Living with joy in the midst of turmoil.



Habakkuk Part 4 Noah Largent 11/19/17

Habakkuk 3:17-18 Though the fig tree does not bud and there are no grapes on the vines, though the olive crop fails and the fields produce no food, though there are no sheep in the pen and no cattle in the stalls, ¹⁸ yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will be joyful in God my Savior.

Habakkuk 3:1-2 This is a prayer of Habakkuk the prophet according to Shigionoth: ² Lord, I have heard the report of what you did; I am awed, Lord, by what you accomplished. In our time repeat those deeds; in our time reveal them again. But in Your wrath remember mercy!

1. When questions about God or life creep in, take time to remind yourself of what you KNOW to be true.

Habakkuk 3:2 Lord, I have heard the report of what you did; I am awed, Lord, by what you accomplished.

"Looking back into Israel's history establishes a foundation of trust and hope."

"*Looking up* at creation's wonders as a sign of the Creator's presence and power."

-The NIV Application Commentary, Jame Bruckner page 259

"The book of Psalms brims with honest questions to God about evil and suffering and asks why God doesn't intervene. The psalms of lament grant us permission to express to God our honest questions, doubts, griefs and despair." - Randy Alcorn www.epm.org/blog/2016/Oct/7/laments-mourn-questions

2. In times of turmoil, there's nothing wrong with crying out to God!

Habakkuk 2:1 In our time repeat those deeds; in our time reveal them again.

"One of the most important points here about God's revealing of Himself is not in His appearance with His glory in Sinai, but by escorting His people during the long and arduous journey(ex. 40:34-38)... we should expect His presence at all times to be with us, in the midst of pain and hardship of the journey of life " - Riad A Kassis, "<u>Frustrated With God</u>" page 47

3. In times of turmoil, you can take comfort knowing that God `remembered' to act on our behalf.

Habakkuk 2:2-3 But in Your wrath remember mercy!

"Remember": act on behalf

Habakkuk couldn't have known it but in the future God would pour out His righteous wrath not on us but on Jesus. As God poured out His wrath, He <u>acted on our behalf</u> (remembering us) demonstrating His mercy.

Notes: