

FERVENT PRAYER

Habakkuk 3:1-16

FROM PASTOR MARK

Habakkuk had wrestled with God about Judah's sin and then about the wickedness of the nation of Babylon that God would bring to judge them. Then, God showed him that *"the righteous shall live by his faith"* (2:4) and promised that *"the earth will be full of the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea"* (2:12). True faith expresses itself in praying. In Habakkuk 3, the prophet, Like Elijah before him, modeled for us the fervent praying of faith...

I. Fervent Prayer REQUESTS CLEARLY (3:2).

- A. His Attitude: The Fear of the Lord 2a)
- B. His Requests (2b)
 - 1. God to Revive His Working
 - 2. God to Show Mercy amidst Wrath

II. Fervent Prayer PURSUES GOD BELIEVINGLY (3:3-15).

- A. God's Glory at Sinai (3:3-4; Exodus 19:16-20)
- B. God's Power in the Plagues and Wilderness (3:5-7)
- C. God's Victory in the Conquest (3:8-15)
- D. God's Purpose in Deliverance (3:13a)
 - 1. Deliverance of His People
 - 2. Preserving the Line of Messiah!
- E. Habakkuk's desire was to see God's glory and power in his day to revive and deliver God's people (3:2a)

III. Fervent Prayer WAITS PATIENTLY (3:16).

- A. Its Stress (3:16a; 3:2; Job 42:5-6)
- B. Its Commitment (3:16b)

To Be Continued:

IV. Fervent Prayer REJOICES Persistently (3:17-19).

Have you learned to "live by faith" (2:4). If so, do you pray like this?

Our generation needs such people of faith and prayer!

TO DISCUSS WITH FAMILY OR FRIENDS:

- 1. Read James 5:16-18. Would you say that your praying is ever "fervent"?
- 2. For what should you be praying in faith?

FOR NEXT TIME—Read Habakkuk 3:17-19, *Fervent Prayer Rejoices Persistently*