

Watch And Be Amazed

1-5-20

Habakuk 1:5 (NIV)

Look at the nations and watch and be utterly amazed.

For I am going to do something in your days

that you would not believe, even if you were told.

For all of you who keep up with the national and world events, we know everyone is going crazy. For those who do not keep up with national and world events, the world is going crazy. This is nothing new. This is the same type of world in which Habakuk found himself. Habakuk was in distress because of Israel's sin and also because they were under oppression by Assyria. God had sent the Assyrians to punish Israel for disobeying God:

Isaiah 10:5 (ESV)

Assyria, the rod of MY anger;

the staff in their hands is MY fury!

Habakuk cries to God for help! God says HE will send the Babylonians to crush the Assyrians, but the Babylonians would continue the oppression of Judah for its sin. This prophecy was fulfilled decades later, in 586 BC.

God then reassures Habakuk that HE will have another nation defeat the Babylonians. (Babylon fell to Persia in 539 BC).

God communicates that HE is working throughout the world.

Daniel 2:21 (ESV)

HE changes times and seasons;

HE removes kings and sets up kings.

The “theme question” of Habakkuk is, how can God use a wicked nation such as Babylon for his divine purpose? The general question for Habakkuk and for us today is what is God doing in our lives now with so much evil around us? Though God’s ways are sometimes mysterious, the general answer for us is to Watch and Be Amazed while living in faith!

Habakuk 2:4 (NIV)

See, the enemy is puffed up; his desires are not upright

but the righteous person will live by his faith.

Looking at the enemies of God’s people, God acknowledges that they are not right. **However, God will deal with these nations, but during these times God’s people are to live by faith!** This verse is quoted 3 times in the NT all to reflect the faith we are to have in Jesus Christ.

Rom.1:17; Gal.3:11; Heb.10;38

As we live by faith, God also says, we are to understand the world’s labor is only fuel for the fire.

Habakuk 2:13 (NIV)

Has not the LORD Almighty determined
that the people's labor is only fuel for the fire,
that the nations exhaust themselves for nothing?

Watch and Be Amazed, the nations exhaust themselves for nothing and God is on HIS throne overseeing everything.

Habakuk 2:20 (NIV)

The LORD is in his holy temple;
let all the earth be silent before him.

This is where our faith comes in, "The righteous person will live by his faith!" We are not tossed back and forth by the world's circumstances, because we know God is moving in the world while also directing and protecting us. Therefore, we are told to Watch and Be Amazed and to stand firm trusting in Jesus putting all our hope in HIM.

With the amazement of God's working with the nations, Habakuk goes from distress over the national situation to his own immediate circumstance. He uses an agriculture picture to show his trust of God while Watching and Be Amazed.

Habakuk 3:17-18 (NIV)

¹⁷ Though the fig tree does not bud
and there are no grapes on the vines,
though the olive crop fails
and the fields produce no food,
though there are no sheep in the pen
and no cattle in the stalls,
¹⁸ yet I will rejoice in the LORD,
I will be joyful in God my Savior.

It is not the circumstance that captures Habakuk attention; it is the complete amazement that God is present. Habakuk is confident the outcome is in God's Hands. Therefore, he will rejoice and joyfully Watch and Be Amazed because his hope is from God.

Habakuk 3:19 (NIV)

The Sovereign LORD is my strength;
he makes my feet like the feet of a deer,
he enables me to tread on the heights.

Like a deer swiftly and with great ease running and jumping through dangerous rocky mountains, God enables us to go through the difficulties before us.

Therefore, with confidence, when God speaks to us or shows us HIS promises, we are told to write them down on paper.

Habakuk 2:2 (NIV)

Then the LORD replied:

“Write down the revelation and make it plain on tablets so that a herald may run with it.”

We write our promises down so we will not forget and stand strong in all circumstances, because at the appointed time it will come to pass and not be delayed!

Habakuk 2:3 (NIV)

For the revelation awaits an appointed time; it speaks of the end and will not prove false.

Though it linger, wait for it; it will certainly come and will not delay.

Watch and Be Amazed

Acts 4:12

Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved; Jesus Christ!

Prophetic Team

Hear from the Holy Spirit to change the current situation or impact the future.