

The Work of Faith Pt. 11

Habakkuk 1:12-2:5, Wednesday, June 12, 2024

The Work of Faith Pt. 11

Habakkuk 1:12-2:5

- I. Includes Examining the Object of Your Faith in Light of Current Circumstances. vv. 12-17
- II. Includes Preparation for a Response from God 2:1

The Work of Faith Pt. 11

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*

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Habakkuk 1:12-2:5

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- II. Includes Preparation for a Response from God 2:1
- III. Includes Responding to His Word with Willing Obedience 2:2-3
 - 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.

The Work of Faith Pt. 11

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- IV. Perseveres Based on the Gaze of the Soul. 2:4-5
 - A. The Proud One

The Work of Faith Pt. 11

Habakkuk 1:12-2:5

“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.**”

John Calvin

The Work of Faith Pt. 11

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 - B. The Righteous One

The Work of Faith Pt. 11

Habakkuk 1:12-2:5

“So central to the whole of Jewish thought was Habakkuk 2:4b that the Talmud records this famous remark made by Rabbi Simlai: ‘Moses gave Israel 613 commandments, David reduced them to 11 (Ps. 15), Micah to 3 (Mic. 6:8), Isaiah to 2 (Is. 56:1), but Habakkuk to 1—‘the righteous shall live by his faith.’”

Walter Kaiser

The Work of Faith Pt. 11

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 - A. The Proud One
 - B. The Righteous One
 1. Lives by faith

Where have we seen evidence of faith and its roots in Habakkuk to this point?

- Though struggles tremendously, goes to God and waits for God
- Trusts God with his questions (open in face of uncertainty)
- VV.12-13 – relies on God's attributes and promises
- Chapter 1- calls for long time without seeing a response
- Evidence that kept God in his place above so could continue even in turmoil

The Work of Faith Pt. 11

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instead of “trusting in him they hold aloof in a spirit of self-sufficiency, trusting in themselves. Their souls are inflated: they lack either substance or stability, and a pin prick will make them collapse.”

FF Bruce

What makes the proud/those who shrink back not continue? Where is their self-sufficiency? (What kind of substance or stability is lacking? What is the pin prick that makes them collapse)?

instead of “trusting in him they hold aloof in a spirit of self-sufficiency, trusting in themselves. Their souls are inflated: they lack either substance or stability, and a pin prick will make them collapse.” FF Bruce

- Looking at their resources, what see & know – therefore, when they run out do not continue vs. bigger picture of God’s provision & Grace & Rewards – Heb. 13:20-21, Col. 2:6-7
- In a hope that is apart from God (Contrary to I John 3:1-3)
- Lack of affirmation or present reward
- I Cor. 4 – freedom of self-forgetfulness in light of gaze at God (greater than figuring out ourselves & others)

The Work of Faith Pt. 11

Habakkuk 1:12-2:5

41 Peter said, “Lord, are You addressing this parable to us, or to everyone else as well?”
42 And the Lord said, **“Who then is the faithful and sensible steward, whom his master will put in charge of his servants, to give them their rations at the proper time? 43
“Blessed is that slave whom his master finds so doing when he comes. 44** “Truly I say to you that he will put him in charge of all his possessions. 45 **“But if that slave says in his heart, ‘My master will be a long time in coming,’** and begins to beat the slaves, both men and women, and to eat and drink and get drunk; 46 **the master of that slave will come on a day when he does not expect him and at an hour he does not know,** and will cut him in pieces, and assign him a place with the unbelievers. 47 **“And that slave who knew his master’s will and did not get ready or act in accord with his will, will receive many lashes,** 48 but the one who did not know it, and committed deeds worthy of a flogging, will receive but few. From everyone who has been given much, much will be required; and to whom they entrusted much, of him they will ask all the more.

Luke 12:41–48

The Work of Faith Pt. 11

Habakkuk 1:12-2:5

Then he **believed in the LORD**; and He reckoned it to him as **righteousness**.

