

- **Ch3** resembles a Psalm – a passionate prayer or song directed to the Lord; others are encouraged to recite, pray and sing to the Lord ... Habakkuk calls on Yahweh to be **the God of salvation** he knows God to be ... He stands amazed in the wonder and greatness of who God is and all that He's done on behalf of His people ... Habakkuk petitions God to once again deliver His people from the evil that surrounds them ... Even if this means His faithful remnant must endure hardship and suffering as His plan of salvation is carried out ... **In wrath remember mercy** ... For God to **remember** is for Him to act in **covenant faithfulness**, to act according to His character and promises
  - Habakkuk recalls the exodus from Egypt and the conquest of the promised land (v3-7, v8-15) ... These events are prominent demonstrations of **God's character and sovereignty**; Him working for the good of His glory and people ... **The God who has saved will continue to save** ... In bringing judgment against the gods of Egypt (v5), God shows Himself to be the Eternal One who will continue to stand if all else ceases to exist (v6) ... v11 recounts the events in **Joshua 10** – sun and moon stand still, a fierce hailstorm that **"the Lord threw"** upon enemies ... Time of judgment finally comes to the nations He previously extended grace (v12, Ge15:16)
  - **V13** – The God of salvation delivers His people ... **He triumphs over the evil one and strips from him all victory and power** ... The Lord controls the reach of everything ... All evil bows to His sovereignty (the sea) ... In recalling what God has done, Habakkuk presses forward with deeper assurance – the God who saved His people then is the God who saves His people now ... And the God who will continue to save His people ... **Now he must quietly wait for the day of distress to come** ... **Quietly wait** is *to rest, to settle down* – not allowing your anxiety or fear to override your faith ... Explained in v17-19, and a reminder of 2:4
  - God's people are **those who walk with Him in faith** ... Faith isn't conditioned by our circumstances ... **Faith is conditioned by our God who never ceases to be who He is** – God of my salvation ... covenant maker is my Lord, my Savior ... therefore, He's my strength ... Habakkuk declares that God is for him and with him despite whatever happens ... This must be our declaration, too
- **"This is the confidence and solace of the Christian: not that life is easy, not that sorrow is absent, but that Christ is present. And He is personally acquainted with our hardship and suffering."** ... The greatest moment of injustice took place on the cross when the innocent Son of God died in your place for your sin ... Also, equally the greatest act of justice where God's wrath against you was appeased and your sin forgiven ... More, the power of sin was broken and the power of death defeated when Christ died and rose again ... This is the **Christ who is present with you** ... This is the Christ **who lives within you, empowering you day by day by His Spirit** to press on in faith
  - **V13-14** points us to Jesus, as the words speak of the Lord crushing the leader of evil, stripping him of his power, and using his own weapons against him ... **Mk3:26, Cl2:14-15, 2Co5:21** ... By becoming sin, Christ defeats sin ... By His death, Christ defeats death
  - **He7:25** – He's able to save you completely, since He's always interceding for you ... He who understands you, is the One who's for you, who's living in you, and who's empowering you to press on in faith
  - **What prevents you from believing this?**
    - Get real with the Lord, and get real with yourself
    - The only thing that can stop you from believing this is yourself
    - 1) Take thoughts captive, 2) Rehearse God's truth, 3) Rest in the faithfulness of Jesus