:1, 6; Rom. 10:17) Faith is a combination of God’s truth entering the head (Comprehension), igniting the heart (Conviction), and outworking through the hands (Commitment).

(Luke 12:37; John 13:1-20; Mark 10:45) To the degree you see Jesus waiting on you through the cross is to the degree you’ll be able to wait on Him.



Growing

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- 1) Because we live in an almost instant everything society it makes it hard for us to wait for almost anything. Explain. Waiting on the Lord is an important theme in the Bible that will assist us in troubled times. In what area(s) of your life are you struggling to wait?
- 2) Read Habakkuk 2:1-4. When you think of waiting on the Lord do you see it as being passive or active? Is Habakkuk's waiting passive or active? Explain. Not leaving your post (v1) is waiting on God responsibly. What does that mean? (Isa.26:8; Gal.6:9; Rom.14:10-12)
- 3) Cities built towers (v1) so that they could see what was coming i.e. enemies, weather, etc. All of my troubles must be seen not subjectively (feelings) but objectively (relative to the facts of the nature & character of God). Explain that in light of these verses (Prov. 18:10; Ps. 9:9-10; Phil. 4:13; 2 Pet. 1:3-4)?
- 4) Waiting on God patiently (v3) isn't something that happens to you but is the result of deliberate actions. What are they according to these verses? (James 4:14-17; James 1:2-3, Rom. 5:3-5) Waiting on God affectionately means to love Him in and of Himself regardless of what you may or may not get from Him (Ps.16:2, 4, 8, 11). How do troubled times test this?
- 5) Verse v4 "The righteous will live by faith" is one of the most important verses in the Bible. Why is that true? What does it mean to live by faith (2 Cor. 5:7; Heb. 11:1, 6; Rom. 10:17)? To the degree you see Jesus waiting on you through the cross is to the degree you'll be able to wait on Him (Mark 10:45; Luke 12:37). Pray.