

Habakkuk # 10“Semper Fi”

Habakkuk 2:2-4

Habakkuk wrestles with the mysteries of divine Providence in reconciling the presence of evil with the existence of a good, all-powerful God.

According to Webster’s Dictionary, this is called theodicy; the vindication of the justice and goodness of God in spite of the existence of evil in the world.

Habakkuk teaches that a comprehensive resolution of this comes in living a faith-rest life in 2:4 (See, the enemy is puffed up; his desires are not upright but the righteous person will live by his faithfulness) thereby trusting in an all-knowing, all-powerful loving God.

Habakkuk’s appeals to God to discipline Judah remind us that when we pray for God to restore the US, we must not question the method He uses to bring about His rebuke.

Habakkuk had the attitude that many decent law-abiding people have; he’s distraught over the violence and injustice in his country.

Habakkuk wondered what many have from almost the beginning of time: ‘If God is good and He is, then why is there evil in the world?’

‘Okay, I’m beginning to catch on but if there has to be evil, why do evil people prosper, even for a little while?’

We don’t have to look very far to see the wickedness in the world around us and at first glance, the ungodly often do seem to go unpunished.

Those who reject and disobey God’s laws will be held accountable for their actions and the fact that God says “Vengeance is Mine and I will repay when I see fit” not necessarily when we think it should be dealt with, reminds us to leave ALL judgment in the hands of the Lord and in the timing of the Lord.

To avoid severe discouragement, we must realize as quickly as possible that God doesn’t always give us the answer we want or expect to our prayers.

God’s people in Judah thought He was not involved, so they continued in their rejection of Him which always leads to self-centered sin.

Habakkuk is among the tiny remnant of experientially righteous followers of God.

Habakkuk fears or respects God and generally does what is right but it’s not enough for him because as a prophet of God, he has a heart for God’s people.

The book of Habakkuk teaches us to always come to God with our issues but it also teaches us not to resist Him when He acts in a way that we don’t understand.

Habakkuk assumes God is doing nothing because he can’t see beyond himself to panoramically take in the big picture of what God is actually doing.

Habakkuk will learn a valuable lesson that profits all who receive it: Experientially righteous or upright, just

people must walk by faith because we often cannot see the intricacies of God's plan behind the scenes.

Appeals to God that are met with silence from Him indicate that He's telling us that He's already given us all we need through His Word in us which is ready for application to our situation.

God promises never to place us in a situation beyond our capacity to handle when we use His power system, so He wants us to look to Him, our Problem-solver and not to look at our problems.

Habakkuk was awaiting God's answer to his questions and we often find ourselves waiting to apply God's Word that we've learned previously to our current situation.

But if we've not prepared in peacetime through constant Bible study, we cannot wait patiently with faith in God for the opportunity to use His supernatural weapon of the sword of the Spirit to face testing in life.

Habakkuk waited for God to speak to him but we have the complete mind of Christ available to us to apply to our lives as needed and that's how God speaks to us.

The doctrine of inspiration states that God supernaturally directed the writers of Scripture; so that without waving their human intelligence, their individuality, their literary style, their personal feelings or any other human factor, His own complete and coherent message to man was recorded with perfect accuracy in the original languages of Scripture with the very words bearing the authority of divine authorship.

The Bible is described as the Canon of Scripture in three ways:

1. It's called the Word of God in Hebrews 4:12, so it's related to God the Father;
2. It's called the mind of Christ in 1st Corinthians 2:16, so it's related to God the Son and
3. It's called the voice of the Holy Spirit in Hebrews 3:7, so it's related to God the Holy Spirit.

We all must learn to wait patiently for God to do His work as impatience is arrogance in thinking our plan and our timing are better than God's plan and His timing.

To become impatient with God is so prideful because it says in effect that God doesn't know what He's doing.

Our patience is directly related to our knowledge of God.

A good congregation is occupied with Jesus Christ, sharing God the Father's happiness, enjoying their capacity for life in Him so they can rejoice with those who rejoice and weep with those who weep, never being hung-up on themselves in pettiness or jealous of the prosperity of others.

A good congregation means a highly decorated pastor and congregation in eternity, who glorify our Lord Jesus Christ, forever.