

# FAITH IN AN UNFAITHFUL WORLD

Habakkuk 2:2-5



# CONTEXT WITHIN HABAKKUK

## First Complaint (1:2)

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*“When will you sort out this trouble I’m in?”*

## First Answer (1:5)

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*“I am dealing with it, but not in the way you want or understand.”*

## Second Complaint (1:13)

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*“Why aren’t you doing anything?”*



# SCRIPTURE ANALYSIS (2:2)

*[2] And the LORD  
answered me:  
“Write the vision;  
make it plain  
on tablets,  
so he may run  
who reads it.*

**God placed  
significant weight  
behind his  
upcoming response  
so that all should  
know, not just the  
prophet.**



# SCRIPTURE ANALYSIS (2:3)

*[3] For still the vision  
awaits its appointed  
time;*

*it hastens to the  
end—it will not lie.*

*If it seems slow, wait  
for it;*

*it will surely come;  
it will not delay.*

**God reminds  
Habakkuk that his  
answer would always  
come, but in his time  
and in his way.**



# SCRIPTURE ANALYSIS (2:4)

*[4] “Behold, his (the unrighteous) soul is puffed up; it is not upright within him, but the righteous shall live by faith.*

**God describes two individuals: the unrighteous defined by self-reliance and the righteous defined by faith.**



# SCRIPTURE ANALYSIS (2:5)

[5] “Moreover, wine (wealth/power)  
is a traitor,

an arrogant man who is never  
at rest.

His greed is as wide as Sheol;  
like death he has never  
enough.

He gathers for himself all nations  
and collects as his own all  
peoples.”

**God makes it clear  
what an unrighteous  
self-reliant person  
looks like, closely  
aligning it with the  
nation's current  
oppressors.**



# UNDERSTANDING 2:4 WITH THE NT

*Romans 1:16-17*

*For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, “**The righteous** shall live by faith.”*

**Faith is what defines us.**



# UNDERSTANDING 2:4 WITH THE NT

*Hebrews 10:36-38*

*For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God you may receive what is promised. For,*

*“Yet a little while,*

*and the coming one will come and will not delay;*

*but my righteous one **shall live** by faith,*

*and if he shrinks back,*

*my soul has no pleasure in him.”*

**Faith is what  
sustains us.**





# UNDERSTANDING 2:4 WITH THE NT

*Galatians 3:11*

*“Now it is evident  
that no one is  
justified before God  
by the law, for ‘The  
righteous shall live  
by faith.’”*

**Faith is what  
makes us right  
with God.**





A digital painting of a night landscape. The sky is a deep blue and purple, filled with numerous stars and a faint, colorful rainbow arching across the horizon. In the foreground, two silhouetted figures stand on a grassy hill, looking out over a body of water that reflects the sky. The overall mood is contemplative and serene.

**WHAT, THEN, IS FAITH?**



*Faith: A Steadfast Trust  
In Something/Someone  
that moves us to  
respond.*



# THE QUALITIES OF FAITH

1. Faith calls us to be bound to something.
2. Faith makes demands that we are obliged to.
3. Faith promises something that we can access.



# WHAT IF MY FAITH ISN'T GOOD ENOUGH?

*Matthew 17:20b*

*[20] For truly, I say to you, if you have faith like a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move, and nothing will be impossible for you.'*

*Mark 9:24*

*[24] Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, "I believe; help my unbelief!"*



# BIBLICAL FAITH

1. Faith must be placed in something external, not internal.

*Matthew 4:19a*

*[19] And he said to them, “Follow me”*



# BIBLICAL FAITH

2. Faith is a response to something, not an acknowledgment of something.

*Matthew 27:54*

*[54] When the centurion and those who were with him, keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were filled with awe and said, "Truly this was the Son of God!"*



# BIBLICAL FAITH

3. Faith is actively moves us, not passively placates us.

*James 2:17*

*[17] So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.*





# BIBLICAL FAITH

4. Faith operates at all times, not being restricted to either highs or lows.

*Philippians 4:12-13*

*[12] I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. [13] I can do all things through him who strengthens me.*



# BIBLICAL FAITH

5. Faith trades control over another for trust in another.

*1 Kings 19:11-12*

*[11] And he said, "Go out and stand on the mount before the LORD." And behold, the LORD passed by, and a great and strong wind tore the mountains and broke in pieces the rocks before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind. And after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake. [12] And after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire. And after the fire the sound of a low whisper.*





When we put our  
faith in Jesus, we put  
our faith in a  
terrifyingly  
uncontrollable,  
overwhelmingly  
powerful, and  
unflinchingly just  
God.

When we put our  
faith in Jesus, we put  
our faith in one who  
loved us so much he  
died for us.