

**Habakkuk # 27 “Habakkuk, from Worry to Worship” Part 1 *Habakkuk 3:8-19***

**In chapter 1, Habakkuk thought he had more than enough to worry about in his nation, Judah and if we are not careful in applying biblical truth to our lives every moment of every day, we’re destined to a life of worry, fear and anxiety.**

It’s true that planet earth is under the present control of Satan and as the ruler of this world,

he has filled his domain with his propaganda.

*Yes, Satan, the god of this world, constantly deceives the people inhabiting it.*

**The devil’s kingdom on this earth is a kingdom of darkness and by way of contrast, Jesus Christ has a kingdom on this earth, a spiritual kingdom, so He is the Light of the world.**

Therefore, Jesus Christ has overcome the world, so that believers can overcome the world.

*As a result, believers in Jesus Christ must not love the world nor conform to the world.*

**Worry always anticipates the worst and so becomes apprehension or anticipation of danger, misfortune, trouble or uncertainty.**

Worry is a state of restlessness and agitation, producing mental uneasiness, anxiety and painful uncertainty.

*Worry is a destroyer of the soul and if unchecked, it results in mental illness.*

We get a warning first, often with a physical problem; so, worry in the mind causes shock to the body.

**Habakkuk’s basic confusion was why God was allowing Judah to go unpunished for her neglect and rejection of their God, His promises and His grace.**

Habakkuk learned through a conversation with God that Judah’s demise would be certain and swift but the prophet wondered why in the world God would allow the evil

Babylonians to come in and destroy his nation.

*Habakkuk gained soul strength as he reversed his concentration away from himself, his nation’s idolatry and his plan of how he’d be handling things, to that which he knew about his God, Who’s always in control.*

**Habakkuk’s prayer in chapter 3 is: ‘I may not understand everything Lord but I’m going to trust Your judgment in the matter.’**

I don’t understand why You let my nation get away with all that rebellion and why You’re using the Babylonians to judge us.

*And I don’t understand why You’re going to wait so long to judge the Babylonians after that.*

But I do understand one thing full well, You’re a righteous eternal God that never makes a mistake and that includes timing and Your selected participants for Your purpose.

So, I'll stake my life's reputation on that and be forever quiet regarding Your judgment and I'll praise You for Who You are and what You do.

**We've reached spiritual maturity when we can look at all problems around us in our personal lives and in our nation and say, 'Lord, I don't care about my problems; all I care about is You being glorified in Your creation as You see fit!**

Spiritually mature believers accept and rejoice in God's plan even when their circumstances are extremely uncomfortable.

*Habakkuk's come to the point where he wanted things to be just the way God wanted them to be whether he liked it or not.*

Habakkuk is now saying whatever we suffer is no big deal, Lord, as long as Your purpose goes forth and that's all that really matters.

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**Courage is thinking biblical truth and functioning under pressure as if there were no abnormal circumstances, no crisis or no pressure.**

Courage is claiming promises in adversity; using God's problem-solving devices under the privacy of our royal priesthood to think and to apply biblical truth with our own soul but fear makes us losers.

*Spiritual self-esteem begins the grace function of biblical self-confidence; thinking in terms of the mind of Christ in our own souls which is the power of divine viewpoint in the soul.*

**A believer who thinks in terms of processed biblical truth and God's problem-solving devices can put fear in its proper place and magnificently experience legitimate emotion.**

The spiritually adult believer eliminates emotion as the standard for Christianity, since emotion cannot think or apply truth and cannot adequately evaluate a situation.

*When emotion is out of line in the soul, it results in irrationality accompanied by sins of fear, worry, anxiety and anger.*