Habakkuk 3:3-7 | Stand in Awe: God's Power | October 30th, 2022

Not impressed | Merchandise Mart (1930) – 4 Million – 2 acres | 8 million laser – YouTube | Lose Awe Chapter 1 - Complaint (Legal) | Chapter 2 – Woe | Chapter 3 Petition to praise...REGAINING AWE Mind-Blowing | Eye-Popping | Jaw-Dropping awesomeness of God! | If leave here...failed | Next Steps Chapter 3 = Culmination and Climax – Greatest expression of faith in the entire Bible (Why)
Habakkuk's facing some of the worst circumstances...God's not changing them...said He wouldn't I'm not satisfied with my circumstances...I'm satisfied in the Lord | Not what He does...Who He is!
What is your greatest worry right now? Financial – Health – Children – Elections?!?!

• Instead of placing it before what God could do | Place it before who God is!

Habakkuk's Doxology - Prays = God...do your work | Habakkuk = Bummer...Accomplish your will He's been apprehended by God's glory – Starting to apprehend God | Exalt God for who God is! Our dedication & capacity to live the Christian life depends on our desire to gaze upon & give God glory!

READ – PRAY - <u>Big Idea – The Power of God is Unchanging and Unchallenged</u> Make point – *Theophany* – Visible - Reminding people...what God's already done – Primarily Exodus God came from Teman, and the Holy One from Mount Paran. *Selah* | People knew = New York 9/11/2001

• All 18 stops...Exodus – God's Acts...Pharoah ⇒ Promise Land...represented Teman & Paran | **TYPE** ↓ Unchallenged = Pharaoh tried to challenge God...nope | Unchanging = Remember | Remember?!?

• Remember what God had already done – Blessing and curse of the covenant promise...JESUS \Downarrow

 \circ God delivered His people from Egypt – He can and will deliver them from Babylon...**us...sin** $\hat{\mathbb{N}}$

A Description of the Lord's Appearing in Great Power – That's our guy...get it...exalt it...God's Power!

Give us three reasons we Exalt God's Power - Everything from this stanza reveals glory of God

1. <u>We Exalt God's Power Because of His...Mind-Blowing Majesty</u> (3b-4) His splendor covered the heavens, and the earth was full of his praise

Splendor – Describes kingly authority – God's splendor is often linked to His majesty...Royalty

Splendor – Describes kingly authority – God's splendor is often linked to His majesty...Roya
 Sinai God had come like...awesome thunderstorm sweeping down the mountainous

• His splendor covered the heavens – Heavens – Abode of the stars | The vast to the near

Mind-blowing - Nothing created has inerrant power | Kings = Inherited – conquered – fizzled – dead

Physical dependent on conditions | Volcanoes - immense power erupted...Conditions – Dormant Not our God...Mind-Blowing Majesty | Inerrant Power covers the Abode of the Stars

• The earth was full of His praise - Not man's response | God's inerrant power and inerrant glory

There is God's inerrant glory and God's declared glory (Explain) the earth was full of his praise
 ⁴ His brightness was like the light; rays flashed from his hand; and there he veiled his power.

• Habakkuk compares God's appearing as the splendor of a sunrise – flooded with glorious light *There He vailed His praise* – Moses on Sinai – 'Show me your glory' – 'Can't...you'll die'

Beauty of the sunrise - Ferociousness of the sun - 27 million degrees (Dani sunburn) Easy forget - light & warmth...showers the earth w/ blessing comes - ball of fire consume...globe | Focus

Glory and splendor emanated from God as He wielded that mighty deliverance...Who we exalt! Mind-blowing power of the majesty of God – Grace...must be veiled so we don't die 1 Second reason

2. <u>We Exalt God's Power Because of His...Eye-Opening Eminence</u> (5-6) Superiority in way and work ⁵ Before him went pestilence, and plague followed at his heels.

