



“Yet I will rejoice in the Lord;
I will take joy in the God of my salvation.”

HABAKKUK 3:18

**Habakkuk’s Psalm of Praise
(Habakkuk 3:17-19)**

“Quid pro Quo”

- (Latin: “what for what” or “something for something”) A favor or advantage granted or expected in return for something else
- “I will vacuum your car if you do the dishes for me”
- “I owe you one”
- A result of living in a “transactional society”? (Primary focus on one’s self-interest and getting ahead in society)
- I will follow the Lord if he provides blessings on me → If I follow the Lord, He is obligated to provide blessings to me → “The Prosperity Gospel”

II. Components of the Book of Habakkuk

C. Content/Framework

1. Habakkuk's frustration over God's delay of justice (lament)
2. Habakkuk lodges two complaints against God
3. Habakkuk's journey of trust in the faithfulness of God
4. Habakkuk's song of praise to God

I. Even during times of material scarcity . . .

- Though the fig tree should not blossom,
nor fruit be on the vines,
the produce of the olive fail
and the fields yield no food,
the flock be cut off from the fold
and there be no herd in the stalls,

--Habakkuk 3:17

II. Praise the Lord!

- yet I will rejoice in the LORD;
I will take joy in the God of my salvation.

--Habakkuk 3:18

Jonathan Edwards on *Freedom of the Will*

- “yet I **will** rejoice in the LORD” (V. 18A)
- “the **Will** . . . is *That by which the mind **chooses** anything . . .* An act of the **will** is the same as an act of choosing or choice” (p. 7)
- Willpower is needed to make a decision. But how does one choose?
- “*It is that motive, which, as it stands in view of the mind, is the strongest that determines **the will***”
- We choose that which we want the most . . . “Conditioning”
- “**Choose** this day whom you will serve . . . But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD” (Joshua 24:15 ESV)

Deeper Blessings

- “I will take **joy** in the God of my **salvation**” (v. 18b)
- A personal relationship with the Lord brings **joy/contentment**:
- “Not that I speak from [any personal] need, for I have learned to be content [and self-sufficient through Christ, satisfied to the point where I am not disturbed or uneasy] regardless of my circumstances.” (Philippians 4:11 Amplified Bible)
- “**Salvation**”: “The saving of [human beings] from the power and effects of sin. . . . From a root word meaning width, spaciousness, freedom from constraint, hence deliverance”
- Un-carry the weight of sin

God equips us to thrive regardless of the situation

- GOD, the Lord, is my strength;
he makes my feet like the deer's;
he makes me tread on my high places.

--Habakkuk 3:19







Hooves

Dew
Claws



III. Character versus Condition (v. 19)

- A. Grit/Strength (v. 19a)
- B. Adaptation/New Skills (v. 19b)
- C. A Place to Thrive (v. 19c)
 - 1. A challenging landscape
 - 2. A place set apart
 - a. Safety
 - b. Perspective
 - c. Calm in the Storm

IV. Concluding the Book of Habakkuk

- A. The Lord will deal with iniquity
- B. The just shall live by faith

Connecting Habakkuk to the Rest of Bible

- “Habakkuk carries on the biblical story in grand fashion—that the Creator, Redeemer God *will* do something about ***human iniquity***, while his people live in ***hope*** and with ***faithful trust*** in him” (*How to Read the Bible Book by Book*, p. 247)

God will do something about *human iniquity*

- **9** *If we confess our sins*, he is faithful and just and **will forgive us our sins** and purify us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:9 NIV) [Reflect]
- Because ***the sentence against an evil deed is not executed quickly***, therefore the hearts of the sons of men among them are given fully to do evil. (Ecclesiastes 8:11)[Patience required]
- Thus ***I will punish*** the world for its evil
And ***the wicked for their iniquity***;
I will also put an end to the arrogance of the proud
And abase the haughtiness of the ruthless. (Isaiah 13:11) [God is just]

The End of the Matter: Live by Faith

- “We have been assured by people who think they know a great deal about the future that awful times are coming. Be it so; it need not alarm us, for the Lord reigneth. Stay yourself on the Lord . . . And you can rejoice in His name. If the worst comes to the worst, our refuge is in God” (Charles Spurgeon)
- **“but the righteous shall live by his faith” (Habakkuk 2:4b)**

Let Us Pray

