

The Righteous Will Live by Faith

In the midst of serious and gloomy declarations of judgment, Habakkuk offers a little hope, "the righteous person will live by his faithfulness." The Apostle Paul rooted these profound words in the foundation of our theology when he quoted them in the New Testament. Yet, we still wonder...whose faithfulness - mine or God's? Can I be righteous or does God make me righteous? Let's study Habakkuk's original words to discover their deep significance for our faith.

AWARENESS Before listening reflect on what you already know or understand about topics we'll cover in the episode.

- How do you define the word *woe*? What are you inclined to do when you hear or read the word *woe*?
- Why is it hard to rely on faith when bad things continually happen or when it feels like God isn't answering prayer?



LISTEN TO THE EPISODE: [The Righteous Will Live by Faith](#)

READ [Habakkuk 2:1-4, 12-14](#)

REFLECTION After listening, consider the following questions:

- In segment 1, host Scott Hoezee discusses the idea that God's deliverance may linger. In his commentary on Habakkuk, John Calvin offers this explanation: *We indeed make such haste in all our desires, that the Lord, when he delays one moment, seems to be too slow.* Ponder both of these statements. Are there areas in your life where you might be imposing your own haste on God and his timing?
- Consider the ways you build trust in human relationships and apply the same principles to your relationship with God. Make a list of ways you can build your trust in God. When your faith wavers, remind yourself of the reasons you trust God and revisit the list you made to continue building on that foundation of trust.
- How do your beliefs about the future of this earth and God's kingdom inform how you live now?
- What does it mean that Jesus Christ made you righteous through his death on the cross? How does that knowledge help you live by faith?
- Are your words and actions a witness to the gospel and God's glory?

RELATED PASSAGES for further study

[Romans 1:16-17](#), [Isaiah 11](#), [Jeremiah 31:31-34](#)

CONCLUSION

Do you need to seek forgiveness for imposing your haste on God's timing or for not putting your trust in him? Do you seek illumination from God's word about the future of this world or help living faithfully? Offer prayers of thanksgiving for the righteousness you have received through Christ and for the gift of the Holy Spirit who provides testimony to the glory of God. Continue with prayers of confession, illumination, or praise and commit to living by faith.

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