

# The Work of Faith Pt. 7

Habakkuk 1:12-2:5, Wednesday, May 15, 2024

# The Work of Faith Pt. 7

Habakkuk 1:12-2:5

## God's Astonishing Answer:

- I. Pay attention and you will see my work.
- II. Study the object of My work to learn more of My ways.
- III. Trust My Word to bring justice to all.

# **The Work of Faith Pt. 7**

## **Habakkuk 1:12-2:5**

- I. Includes Examining the Object of Your Faith in Light of Current Circumstances. Vv. 12-17**

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Habakkuk 1:12-2:5

“Habakkuk has two alternatives now. ‘ He can allow his doubts to be either destructive or creative. **He can use his doubts, struggles, and agonizing questions to turn from God and to renounce his faith. Or he can keep his hold on God, trusting him for an answer.’”**

J. N. Boo Heflin in Waylon Bailey NAC Commentary

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Habakkuk 1:12-2:5

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- II. Includes Preparation for a Response from God 2:1

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Habakkuk 1:12-2:5

Habakkuk “revealed a mature wisdom in his determination that this response be shaped by what God himself would say. **It is a wise man who takes his questions about God to God for the answers.**”

Carl E. Amerding *EBC*

## What would be required to get our answers to our questions about God from God?

1. Sit in and under God's Word WHILE in affliction/pressured.

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**It is good for me that I was afflicted, That I may learn Your statutes.**

**Psalms 119:71**



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Habakkuk 1:12-2:5

so that the proof of your faith, being more precious than gold which is perishable, even though tested by fire, may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ; 8 **and though you have not seen Him, you love Him, and though you do not see Him now, but believe in Him, you greatly rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, 9 obtaining as the outcome of your faith the salvation of your souls.**

13 **Therefore, prepare your minds for action, keep sober in spirit, fix your hope completely on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.**

1 Peter 1:7–9, 13

## What would be required to get our answers to our questions about God from God?

1. Sit in and under God's Word WHILE in affliction/pressured.
2. Widen your circle to include others under God.

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  - A. Your obedience to God's Word affects other's faithfulness to God's Word both now and in the future.

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  - A. Your obedience to God's Word affects other's faithfulness to God's Word both now and in the future.
  - B. Your obedience includes waiting with expectancy and continued obedience.

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Habakkuk 1:12-2:5

“Behold, I am going to send My messenger, and he will clear the way before Me. And the Lord, whom you seek, will suddenly come to His temple; and the messenger of the covenant, in whom you delight, behold, He is coming,” says the LORD of hosts.

Malachi 3:1

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Malachi 3:1

FOR YET IN A VERY LITTLE WHILE, HE WHO IS COMING WILL COME, AND WILL NOT DELAY. 38 BUT MY RIGHTEOUS ONE SHALL LIVE BY FAITH; AND IF HE SHRINKS BACK, MY SOUL HAS NO PLEASURE IN HIM.

Hebrews 10:37–38

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Habakkuk 1:12-2:5

As to this salvation, **the prophets** who prophesied of the grace that would come to you **made careful searches and inquiries**, 11 seeking to know what person or time the Spirit of Christ within them was indicating as He predicted the sufferings of Christ and the glories to follow. 12 **It was revealed to them that they were not serving themselves, but you, in these things which now have been announced to you** through those who preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven—things into which angels long to look.

1 Peter 1:10–12

## The prophets had a clear assignment. What is our job in relationship to the work of preserving and heralding God's Word?

- Necessity to give gospel – don't mess with it
- 2 Cor. 5 – knowing fear of the Lord, we persuade men – 1 Cor. 1 – gospel goes against natural definition of life - think opposition from Jews (God – fearers) to Paul in Acts – we miss signs given to us of Gods mercy that cuts against our self sufficiency and pride
- Living life in way that shows impacted by the gospel
- Know words of gospel – and those beliefs are highly treasured because we live them
- Continue studying, living, giving word in face of opposition
- 2 Peter 1 - if these qualities not yours and increasing... useless and unfruitful – watch stale truth
- 1 Tim 3 – know how to conduct self in house of God... pillar of truth



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Habakkuk 1:12-2:5

You are our letter, written in our hearts, known and read by all men; 3 being manifested that you are a letter of Christ, cared for by us, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts.

2 Corinthians 3:2–3

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For the **word of the Lord has sounded forth from you**, not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place your faith toward God has gone forth, so that we have no need to say anything. 9 For they themselves report about us **what kind of a reception we had with you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve a living and true God, 10 and to wait for His Son from heaven**, whom He raised from the dead, that is Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath to come.

1 Thessalonians 1:8–10

# While we must come to God with questions about His power and providence, what would show a lack of humility and impatience in our requests? (what would show we demand His answer now?)

- When focused on waning trust to neglect of continuing to nurture faith shown by obedience in “the middle” – impatience shows by change of actions.
- When no anchor for emotions, when looking everywhere, but God’s not taken seriously (i.e. When Judah told to yield to captors)
- Jonah – rather die than yield to God
- Prayer against God’s will and nature
- Imagining people/circumstances changing as only way for deliverance
- Worship that centers on our feeling of it – experience of worship over God worshipping
- When God on trial and we leave depending on answer instead of seeking to understand – and remaining under

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Habakkuk 1:12-2:5

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, 4 who comforts us in all our affliction so that we will be able to comfort those who are in any affliction with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. 5 For just as the sufferings of Christ are ours in abundance, so also our comfort is abundant through Christ.

2 Corinthians 1:3–5

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**A mature faith is one that both sees the issues at hand and yet remains steadfast, living in light of God's providence.**

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  - A. The Proud One

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**What bothers us about people we think are proud?**



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**Though we admit we need more humility, why is it easy to recoil at being called proud?**

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If we would heed the message and continue with Habakkuk in the work of faith in God, **what subtle roots of “the proud one” must we identify, confess, and eradicate?**

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Habakkuk 1:12-2:5

And He also told this parable **to some people who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and viewed others with contempt:** 10 “Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. 11 “The Pharisee stood and was praying this to himself: ‘God, **I thank You that I am not like other people:** swindlers, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. 12 **‘I fast twice a week; I pay tithes of all that I get.’** 13 “But the tax collector, standing some distance away, was even unwilling to lift up his eyes to heaven, but was beating his breast, saying, **‘God, be merciful to me, the sinner!’** 14 **“I tell you, this man went to his house justified rather than the other;** for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted.” Luke 18:9–14

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“All, then, who indulge themselves in their own counsels, deserve to be forsaken by God, and to be left by him to be driven up and down, and here and there, by Satan; for the only unfailing security for the faithful is to acquiesce in God’s word.”

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