God to accomplish His work has wielded two terrible weapons: Plague & Pestilence | Deadly Disaster

Egypt (Ex. 7-11) | David's sin census (2 Sam. 24) | Korah (Num. 16) | Assyr. 185k (2 Ki. 19) Jesus (Lk. 21) God is fully capable of exercising His might making it terrifying to those who oppose Him Okay pastor...how is this Eye-Opening Eminence...you got your point wrong...wellllll

Superiority in His ways & work – God using disaster & tragedy...redemptive purpose | BOOM Eminence God is all-powerful as He is all-loving – Grace & glory are coupled with His might...sovereign purpose ⁶ He stood and measured the earth; he looked and shook the nations; then the eternal mountains were scattered; the everlasting hills sank low. His were the everlasting ways.

Habakkuk's vision of God coming from the distance and marching across the land rises to a climax Reaching place...execute judgment – Stopped...stood...measured earth...looked and shook the nations God came down on Mount Sinai with thunder, lightning, & fire admits shaking mountains (Ex. 19)

His very presence caused the earth to shake – The nations to *leap in terror Everlasting hills* – primeval mountains & age-old hills...firmest constituents on globe will be crumbled Have you ever been startled by turning around and seeing someone? TROPE - horror movies This has happened to nations and kings and people all throughout history

• *Pharaoh* - Realized God...looking...nation - oppression & violence against the Israelites = shook

• *Israel w/ Josiah* - Recovered Book of Law...realized...God observing their drift = Shook ⇒ worship

• Nebuchadnezzar – Came to understand that God was looking = Shook ⇒ posture of worship God is surveying the earth – Watching – Involved in His creation...superior way...can't comprehend God's watching: Movements of world...movements our own lives - Must be shaken into response

His power is enough to scatter mountains & sink hills. Things thought to be eternal, he can end

Things that were thought to be unchangeable, he can change – Only one thing is off the table!
 God – God's Plan – God's Promises = Because his ways are everlasting | Brings us Awe & Comfort

Awe = He's unchallengeable & undefeatable – Not folly to failure or Infected by imperfection

Comfort...comfort because when he doesn't seem to be active, or his plans don't seem to make sense, we recognize that his will...will be achieved.

Though the mountains will collapse (literally or metaphorically) – God's everlasting ways will go on

Why we Exalt God's Power - God's majesty is Mind-Blowing | Eminence is Eye-Opening...Finally...

3. <u>We Exalt God's Power Because of His...Jaw-Dropping Justice</u> (7)

⁷I saw the tents of Cushan in affliction; the curtains of the land of Midian did tremble. Midian and Cushan – Representing the early oppressors of Israel as they settled in Canaan

• So many tents in Cushan – They derived their strength from the size of their forces...

I'm the God who sits above the stars – Measures the earth – Levels mountains...tents?!?!
 Tents & dwellings – Precarious state – Unveiled Glory = death - What hope...who oppose God huddle in tent
 For those attempting to stand before God with their own righteousness are no better...Gauze in semi
 Midianites were terrifying...temporary – All opposition against the eternal justice of the Rock of Ages
 Why bring attention? All our fears compared to eternally majestic, eminent God...just tent-dwellers

Allowed by God to remain for a time - used for his purposes...ultimately subject to His power Habakkuk sings psalm not in terror, but awe – He's been apprehended God's glory...no turning back

We've lost the ability to be impressed anymore

<u>Grand Canyon</u> – 6000 ft – <u>Edge</u> | God said...Jump and I'll catch you | Habakkuk

Confusion – Panic – Synapsis – Relief – Reevaluation | God's glory...close enough to jump Lift our eyes – people won't...why...because they're afraid of the fall...the fall doesn't kill us... It's the stop at the bottom and God will catch anyone who asks!

Habakkuk Jumped - God...I don't understand everything – I don't understand why you let Israel go

- I don't understand why You're going to wait to judge the Chaldeans after that Instead of placing my fears before what God could do | Place it before who God is!
- I don't understand much...So I will exalt God for what I know...I know this:
 - $\circ \quad \ \ {\rm God\ sits\ enthroned\ in\ His\ Mind-Blowing\ Majesty}$
- God surveys all in His Eye-Opening Eminence
- God will overcome all evil with His Jaw-Drop[ping- Justice
 I will exalt God because His Power I unchanging and unchallenged