

## **“Keep Hope Alive” (Habakkuk 3)**

### **Pastor Dean Ridings – 10/12/2025**

#### **Introduction**

“For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope” (Romans 15:4).

#### **The Seven “A’s”**

**#1: Acceptance** – “O Lord, I have heard Your speech and was afraid . . .” (Habakkuk 3:2a).

“God is God and I am not / I can only see a part of the picture He's painting / God is God and I am man / So I'll never understand it all / For only God is God.” —Stephen Curtis Chapman

**#2: Affirmation** – “O Lord, revive Your work in the midst of the years!” (Habakkuk 3:2b).

Omniscience: God not only knows all things, He always knows what’s best!

**#3: Awe** – “In the midst of the years make it known; In wrath remember mercy” (Habakkuk 3:2c).

“ . . . that the transcendent God who dwells in regions of inaccessible light is like a foolish old man who looks down the road every night for a son who isn’t there [the prodigal son].” —Brennan Manning

**#4: Anticipation** (3:3-15): “You went forth for the salvation of Your people, For salvation with Your Anointed. You struck the head from the house of the wicked . . .” (Habakkuk 3:13).

“The entire book of Revelation tells of the glorious return of Christ. And we can say with the apostle John, who wrote that book, ‘Amen, even so, come, Lord Jesus.’ ” —Billy Graham

**#5: Amazement** – “When I heard, my body trembled; My lips quivered at the voice; Rottenness entered my bones; And I trembled in myself, That I might rest in the day of trouble . . .” (Habakkuk 3:16).

“ . . . the blind see, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, the poor have the gospel preached to them” (Luke 7:22).

**#6: Assurance** – “Though the fig tree may not blossom, Nor fruit be on the vines; Though the labor of the olive may fail, And the fields yield no food; Though the flock may be cut off from the fold, And there be no herd in the stalls—Yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will joy in the God of my salvation” (Habakkuk 3:17-18).

“[T]he just shall live by his faith” (2:20) is repeated in Romans 1:17, Galatians 3:11, and Hebrews 10:38!

**#7: Adoration** – “The Lord God is my strength; He will make my feet like deer’s feet, And He will make me walk on my high hills. To the Chief Musician. With my stringed instruments” (Habakkuk 3:19).

“The more I know Him, the more I experience that deep inner well of joy that is not dependent on external circumstances. This joy is present even in the midst of suffering and sorrow; it is a motivating power even in discouragement and dismay.” —Janie Miley

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*Notes are also available on the CWC app. All Scripture in NKJV. Find Pastor Dean Ridings’ book Walking & Talking with God in CWC’s Pneuma Coffee Shop (Student Building) or on Amazon.com.*