

RECOGNIZING GOOD NEWS IN PROPHETIC JUDGEMENT

Habakkuk 2:20

Awareness

Before listening, reflect:

- How do you define prophetic judgement? How is it used in the Bible?
- What does it mean to place your confidence in someone or something?

The prophet Habakkuk has a heart that breaks for his nation, a nation that SHOULD know the Lord and his power but through their actions have demonstrated blatant disrespect and rejection for the Lord and his commands. Through Habakkuk the Lord issues yet another grim warning of what will happen. Through this warning, we witness God's patience and persistence for his people, we learn to recognize his presence when we're wondering where he is, and we discover the appropriate way to respond as we wait for justice in God's time.

Reflection

After listening, consider:

- In segment 1, host Dave Bast comments that Habakkuk's list of woes in chapter 2 verses 6-17 sound a lot like modern sins or crimes. Think about what's at the heart of each of Habakkuk's warnings and rewrite the verses with modern language and equivalent modern crimes and sins.. Does this help you relate to Habakkuk's laments?
- It's good news for us that every time God issues a somber warning, he also issues an invitation to repent, renounces our sins, receive forgiveness, and return to him. But sometimes we forget that that invitation is for ALL people. Is there any person or group of people for whom you desire judgement so bad that you'd prefer they not be forgiven? Read Jonah 3 - 4. Place this burden at the Lord's feet and seek his help daily to share his eyes and heart for broken, sinful people.
- After listening to the discussion in segment 2, what does it mean to you that "The Lord is in his holy temple?" How might your understanding affect your attitude and approach in worship?
- When is the last time you were silent before the Lord? After listening to segment 3, what do you think your silence communicates to God?

Related Passages

- **Matthew 23**
- **Psalms 139:7-10**
- **1 Kings 19:11-13**
- **Jonah 3-4**

Conclusion

Reflect on Habakkuk's list of woes and the modern equivalents you considered; be silent before the Lord. Are you too focused on how others should be repenting and returning to God's ways? Do YOU need to repent, receive forgiveness, and renounce your sins? Pray for hearts and minds to return to the Lord; thank him for his seemingly endless patience and love for his people, but also for being a just God who will seek justice for the oppressed and abused.

"The Lord is in his holy temple; let all the earth be silent before him." *Habakkuk 2:20*

<https://groundworkonline.com/episodes/recognizing-good-news-in-prophetic-judgement>

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