

CALM AMID CHAOS

Habakkuk 3:16-19

We can have calm amid chaos when we look to the Lord

I. THE CHAOS (16-17)

A. PERSONALLY: An Ominous Threat (16)

1. The Reality: I heard > see 1:6-11
2. His Reaction: I fear > see 3:2a
3. The Reason: I anticipate

B. NATIONALLY: A dreadful famine (17)

1. The crops and cattle will fail
2. The terror of famine becomes a reality

II. THE CALM (18-19)

A. THE PROPHET'S DETERMINATION (18-19a)

1. Focus: "Yet"
 - a. The comforts are gone but not the Comforter!
 - b. Fear and faith can coincide
2. Exalt in the Lord
 - "I will" is a definite decision
3. Rejoice in the God of my salvation
 - a. Shout for joy is the true idea of "rejoice"
 - b. Vocalizing the celebration for all to hear
4. Stand in the strength of the sovereign One (19a)
 - a. The sovereign One is my strengthening One!
 - b. See Psalm 18:2

B. GOD'S DELIVERENCE (19b)

1. He will give swiftness
 - The deer is swifter and superior to its enemies
2. He will provide victory
 - a. After the running there will be walking
 - b. See Isaiah 40:31

Over please >

C. THE CHOIR'S DIRECTIONS (19c)

1. This is a sacred song given to the choir director
2. This is a service song to be sung in the congregation
3. This is a special song for which Habakkuk himself will provide accompaniment

III. SOME CONSIDERATIONS

A. BAD THINGS HAPPEN TO GOD'S PEOPLE

1. Sometimes even good people endure circumstances of utter destruction
2. Exps: Paul in II Cor. 11:24-33 and Job 1:20-22 and 2:7-10

B. GOD'S PEOPLE SHOULD REJOICE IN GOD

1. God is merciful
 - a. In wrath He remembers mercy - Hab. 3:2
 - b. God always preserves a remnant
 - Examples: The Ark, During captivity (Mal. 3:16-18), Anna's assembly (Luke 2:26-28) and the 144,000 in Rev. 7:4
2. God grants us contentment
 - a. Joy is not dependent on prosperity
 - b. Exp: Paul in Phil. 4:10-13
 - c. Great distress and grand delights can coexist

C. GOD GIVES ULTIMATE VICTORY TO HIS PEOPLE

1. You will have to run: He will give you hind's feet, but you must run
2. But He will give you rest: He will make you walk on high hills

CONCLUSION:

The bad news: Life can be hard

The good news: But the future is bright

God grants calm amid chaos ... Rejoice in Him!