

# Wait, Watch, and Listen

## Part 3

August 6, 2017

### I **SLIDE** Why is waiting so difficult?

A) **Galatians 6:9 (NIV)** Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.

B) Dustin Battles

C) Humorous Pause -

- 1) looking for protest signs. Instead, found these
- 2) **SLIDES**

### II **SLIDE** Closer look at waiting

A) **Habakkuk 1:1-4 (NIV)** <sup>1</sup> The oracle that Habakkuk the prophet received. <sup>2</sup> How long, O LORD, must I call for help, but you do not listen? Or cry out to you, "Violence!" but you do not save? <sup>3</sup> Why do you make me look at injustice? Why do you tolerate wrong? Destruction and violence are before me; there is strife, and conflict abounds. <sup>4</sup> Therefore the law is paralyzed, and justice never prevails. The wicked hem in the righteous, so that justice is perverted.

- 1) Navy veteran told to remove American flag covering from his mailbox because it does not meet the aesthetic values of the housing development
- 2) Pres. Trump took his first vacation in New Jersey. He is being criticized for going to the same places as previous president
- 3) Obamacare premiums in New Jersey are going to increase 43%
- 4) MS-13, the most violent gang, has increased their presence
- 5) North Korea may be developing a hydrogen bomb (Atomic = 20 kilotons of TNT; hydrogen = 10,000 kilotons TNT)
- 6) Amazon is selling toilet paper with Trump's tweets printed on it
- 7) 10-year-old Kheris Rogers was bullied at school because her skin was darker than others
- 8) More White House leaks threaten our security

B) **SLIDE Isaiah 29:13-15 (NIV)** <sup>13</sup> The Lord says: "These people come near to me with their mouth and honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. Their worship of me is made up only of rules taught by men. <sup>14</sup> Therefore once more I will astound these people with wonder upon wonder; the wisdom of the wise will perish, the intelligence of the intelligent will vanish." <sup>15</sup> Woe to those who go to great depths to hide their plans from the LORD, who do their work in darkness and think, "Who sees us? Who will know?"

- 1) God's promise
- 2) But it will come in His time
- 3) So we must wait for it

### III The Vision

A) **SLIDE Habakkuk 2:2-3 (NIV)** <sup>2</sup> Then the LORD replied: "Write down the revelation and make it plain on tablets so that a herald may run with it. <sup>3</sup> For the revelation awaits an appointed time; it speaks of the end and will not prove false. Though it linger, wait for it; it will certainly come and will not delay.

B) **SLIDE Proverbs 29:18 (CJB)** <sup>18</sup> Without a prophetic vision, the people throw off all restraint; but he who keeps *Torah* is happy.

- 1) Definitions
  - a) Vision = divine communication; vision that signifies the direct, specific communication from God; guiding communication from God
  - b) Throw off restraint = perish; to let go or let loose;
  - c) Keeps = to watch; to preserve; to guard (Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden)
  - d) Torah = the law, all of it
- 2) **SLIDE** Without a divine, specific communication from God, the people will let go of His word, lose all restraint, and perish; but those preserve, guard and follow all His word is happy and at peace because of a relationship with God.

- 3) Golden Calf
  - a) God gave Moses specific instructions
  - b) As long as Moses was present, the people obeyed - mostly
  - c) Moses represented the prophetic vision from God
  - d) Through Moses the people received specific instructions
  - e) Then, Moses goes up the mountain to meet with God
  - f) He is gone 40 days and 40 nights
  - g) Why did it take so long?
  - h) God was testing the people
  - i) Without that prophetic voice present, the people cast off all restraint
  - j) They let loose and behaved just like the Egyptians who had held them captive
  - k) They worshipped idols
  - l) They served gold
  - m) They partook of temple prostitutes
  - n) They engaged in promiscuous sex
  - o) And what happened to them? They perished
  - p) This verse is not saying unsaved people will perish; it says God's people will perish
- 4) Some say that all we need is the Bible
- 5) I agree that we are not to add or take away even a period
- 6) However, look at the state of our nation
  - a) Do any of us know what to do?
  - b) Does the Bible tell us what to do when our Congress acts like school children who pout when they cannot get their way?
  - c) Does the Bible tell us what to do when states declare a crisis because they have run out of marijuana?
  - d) Does the Bible tell us what to do when illegal immigrants are allowed to parade nude around the streets of New York and hassle tourists without being arrested because they are protected?

- e) What do we do when our schools remove God, insist on humanism and evolution, and provide condoms to middle school children?
  - f) How do we respond to a world where only 48% of the people believe religious freedom is more important than sexual freedom?
  - 7) Without a prophetic vision from God, even God's people will cast off restraint and begin to behave like the world
- C) **SLIDE Romans 1:16-32 (NIV)** <sup>16</sup> I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile. <sup>17</sup> For in the gospel a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: "The righteous will live by faith." <sup>18</sup> The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress the truth by their wickedness, <sup>19</sup> since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. <sup>20</sup> For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities--his eternal power and divine nature--have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse. <sup>21</sup> For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. <sup>22</sup> Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools <sup>23</sup> and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like mortal man and birds and animals and reptiles. <sup>24</sup> Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another. <sup>25</sup> They exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator--who is forever praised. Amen. <sup>26</sup> Because of this, God gave them over to shameful lusts. Even their women exchanged natural relations for unnatural ones. <sup>27</sup> In the same way the men also abandoned natural relations with women and were inflamed with lust for one another. Men committed

indecent acts with other men, and received in themselves the due penalty for their perversion. <sup>28</sup> Furthermore, since they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, he gave them over to a depraved mind, to do what ought not to be done. <sup>29</sup> They have become filled with every kind of wickedness, evil, greed and depravity. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit and malice. They are gossips, <sup>30</sup> slanderers, God-haters, insolent, arrogant and boastful; they invent ways of doing evil; they disobey their parents; <sup>31</sup> they are senseless, faithless, heartless, ruthless. <sup>32</sup> Although they know God's righteous decree that those who do such things deserve death, they not only continue to do these very things but also approve of those who practice them.

- 1) Do these describe our times?
- 2) Have we cast off restraint in this nation?
- 3) But we are not to lose hope.

D) **SLIDE Habakkuk 1:5 (NIV)** <sup>5</sup> "Look at the nations and watch-- and be utterly amazed. For I am going to do something in your days that you would not believe, even if you were told.

- 1) Carol's returning to school full time

E) **SLIDE Vision**

- 1) More copies
- 2) Email me what the Lord shows you - [dunsell@me.com](mailto:dunsell@me.com)

**STOP**

**COPY OF VISION**