

Big Isaac Community Church

Teaching Ministry

7.20.2025

Please look up and read all verses in their entirety. I have only written partial verses.

Make your own notes, write down other scriptures that you run across while studying, write down questions that you may have or comments as well. Allow the Holy Spirit to reveal to you what he would have you to see through the study of God's word.

An Appointed Time

Habakkuk 2: 1 – 4, 3: 18 – 19

So let me ask this question. Do we live by our faith in God, or do we live in reaction to our worldly emotion of fear? And our answer would be that we live mostly according to the reaction of worldly fear in our life. Although we have been justified by Christ, we continue to live in the flesh, but this does not mean that our lives need to be directed by sinful selfishness, but we are to be guided by our faith in Christ. These continual choices, that we must make, are due to the fact that the old nature is going to remain with us throughout our life here on earth, and it will continue to fight against our new life in Christ Jesus. But, even though this is to be a truth in our life we can joy in knowing that the old nature only receives strength from our worldly desires, which we are overcoming day by day, and our new nature is strengthened in the power of Christ, which we are growing in day by day, and that through the cross and the resurrection, we now have the ability to overcome and defeat the sinfulness of the world with its desires.

Psalm 56: 3 – 4,....what time I am afraid I will trust in thee....in God I will praise his word, in God I have put my trust, I will not fear what the flesh can do unto me....

So, why is death so dreaded, that humanity lives in fear of it all their life. Well we think that it is the thought of physically dying that we fear, but the truth is that the thought of our physical death is just a reminder from God that triggers our awareness of our eternal existence, and for this reason, when we were born into this world, God instilled within all of mankind the sense of knowing that either a choice to serve him, or a choice to reject God, is inevitable. And even though it may not be understood, especially by those who have not yet believed upon the saving grace of Jesus Christ, it is impressed upon us to fear becoming separated from him, which is eternal death. Now, there will be those that will try to overcome this fear by telling themselves that after death there is no heaven to seek after, nor is there a hell to shun, or we may just to simply try to convince ourselves that there is no such thing as hell, and if there was, no one would certainly be condemned to such a cruel punishment. So in: What does it say?

Hebrews 2: 27,....it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgement....

For the one who has yet to believe, this is a fearful truth that many seek to ignore, or they just completely dismiss the idea, but for the church, or the body of Christ, as believers we should see it as a steppingstone into an eternal life with Christ.

Habakkuk 2: 1 – 4,....I will stand upon my watch....and will watch to see what he will say unto me....and the Lord answered me, and said, write the vision, and make it plain....that he may run that readeth it....the vision is yet for an appointed time....though it tarry, wait for it....it will surely come....behold....that the just shall live by faith....

In this passage of scripture we see the prophet Habakkuk, and just like we are as believers, he has declared his intentions to God, and whether we want to believe it or not you and I declared our intention to God at the moment by faith believing, we called upon the name of the Lord Jesus Christ to be saved, and that intention was to actively seek God concerning the complaints that we have made about the injustices that we see going on in the world around us. Now, let me point out that there is a difference between actively seeking an answer from God and responsively following after his command, because it is the way in which we receive our understanding of Gods message unto us that has everything to do with our reaction to the situations and circumstances that are occurring in our life. So, just like the prophet Habakkuk did in his day, we cry out to God, yearning to receive some kind of response from the Lord.

Psalms 25: 5,....lead me in thy truth, and teach me, for thou art the God of my salvation, on thee do I wait all the day....

We will never go astray if we look to the Lord through prayer and follow after obedience to his word. Waiting upon the Lord shows our spirit of trust, humility, obedience, hope, confidence, all of which is a response to our faith in Christ. Nothing proves our faith like waiting upon God, because when we wait, we are demonstrating our submission unto him. Waiting does not mean that we stop everything and just sit around, but it means that we bring our entire being under God's authority and direction. So, while the prophet Habakkuk waited, God instructed him to write.

Habakkuk 2: 2,....write the vision....

God himself shows unto us through his word the importance of keeping a permanent record, for he has given unto us the greatest message that was ever to be written down, and that is the message of his saving grace that comes through his Son, Christ Jesus. In this written message we find the entirety of the value of life itself. And it is for this reason that we see the importance of keeping a record of all that God portrays unto us. So, here is the importance of writing it down, it is because God's timing is not our timing and we can never comprehend all that he speaks to us about, so we keep a record, so that when it comes to pass, we will be able to bring to remembrance the fulfillment of the promises which he has given unto us. This work of obedience reveals our faith in Christ, and our faith in Christ is the key to true righteousness in God, which unlocks the door to eternal life. So, let us go back and see how that the prophet Habakkuk responsively reacts to God's message to him.

Habakkuk 3: 18 - 19,....although (there seems to be total devastation) yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will joy in the God of my salvation....the Lord God is my strength....he will make me to walk upon my high places....

So, normally due to our inherited nature from Adam, and the choices which we make, our first reaction to the unstable conditions in our life is worldly fear. But by faith, and through the strength and the power given unto us by God, which comes by the leadership and guidance of his Holy Spirit, we have the confidence of knowing that God is in control, and he will sustain us through what we may feel to be one of the darkest hours of our life. And although we may always be struggling with some kind of despair, as believers, we have the assurance that we can rejoice, not just in our salvation, but in God who is our salvation. And as we stand firm in our trust in God and in his word, nothing will keep us from declaring God's glory unto others.

Acts 17: 28,....for in him we live, and move, and have our being....

God created us, God wants to have a relationship with us, he has not only given unto us life and breath, but he has also established within us his time and his place so that we might exist for his purpose, his plan, and his will. When we allow God to put our life into a proper perspective then will we see him for who he truly is. The answer to all our problems, which comes from the choices which we have made and a lack of our understanding of God's word, the answer rest in the Lord Jesus Christ. All of the promises given unto us in his word requires patience to wait for the fulfillment of those promises, this is patience that can only come through our faith in Christ. God gives confidence and strength to all who will believe and submit to his will, trust in his word, and walk by his faith.

As believers, we have an eternal union with Christ that can never be broken. Hardships might test our relationship, persecutions may strain our relationship, and our disobedience will certainly bring God's wrath into our relationship, but nothing is about to separate those who are in Christ from the love of God. Those who have believed through faith in Christ, are saved eternally and forever. For God will always love us, no matter what.

John 10: 28,....and I give unto them eternal life, and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand....

So, the choice is ours, the choice to rejoice in the Lord, the choice to trust in the Lord, the choice to believe upon the Lord, the choice to put our hope in the Lord, and the choice to have complete faith in the Lord, and we make that choice, not just because of our faith in him, but because we know that he has faith in us, in our appointed time.

Let us Pray.

If anyone has any questions, comments or would just like to discuss any of the scriptures, feel free to call, text or email me. Keep praying for each other and all the God lays upon your heart. Hope to see everyone soon. God Bless.

Tim Hughes

304.376.3342 – Text or talk.

Tim.hughes1962@gmail.com

<https://hollowowlfarm.com/>

