

# The Work of Faith Pt. 12

Habakkuk 1:12-2:5, Wednesday, June 19, 2024

# The Work of Faith Pt. 12

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
- 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.

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  - A. The Proud One

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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

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    1. Lives by faith

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For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God, you may receive what was promised. 37 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.** 39 **But we are not of those who shrink back to destruction, but of those who have faith to the preserving of the soul.**

Hebrews 10:36–39

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

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## Habakkuk 1:12-2:5

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



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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.**

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## Habakkuk 1:12-2:5

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

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Habakkuk 1:12-2:5

But now apart from the Law the righteousness of God has been manifested, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, 22 even the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all those who believe; for there is no distinction; 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus; 25 whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith. **This was to demonstrate His righteousness**, because in the forbearance of God He passed over the sins previously committed; 26 for the demonstration, I say, of His righteousness at the present time, **so that He would be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.**

Romans 3:21–26

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Habakkuk 1:12-2:5

What then shall we say that Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh, has found? **2 For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God.** 3 For what does the Scripture say? **“ABRAHAM BELIEVED GOD, AND IT WAS CREDITED TO HIM AS RIGHTEOUSNESS.”** 4 Now to the one who works, his wage is not credited as a favor, but as what is due. 5 But to the one who does not work, but believes in Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is credited as righteousness,

Romans 4:1–5

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**“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

New American Standard Bible : 1995 update. 1995. LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

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**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

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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

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Habakkuk 1:12-2:5

**So then those who are of faith are blessed with Abraham, the believer.**

10 For as many as are of the works of the Law are under a curse; for it is written, “CURSED IS EVERYONE WHO DOES NOT ABIDE BY ALL THINGS WRITTEN IN THE BOOK OF THE LAW, TO PERFORM THEM.” 11 **Now that no**

**one is justified by the Law before God is evident; for, “THE RIGHTEOUS MAN SHALL LIVE BY FAITH.”** 12 However, the Law is not of faith; on the contrary, “HE WHO PRACTICES THEM SHALL LIVE BY THEM.” 13 Christ

redeemed us from the curse of the Law, having become a curse for us—for it is written, “CURSED IS EVERYONE WHO HANGS ON A TREE”—

**14 in order that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we would receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.** Galatians 3:9–14



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## Habakkuk 1:12-2:5

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

Genesis 15:6

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

Genesis 15:6

**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

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James 2:21–24

“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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Habakkuk 1:12-2:5

“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**
- Do what pleases because you believe/ love/ trust that this is a sign that you believe
- How you handle people shows how you are responding to His leadership, which shows how you view Him as your leader.
- Lifestyle of following/of belonging (Colossians 1: 20 – 22)
- Eternal relationship so grow in understanding what relationship with Him entails (ie. In marriage)
- Hope in persevering in relationship with God if we just respond to the demands of a relationship with God.

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Habakkuk 1:12-2:5

**Do this**, knowing the time, that it is already the hour for you to awaken from sleep; **for now salvation is nearer to us than when we believed.**

12 The night is almost gone, and the day is near. **Therefore let us lay aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light.** 13 Let us behave properly as in the day, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual promiscuity and sensuality, not in strife and jealousy. 14 **But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh in regard to its lusts.**

Romans 13:11–14

## Where do these passages focus our faith?

- Living (now) relationship with God.
- Hope is in the future; full deliverance is in the future – This brings hope NOW to live under demands of relationship with Him
- Stop focusing on who you “used to be”
- Don’t rest on fruits of resting on Christ with righteousness which gives us firm standing



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Habakkuk 1:12-2:5

and **may be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own derived from the Law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which comes from God on the basis of faith,**

Philippians 3:9

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**How should this focus on faith in Habakkuk and its ramifications for understanding faith needed for salvation change our focus in evangelism—how we give the gospel?**

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and **may be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own derived from the Law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which comes from God on the basis of faith,**

Philippians 3:9

“I have been crucified with Christ; and **it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God,** who loved me and gave Himself up for me.

Galatians 2:20

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“Faith in God was the key to consistent living, even though violence abounded and justice was perverted (1:2-4). That short statement helps believers to persevere even though God chastens them 1:5-11 and they cannot understand His ways (1:12-17). It provides a solution to the doubt they sometimes feel in His all-wise providence (2:1-3), and helps them to understand his righteous judgments (2:4-20). In the final analysis, faith provides the key to understanding the Lord’s sovereign purpose, and it leads men to worship (3:1-19).” Waylon Bailey

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“The righteous person is the one who maintains loyalty to God in spite of all discouragement and continues to trust in him even when the outlook is most unpromising (as it was for Habakkuk).

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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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Therefore, **since we have a great high priest** who has passed through the heavens, **Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession.** 15 For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin. **16 Therefore let us draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.**

Hebrews 4:14–16