

Habakkuk 3:2
Where Have We Come in 25 Years?

"I will stand on my guard post And station myself on the rampart; And I will keep watch to see what He will speak to me, And how I may reply when I am reproved." -Habakkuk 2:1 NASB

"But the Lord is in His holy temple. Let all the earth be silent before Him."
-Habakkuk 2:20 NASB

I have heard all about you, Lord . I am filled with awe by your amazing works. In this time of our deep need, help us again as you did in years gone by. And in your anger, remember your mercy. -Habakkuk 3:2 NLT

1. I have heard the report

A. What's the report

B. I fear

2. Do we want it back?

A. In the right time

When they had been released, they went to their own companions and reported all that the chief priests and the elders had said to them. And when they heard this, they lifted their voices to God with one accord and said, "O Lord, it is You who made the heaven and the earth and the sea, and all that is in them, who by the Holy Spirit, through the mouth of our father David Your servant, said, ' why did the gentiles rage, and the peoples devise futile things? ' The kings of the earth took their stand, and the rulers were gathered together against the Lord and against his Christ.' For truly in this city there were gathered together against Your holy servant Jesus, whom You anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel, to do whatever Your hand and Your purpose predestined to occur. And now, Lord, take note of their threats, and grant that Your bondservants may speak Your word with all confidence, while You extend Your hand to heal, and signs and wonders take place through the name of Your holy servant Jesus." And when they had prayed, the place where they had gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak the word of God with boldness. -Acts 4:23-31 NASB

B. Help is on the way

3. In Wrath Remember Mercy

A. Do we believe that God is capable of wrath?

"Or do you presume on the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance? But because of your hard and impenitent heart you are storing up wrath for yourself on the day of wrath when God's righteous judgment will be revealed." -Romans 2:4-5 ESV

"Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these the wrath of God is coming." -Colossians 3:5-6 ESV

"Then the kings of the earth and the great ones and the generals and the rich and the powerful, and everyone, slave and free, hid themselves in the caves and among the rocks of the mountains, calling to the mountains and rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the face of him who is seated on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb, for the great day of their wrath has come, and who can stand?" -Revelation 6:15-17 ESV

B. Do we believe in God's mercy?

"But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy." -1 Peter 2:9-10 ESV

"To receive mercy, we must first know that God is merciful. And it is not enough to believe that He once showed mercy to Noah or Abraham or David and will again show mercy in some happy future day. We must believe that God's mercy is boundless, free and, through Jesus Christ our Lord, available to us now in our present situation."

AW Tozer, *The Knowledge of the Holy*

Reflection:

Pray Habakkuk 3:2 if you have the courage to. You need it. Your family needs it. Your church needs it.

Follow UP in the Word through the Week...

Monday: Habakkuk 2:20. When was the last time you were silent before the Lord?

Tuesday: Acts 4:23-31. The early church was reacting to threats by the authorities telling them to not proclaim Jesus. What does their reaction teach us?

Wednesday: Romans 2:4-5. What does Romans teach us about the wrath of God? If you were asked about God's wrath, what would you say?

Thursday: Colossians 3:5-6. How does this list fit in with the values around us today?

Friday: Revelation 6:15-17. How terrible is the wrath of God according to this passage? What could this understanding motivate you to do for the Lord today?

Saturday: 1 Peter 2:9-10. Who are you in Christ? What specifically does Peter say about "mercy" here and what impact does that have on your life?