

The Proper Response to Confusion and Trouble
Passage: Habakkuk 1-3



This morning we are going to look at our theme from an OT perspective. How OT saints find comfort looking forward to the Messiah? How does that translate to how we can find comfort looking back at what Christ has already completed for us.

You are all entering a stage of life where there will be tons of decisions to be made. These are decisions that you have never had to make on your own before; your parents are there to assist you now. If you have not already, you will have to solidify what you believe and why you believe it. How are you going to respond to the changes that are ahead of you? Your must "Stay the course." At the end all of the change ahead, will you be able to echo the words of Paul in 2 Timothy 4:7 when he says, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith:"? How are you going to handle the coming change? Are you worried about that change? Do you fear that change? So how do you turn your worry into worship and our fear into faith? **In times of confusion and trouble, you must faithfully take joy in God's salvation and comfort in His sovereignty.**

i. **Habakkuk questions God's Methods. (Hab. 1:2-4, 12-13)**

A. **Life does not always seem fair.**

B. **Life does not always yield immediate rewards.**

ii. **Habakkuk questions God's solution. (Hab. 2)**

A. **Prayers are not always answered as desired.**

B. **Answered prayers are not always trusted.**

iii. **Habakkuk praises God's wisdom and power.**

A. **Life is not always easy.**

B. **God is always our strength.**

Psalm 34:8 O taste and see that the Lord is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him....**17** The righteous cry, and the Lord heareth, and delivereth them out of all their troubles. **18** The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit. **19** Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the Lord delivereth him out of them all. **20** He keepeth all his bones: not one of them is broken.

Deliverance may not be in the exact way that you want or expect, but the just shall live by faith. Verse 20 of psalm 34 may seem out of place. The reason I read it and the reason it is placed here in these verses is that it proves that God is in control. We know this verse as a prophecy about Jesus. At the time it seemed as if everything was spiraling out of control. It was not. I will allow you to crucify me on the cross even though I have done no wrong. BUT I will not allow you to break my bones because I am in control.

The prayer that started with fear and trembling ended with joy and triumph. The just shall live by faith. Faith in Christ prepares us for every event that comes into our lives. God is in control. We have salvation through Christ.- Our future is set. Jesus is Better!

In times of confusion and trouble, we must faithfully take joy in God's salvation and comfort in His sovereignty. Stay the course! Finish your race!