

- The Sovereign God who sits on the throne over all of creation, is the same sovereign God who governs all of life according to His eternal purpose, and is the same sovereign God who faithfully sustains you and me day by day ... Whatever hardship we experience in life is met with this truth: Christ enters it, bears it upon Himself, and redeems it
- **2:1** – regular practice of Habakkuk ... As the Lord's prophet, he's responsible for communicating to the people what the Lord is doing and saying, warning the people if they're straying from the Lord ... To do this, he must keep watch – like a guard positioned in a tower watching for any impending danger ... The call to watch and wait extends to all Christians – it's a call to continually pray as you walk by faith with a God who remains faithful and unchanging
 - Watching and waiting takes time – prayer is a way we experience and grow our covenant relationship with God ... Watching and waiting teaches perseverance – despite how long we wait, despite the answer given, we hold tight to what we know to be true ... Impossible for God to be anything other than who He is ... He's with you, He's for you, He's in you ... Whatever battle you're in, He's in it with you
- 24/7 exposure to everything happening in the world is both good and overwhelming ... Good to be aware and know how to pray, how to minister to people with the gospel ... Overwhelming when we place on our own shoulders the emotional burden and responsibility of what's happening ... World doesn't need us to be their savior ... They need us to show them their Savior ... We achieve this as we live by faith – lockstep with God and one another
 - **Vs4** contrasts two types of people: 1) those who live by faith in themselves, 2) those who live by faith in God ... People of #1 pursue their own gain by whatever means necessary ... A person whose life is filled with everything but God ... #1 is afraid to fail and be seen as a failure, so they're driven by performance and control ... We know people like this; we used to be like this; we struggle with the temptation to return
 - People of #2 strive to recognize their failure, embrace their weakness, and trust in the sufficiency of God's grace ... While their life may be a mess, their life is built upon Jesus – who He is and what He's done ... He's not afraid of their mess ... He's not looking for perfection; He's looking for faithfulness ... Faithfulness is not about "doing more for God" ... It's about walking with God, step by step, trusting in His faithfulness – past, present, future ... Trusting in the finished work of Jesus, and the present reality of the Spirit within ... **2Tm2:19** ... *Spurgeon, Morning and Evening, "January 5 – Evening"* ... Memorize and practice – **Pr3:5-6**
- As we engage the world around us, we remember that the final judgment of things is coming ... Those powers that seek to make a name for themselves, that seek the glory that belongs to God, will be brought down to nothing ... It is the Lord Himself who gives power and removes power; He causes nations to rise and fall; He appoints leaders and He removes leaders ... In the end, only His glory will endure and cover the earth ... He sees all, knows all, and governs all, therefore, **"let the whole earth be silent in His presence"** ... And let us walk by faith with our faithful God