

Discussion Questions

Date: April 19th, 2026

Preacher: Josh Ratliff

Sermon Outline

Praising God in Judgment and Restoration **Habakkuk 3:1-19**

God's Actions in the Past Provide Hope for the Future (Habakkuk 3:1-15)

- God is made known both by His wrath and by His mercy. (vv. 1-2)
- God is praised in response to His judgment and deliverance. (vv. 3-15)
- **Question:** Consider the moments where God has clearly intervened in a situation on your behalf, or where you've clearly seen His power on display. How does reflecting on this encounter encourage you to trust God now?

The Prophet Anticipates God's Intervention (Habakkuk 3:16-19)

- God's wrath and judgment produce a quiet awe and reverential fear in His people. (v. 16)
- God's people can rejoice and lean on His strength in every circumstance. (vv. 17-19)
- **Question:** Does your fear and awe of God lead you to a sense of confidence and security?

Bottom Line: God is worthy of praise for His mighty acts of judgment and deliverance.

Talking Points

- * Why do you think Habakkuk makes the shift to a psalm/musical like prayer in chapter 3, versus his complaints found in the first two chapters of the book?
- * What are some things that can confuse when you think about God's judgment?
- * God is against evil because He is loving. How does this statement challenge or affect your view of God and His character?
- * How can remembering what God has done for you in your past affect your future? Do you have a "Red Sea" moment in your own life that you can look back to for encouragement during a struggle or hard season?
- * We live in a noisy world. When was the last time you sat in complete silence with no distractions? For how long? Why do you think Habakkuk responds to God with silence?
- * If everything you rely on for comfort was gone tomorrow (finances, relationships, kids, your health), would knowing God be enough for you to leap with joy? Why or why not?
- * Has your prayer life and time with the Lord included praise as much as it has included complaints/requests? Why is it important to bring all things to God?
- * Memorize Habakkuk 3:18-19 this week. Say it out loud when hardship, conflict, or confusion comes your way. Who in this group will you remind of these verses this week?

Understanding Scripture

1. Read the passage aloud.

- Question: How would the original audience have understood this passage?
- Question: What was God's desire for them?

2. Reread key verse(s) aloud.

- Question: What does this teach us about the human soul, desires, or behavior?
- Question: What does this teach us about the nature, desires, or behavior of God?

3. Ask if anything is difficult to understand in the passage, or simply point it out yourself.

- Back up from the confusing verse and reread the whole section slowly—highlight the author's flow of thought.
- Ask everyone, "What are some possible interpretations?" Encourage curiosity!
- If needed, provide clarification, but admit if you don't have a satisfactory explanation, and volunteer to research answers. Share your findings over text or at the next meeting.

4. Summarize the passage in 1-3 sentences to refocus the group ("Okay, so far we've seen in Amos...")

- Question: What does this say about our relationship with God and/or each other?
- Question: How do the teachings, actions, or person of Jesus shed light on this passage?

Prayer Requests

