Habakkuk - Life's Questions

The Question of Mercy

Habakkuk 3:1-19

Introduction - What do you do when calamity seem inevitable? Give up and guit, Blame others and God, Get Angry,

Corrie Ten Boom -

"If you look at the world, you will be distressed If you look within yourself, you will be depressed BUT if you look to God, you will be at rest"

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Habakkuk's response in chapter 3

I. He called upon the Lord in PRAYER

A. Revive your work in us

Note - your work not ours

B. In wrath remember mercy

The wrath was earned The mercy is grace

II. He remembered the mighty works of God in PRAISE 3-15

This appears to be a song - with many references to God's power (Read as a poem or words of a song)

A. As a conquering Warrior

Conquering all with radiant splendor Conquering all as unstoppable force Plaque and Pestilence

B. As a sovereign Ruler

Overcoming Rivers, Mountains, Sun and Moon Supreme over nations and all people

C. Many pictures of the victories of God

Defeating Egypt with plagues Parting the Red sea Providing water from the rocks

Parting the river Jordan

Defeating the nations in Canaan

III. He restated his faith in a PROCLAMATION 16-19

A. Admitting to himself and God his weakness

He trembled before the power of God He submitted to the will and timing of God

B. He made a vow of unwavering confidence in God His confidence was not in crops, or flocks Though vine nor fig tree neither Their wonted fruit shall bear, Though all the field should wither, Nor flocks nor herds be there:

Yet God the same abiding His praise shall tune my voice; For, while in Him confiding, I cannot but rejoice.

C. He professed his trust in the Lord

For his salvation - even in the storms of life For his strength - even when his was gone For his stability - even when the world was a rocky crag As a deer runs on the mountains

What are we to do in the face of certain calamity?

1. Realize that God is omniscient

We are instruments in His powerful hands To show His power in deliverance To show His power in endurance

2. <u>Remember</u> God's greatness

Revisit the milestones of His love in your life Relive the power of His salvation God is like the Sun - Too awesome to view but Too powerful to miss

3. <u>Reaffirm</u> your faith in God

Prepare for the storms - store up provisions Resolve to exalt God no matter what comes Write down a praise list for a rainy day Write out your faith to reread over and over Underline scriptures that give your strength No revival without "reBible"

4. <u>Rest</u> is the assurance that God is still on the throne

The righteous shall live by faith and rest in faith Trust Him to guide your steps on the rocky heights Change you worry into worship

What are you facing today that looks to be impossible? Can you:

Trust in the Almighty God Think of what He has done for you Tenaciously hold on to your faith Trust yourself into His hands