# Independence Day

JOHN SMOCK

## Habakkuk 1:1-4

1 This is the message that the prophet Habakkuk received in a vision. 2 How long, O LORD, must I call for help? But you do not listen! "Violence is everywhere!" I cry, but you do not come to save. 3 Must I forever see these evil deeds? Why must I watch all this misery? Wherever I look, I see destruction and violence. I am surrounded by people who love to argue and fight. 4 The law has become paralyzed, and there is no justice in the courts. The wicked far outnumber the righteous, so that justice has become perverted.

# Six days to Passover...

#### You have to be alive to be a witness

Romans 6:11 11 Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord. for Christ Ephesians 2:4,5 4 But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, 5 even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), . In our lives, we will only have an impact for Christ when people come to see in us, a person who was dead, but now is alive as Christ lives in and through us.

# There is a cost to relationship and worship of God

# James 1:2,3 2 My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, 3 knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience.

Matt 5:10-12 10 Blessed *are* those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 11 "Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. 12 Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you

### Day 5 Palm Sunday

Daniel 9:25 25 "Know therefore and understand, That from the going forth of the command To restore and build Jerusalem Until Messiah the Prince, There shall be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks; The street shall be built again, and the wall, Even in troublesome times.



One of our Jobs as Christians is to introduce people to Christ. Three times in Jesus' life a voice called out from heaven

"This is my beloved son in whom I am well pleased" Jesus' baptism The second time "this is my beloved son in whom I am well pleased hear him" Mount of transfiguration; and here. Each time done to affirm Gods love and pleasure in the son!

# There will always be opposition to the work of God

### Belief in Christ is life... denial of Christ is to <u>remain</u> in eternal death