

FOR YOUR PROPHET

THE BOOK OF HABAKKUK

THE VALUE OF HONEST DOUBTS



These are all warning markers--DANGER!--in our history books, written down so that we don't repeat their mistakes. 1 Corinthians 10:11 - Message

For all those words which were written long ago are meant to teach us today...

Romans 15: 4 (Phillips)

It was made known to the prophets that they were not serving themselves. Instead, they were serving you when they spoke... 1 Peter 1:12 (NIrV)

Story 728

➤ THE DOUBTS AND QUESTIONS OF HABAKKUK AND THE CROSSINGS

LORD, how long do I have to call out for help? Why don't you listen to me? How long must I keep telling you that things are terrible? Why don't you save us? ³ Why do you make me watch while people treat others so unfairly? Why do you put up with the wrong things they are doing? I have to look at death. People are harming others. They are arguing and fighting all the time. ⁴The law can't do what it's supposed to do. Fairness never comes out on top. Sinful people surround those who do what is right. So people are never treated fairly. Habakkuk 1:2-4 (NIrV)

1. Why don't you listen to my prayers?
2. If you are listening, why don't you answer?
3. Why do you let people treat me the way they do?
4. Why do you put up with all this horrible people and stuff?
5. Why do you allow the corruption in our government?

➤ HOW TO FIND VALUE IN MY DOUBTS.

1. I _____ GOD DIRECTLY.

GOD, how long do I have to cry out for help before you listen? How many times... before you come to the rescue? Habakkuk 1:2 (MP)

"Come now, and let us debate your case..." Isaiah 1:18a (NASB)

2. I _____ TO GOD'S ANSWERS.

Look...and watch. Be amazed. I am going to do something in your days that you would not believe.... ⁶ I am going to send the Babylonians, that fierce and reckless nation... ⁷ They will be terrifying and fearsome. They will carry out their own kind of justice and honor. Habakkuk 1:5-7 (GW)

What's God going to say to my questions? I'm braced for the worst. I'll climb to the lookout tower and scan the horizon. I'll wait to see what God says, how he'll answer my complaint. **Habakkuk 2:1** (MP)

The LORD replies, "Write down the message I am showing you.... Write it clearly on the tablets... Then a messenger can read it and run to announce it. **Habakkuk 2:2** (NIRV)

God habitually provides two sources to answer my doubts/questions:

Source #1 - The _____ of God.

Source #2 - The _____ of God.

3. I _____ TO BECOME A PERSON GOD CAN USE AND BLESS.

O LORD, I have heard of what you have done, and I am filled with awe. Now do again in our times the great deeds you used to do. **Habakkuk 3:2** (GNB)

Now to the God who can do so many awe-inspiring things, immeasurable things, things greater than we ever could ask or imagine through the power at work in us... **Ephesians 3:20** (Voice)

Like Haggai, I can and must go from "questions" to _____.

- I determine to _____ wait for God to work!

The LORD answered me, "Write down what I show you.... **Habakkuk 2:2a** (ERV)

- I determine to _____ wait for God to work!

I hear all this, and I tremble; my lips quiver....and my feet stumble beneath me. I will quietly wait for the time to come when God will punish those who attack us.

Habakkuk 3:16 (GNB)

- I commit to _____ wait...even when it is _____.

Even if the fig tree does not bloom and the vines have no grapes, even if the olive tree fails to produce and the fields yield no food, even if the sheep pen is empty and the stalls have no cattle- ¹⁸ even then, I will be happy with the LORD. I will truly find joy in God, who saves me. **Habakkuk 3:17, 18** (GW)

So let's not get tired of doing what is good. At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don't give up. **Galatians 6:9** (NLT)

? The key to lasting and transforming determination? _____ !

But the one who is right with God will live by faith. **Habakkuk 2:4** (GNB)

The Sovereign LORD gives me strength. He makes me sure-footed as a deer and keeps me safe on the mountains. **Habakkuk 3:18** (GNB)

We have this large crowd of witnesses around us. So then, let us rid ourselves of everything that gets in the way, and of the sin which holds on to us so tightly, and let us run with determination the race that lies before us. ² Let us keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, on whom our faith depends from beginning to end... **Hebrews 12:1, 2a** (GNB)

Remember your leaders, those who have spoken God's word to you. Think about the impact of their lives, and imitate their faith. **Hebrews 13:7** (ISV)