Genesis 15:6

For in it **the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith**; as it is written,
“**BUT THE RIGHTEOUS man SHALL LIVE BY FAITH.**”

Romans 1:17

Now that **no one is justified by the Law before God is evident**; for, “**THE RIGHTEOUS MAN SHALL LIVE BY FAITH.**”

Galatians 3:11

38 BUT MY RIGHTEOUS ONE SHALL LIVE BY FAITH; AND IF HE SHRINKS BACK, MY SOUL HAS NO PLEASURE IN HIM.

Hebrews 10:38

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 - B. The Righteous One
 1. Lives by faith
 2. In the God of Righteousness

The Work of Faith Pt. 11

Habakkuk 1:12-2:5

The LORD is righteous in all His ways And kind in all His deeds.
Psalm 145:17

The Work of Faith Pt. 11

Habakkuk 1:12-2:5

When you KNOW your SOUL is not righteous because what comes to the surface is not righteous, **you must look to the God of righteousness not only to continue but FOR the righteousness needed to continue.**

The Work of Faith Pt. 11

Habakkuk 1:12-2:5

“that faith which strips us of all arrogance, and leads us naked and needy to God, that we may seek salvation from him alone, which would otherwise be far removed from us”

John Calvin

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John Calvin

Man is very apt to rest and dote upon his own worth and to build all his acceptance with God upon it—to come to God and challenge him for a debt, as the Pharisee did. It is very natural to rest in those duties and make them an excuse for other things.

Thomas Manton, *A Practical Exposition of the Lord's Prayer*

The Work of Faith Pt. 11

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To be at present in a state of condemnation is cause sufficient for men to come to Jesus Christ for life. But that will not do except the cause moves them, which it will never do until their eyes are opened to see themselves in that condition. **For it is not a man's being under wrath but his seeing it that moves him to come to Jesus Christ. Alas! All men by sin are under wrath, yet but few of that all come to Jesus Christ. And the reason is that they do not see their condition.** (John Bunyan, Come and Welcome to Jesus Christ)

The Work of Faith Pt. 11

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Genesis 15:6

“I hate, I reject your festivals, Nor do I delight in your solemn assemblies.
22 “Even though you offer up to Me burnt offerings and your grain offerings, I will not accept them; And I will not even look at the peace offerings of your fatlings. 23 “Take away from Me the noise of your songs; I will not even listen to the sound of your harps. 24 **“But let justice roll down like waters And righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.**

Amos 5:21–24

The Work of Faith Pt. 11

Habakkuk 1:12-2:5

Now it came about after these things, that God tested Abraham, and said to him, “Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.” 2 He said, “Take now your son, your only son, whom you love, Isaac, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I will tell you.”

Genesis 22:1–2

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Genesis 22:1–2

Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered up Isaac his son on the altar? 22 You see that faith was working with his works, and as a result of the works, faith was perfected; 23 and the Scripture was fulfilled which says, **“AND ABRAHAM BELIEVED GOD, AND IT WAS RECKONED TO HIM AS RIGHTEOUSNESS,”** and he was called the friend of God. **24 You see that a man is justified by works and not by faith alone.**

James 2:21–24

The Work of Faith Pt. 11

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“The righteous are those courageous enough to accept God’s word of promise in a world dominated by the horrors of Babylonian power described in the preceding verses.”

Waylon Bailey

“Faith involves waiting for fulfillment and thus is always in danger of being shaken; therefore, steadiness and constancy are of its essence.”

Commentary on NT Use of OT

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“The righteous are also those whose lives correspond to God’s leadership. The righteous are not perfect, but they do live according to their relationship with God. To be righteous means to meet the demands of a relationship.” Waylon Bailey

What does this mean? How does this change the focus of our faith in God? What hope does this give us?

“The righteous are also those whose lives correspond to God’s leadership. The righteous are not perfect, but they do live according to their relationship with God. To be righteous means to meet the demands of a relationship.” Waylon Bailey

