

When Life Falls Apart Habakkuk 3:17-19

From Pastor Phillip

In Habakkuk 3:17-19, a wave of realization rushes over Habakkuk as he comes to terms with the fact that destruction and discipline will come upon his people, and that his hopes and dreams will not be seen in his lifetime. Yet, Habakkuk turns to God as the source of his joy, strength, and hope. Precious and timeless truths are found in this passage for anyone who experiences the fragility and disappointment of life.

I. Life is Fragile (v.17)

- No beauty
- No food
- No income
- No livelihood
- No security
- No prosperity

Bottom Line: Life is fragile because of our failure to listen to and obey God (Leviticus 26:14-20)

II. God is Faithful (vv.18-19)

- We can rejoice in God
- We can delight in God
- We can have strength in God
- We can have hope in God

Bottom Line: God is the source of our strength and the object of our praise because His character never changes.

TO DISCUSS WITH FAMILY OR FRIENDS:

1. When things go wrong, what is typically your immediate reaction? What does your reaction reveal? What is the ultimate source of peace and comfort in your life?
2. Why would Habakkuk rejoice even when there is bad news for God's people?
3. How has Habakkuk's attitude changed from chapters 1 and 2? (See especially Habakkuk 1:1-4 and 1:12-2:1)
4. Turning to God for strength in trials sounds nice, but what does it mean? What practical things could this include?
5. What attributes of God are especially comforting and joy-inducing in times of distress?
6. Habakkuk writes a prayer in the form of a song to express his trust in God in a time of extreme disappointment and dread. What hymns, worship songs, or biblical Psalms are especially encouraging to you when life falls apart?

FOR NEXT TIME—Read Titus 1:1-4, *LIVING*