

## Habakkuk 3 – Remember...Awe...Trust

### Remember the awe 1-15, Trust 16-19

#### Remember the awe:

Have you ever just wanted to start singing to God because of how amazed and filled with awe you were? Some examples: having a “worship concert” in your car by yourself which causes you to weep, hearing God very clearly about the next step or a decision to make, being punched in the throat by God, standing during worship and then realizing you can’t stand anymore because of the awe you’ve experienced, etc.

This is what happened to Habakkuk. After hearing God’s second response to his complaining it’s like he was smacked by a fish and realized what God was doing and His plans are perfect and holy and just and amazing and beautiful and awe-inspiring. All he could do was be “filled with awe” (v.2) and sing to the Lord his God! Has that ever happened to you...kind of like getting out of the dip?

Habakkuk sings this song of praise – we know this because verse 1 says, “A prayer of Habakkuk the prophet. On shigionoth” (which means get shiggy with it...or actually a musical term or setting of a prayer) and the end of the book gives directions “for the director of music.” As Habakkuk gives us this song we see how he has finally realized what God has done...He remembers the awe he had when he heard about the Israelites being brought out of Egypt through Teman (the Sinai Desert).

#### v.3

**renew: *chayah* (khaw-yaw’); to renew, to revive, to restore.**

I remember when you used to do this, do it again! He explains how God used to do these miracles...these unexplained occurrences that showcased His power and love for His people. Habakkuk is crying out “DO IT AGAIN PLEASE! I’ve heard of your glory and seen it, but it’s been a while Lord, please come. I know you can and you will renew them, help us again as you did in years gone by.”

Do you ever stop to remember what God has done for you...your family...the BCM...your church...His people? Do you take time everyday to sit and listen for God to remind you how powerful and amazing He is? Whenever I take the time to do this or He reminds me during the course of the day I just stop and marvel at the hand of the Lord. I become filled with awe and wonder. When you remember the past of what God has shown you, you become filled with his awe-inspiring Spirit. You become empowered and you encounter his presence, like we talked about last week.

I remember when....

- God brought me out of the hurricane and got the call right before I graduated to come to this BCM
- God provided a job for my family after the hurricane
- God allowed me to be influential at the restaurant I worked for to share Christ
- God provided a check in the mail when we had no money
- God provided money for our homecoming outreach when we were about to cancel it
- God saved Lupe during a leadership interview
- God saved Jessica during a camping trip
- God saved Andrew after speaking into his heart
- God started overkill and reaches gamers who would never set foot in a church
- God used the BCM to influence this campus by communicating that all students matter to God (that hasn’t happened yet but I see it happening by the end of the fall semester)

All of these things cause me to stop and experience what I remember God did for me. It's almost like reliving it all over again. Take a minute right now and remember what He has done for you this week. If you can't think of anything pray. Pray for God to help you remember because we are human and have small minds compared to the vast knowledge of God. (stop and pray)

The next set of verses (3-15) are Habakkuk's prayer of how he remembers what God did through the Israelites.

**v. 5**  
This verse describes how plagues and pestilence (diseases) had to come to the Pharaoh's people in order for freedom and deliverance of God's people to occur. Through the ten plagues God also hardened pharaoh's heart and caused his army to die within the amazing story of the red sea being parted for the Israelites to go through. Habakkuk remembers how God was in charge of this whole situation and explains it in verse 6 as when God looks...the nations tremble after seeing what He did in Egypt.

Have you ever received that look from your mom or dad and you just screamed, ran or shook with fear? Ya, this is worse than that, trust me.

**v. 8-10**  
I love how in verses 8-10 Habakkuk uses figurative speech. He asks God if He was angry with the rivers (river of blood) and if He "raged against the sea" (caused it to split). Then as the mountains trembled and the waves lifted its "hands" God was still proving His power. Just amazing pictures that Habakkuk gives us here of how much He now loves God. There is constant use of pictures like this throughout the Bible especially in Revelation. Check out Rev 14:16 – seriously poetic images in Revelation.

## Trust

**v. 16-19**  
As Habakkuk closes his prayer/song in verses 16-19 we see how He has moved from remembrance and awe into faith and trust.

In verse 16 Habakkuk is overcome with God's Spirit and his legs give way to his body and causes him to fall on his face. "Habakkuk was praying while reflecting on God's past dealings and got caught up in a revelation of His majesty. His strength gave way and he trembled in fear."

**Revelation 1:17** - When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. Then he placed his right hand on me and said: "Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last.

As he thinks about the coming day and God's perfect timing he realizes how scared and worried he is as a human waiting. "yet I will wait patiently," is Habakkuk's statement. A statement of faith and trust. He tells God through His song of praise that even though bad things are coming I will remember what you have done...how you have proven yourself. I will remember these things and wait patiently for that day, which I may never see, even though I am extremely afraid of what is going to happen. He then explains the state of Judah. "though the fig tree does not bud and there are no grapes on the vines..." famine. There are no crops, there is no food, there are no sheep, no cattle for milk. Even though I don't know what to do I will just wait patiently and trust that you are Lord.

I think these 4 verses (16-19) are what this book is all about. We've seen how we can complain to God, wrestle/Habakkuk with God. We've seen how God will respond even if it is not how we want it to turn out it is perfect. We've seen how God will prove Himself true. We've seen how God's timing is perfect. And verse 18 "yet, I will rejoice in the Lord, I will be joyful in God my Savior," brings it together. No matter what happens, I

will trust in you and be joyful. I will remember the awe I have experienced in you and be filled with faith and trust.

When all of this comes together Habakkuk explains that we will find strength in the Lord as he gives us energy and helps us go higher. He helps increase our faith as followers of Christ.

We need to **trust what you remember** what does that mean? Remember what God has done and be filled with awe. Then trust that God will come through. Have faith that He will provide that He will take care of you for His glory. **Trust what you remember.**