

YET I WILL REJOICE

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A Sermon Outline

Presented to

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By

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## YET I WILL REJOICE

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Text: Habakkuk 3:17-19

Thesis: To motivate brethren to rejoice and trust in the Lord even when things go wayward.

### INTRODUCTION

1. When plans do not go the way you expected what do you normally do?
2. Habakkuk was disturbed, complained, and questioned God because of the sinful things that were happening in Judah, yet God seemed to have been silent.
3. The Lord however gave Habakkuk an answer to his complaints and told him how He had planned to use the Chaldeans to punish Judah.
4. This was not what Habakkuk expected so he cried out to God, asking why a more corrupt gentile nation would be used to punish a less sinful Judah.
5. The response from God and the realization of the limitedness of man to understand everything that happens in our lives made Habakkuk write the song which will serve as our main text (Hab. 3:17-19).
6. From this text, we shall consider three main things in this lesson.
  - a. Though Distressed.
  - b. Though Disappointed.
  - c. Though Defeated.

### DISCUSSION

- I. THOUGH DISTRESSED (Hab. 1:1-17; 3:16-17).
  - A. The life of a man is full of troubles, and those may come anytime (John 16:20-22).
    1. The wage of sin is death (Rom. 3:23).
    2. Distress is defined as: a feeling of extreme worry, sadness, or pain.
    3. When troubles befall us, that do not necessarily indicate that we are being punished for our sins because both the righteous and wicked suffer.
    4. This world is full of troubles and pain affecting both the good and the bad.
    5. Habakkuk was distressed because of the wickedness in the land, and he lamented.
    6. We may have troubles in our lives that could bring distresses but in all of them we must trust God and rejoice.
    7. The trials we face today that bring distresses include the following.
      - a. Uncertainty.
      - b. Struggle for basic needs.
      - c. Fears in the heart.

- d. Conflict.
- e. Bad news.

B. Sin has tendency of bringing troubles.

- 1. The wage of sin is death (Rom. 3:23).
- 2. Once we remain in our sins and do not repent, the consequences of the sins can lead us into various troubles.
- 3. The land of Judah was full of violence and wickedness which caused them to be invaded by the Babylonians (Hab. 1:6-8).
- 4. Habakkuk understood that sins have tendencies of bringing distresses.
- 5. If we do not turn from iniquity troubles will come on our ways.

C. Troubles will not stay forever so rejoice.

- 1. Troubles may come but will not stay forever because there is time for everything (Eccl. 3:1-8).
- 2. The sovereign God is in control (Eccl. 7:14; Jer. 32:27).
- 3. We can rejoice in troubles because of the expected end that the Lord will give us (Jer. 29:11-14).
- 4. God will come to rescue His own so rejoice.

D. God is good all the time even in our distresses.

- 1. Trials have purposes and hence when we face them, we need to rejoice (Jas. 1:3; 1 Pet. 5:10).
- 2. We do not face trials alone for God is always with us (Psa. 23; Isa. 41:13; 2 Cor. 1:3-5).
- 3. So, though we face those unpleasant things, we can rejoice.

II. THOUGH DISAPPOINTED (Hab. 2:1-10).

A. Things can turn from positive to negative unexpectedly.

- 1. There are uncertainties which may result in disappointments.
- 2. Habakkuk was disappointed because things did not work out the way he expected (Hab. 1:2-17).
- 3. Solomon rightly put it that there is time for everything and unfortunately, we do not know when anything will be happening.
- 4. God has appointed things to happen in this life and His ways are not our ways (Isa. 55:8-9).
- 5. Because do not know and understand all things, we must rely on God when we are disappointed.

B. The basis for our joy must not come from our current situation.

- 1. Joy does not depend on the circumstances we are facing (Hab. 3:17-18)
- 2. Joy is a decision that we will remain thankful and optimistic even when disappointed, for Habakkuk said, "yet I will rejoice".
- 3. Joy comes from the Lord, and unto Him must we turn to when we are faced with disappointments (Hab. 3:18; Gal. 5:22, 1 Thess. 5:16).

4. We must recognize that our ability to understand our current situation is limited.

C. There shall not always be good outcomes for such is the reality of life.

1. There can be delays which may disappoint us.
2. There can be denials or a no response or change of mind, but our God is faithful and changes not (Mal. 3:6; Heb. 13:8).
3. There can be death which would disrupt our expectations, but our God is alive.
4. People get emotional and waver because they do not have things that stabilize things, but our God is a stabilizer (Psa. 23:2; 65:4-11; Mark 4:39-41).

### III. THOUGH DEFEATED (Hab. 3:17-18)

A. Defeat is not uncommon.

1. There is time for losing for everyone.
2. Losing or being defeated is the end of us.
3. Sin can bring defeat in our lives (Josh. 7:7-12).
4. But there are also times that we face defeat or are overcome by situations not because of sins committed (
5. Defeat can happen to anyone irrespective of their relationship with God.
6. But those whose God is the Lord rejoice because if God is for us no

B. There can be different kinds of defeats, but none must take our joy.

1. There can be defeats that come from death of loved ones.
2. There are defeats that come from sin
3. There are defeats that emerge from multiple things.
4. Yet we will not be stopped from rejoicing in the Lord, because He has not promised problem free life but that all will work for our good (Rom. 8:28).
5. Yet no defeat can separate us from the love of God (Rom. 8:31-39).
6. It is not in our hands to direct or control what must happen in our lives (Prov. 16:9).
7. However, we rejoice because we know who holds the future (Jer. 29:11-13).

C. Satan sometimes gets in the way to fight God's plan for our lives.

1. The devil walks about seeking to devour us (1 Pet. 5:8).
2. The devil comes in to steal us from God with defeats that he may destroy us (John 10:10).
3. But God's plans for us are good and they will be fulfilled.
4. Our job is to trust God because He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him (Heb. 11:6).
5. God will direct our path if we trust and submit to Him (Prov. 3:5-6; Psa. 37:4-5).
6. God will not do everything we want but we can be assured that His plans will be victorious even if we face some defeats along the way.

C. We can rejoice in the God of our salvation.

1. Christ died as though defeated but He resurrected to our victory.
2. Our joy in the Lord should not come from what we will gain in this life but the salvation that awaits us at the end (1 Cor. 15:17-20).
3. Habakkuk realized God's plan and rejoiced because all things were going to be in their favor toward salvation (Hab. 3:17-19).
4. Our beginning may have some defeats, but our end will be victorious.

## CONCLUSION

1. Habakkuk was disturbed that things were deteriorating in the land Judah, but God seemed to have been silent about it.
2. Such are the thoughts of some of us when we are face with troubles.
3. But God may be silent sometimes but that does not mean He is not aware or knows what is happening.
4. God is working on things we may not be aware which will be in our favor at the end.
5. This is what Habakkuk realized and wrote down words from which we got the main points of our studies (Hab. 3:17-19).
  - a. Though distressed.
  - b. Though disappointed.
  - c. Though defeated.
6. Yet we will rejoice in the God of our salvation because all will work together for our good.
7. God desires that we trust Him and rejoice in His plans for our lives.
8. Those who have not returned to God can do so by following His steps to salvation.
  - a. Believe the gospel (John 8:24).
  - b. Repent and turn toward the Lord (Acts 2:38, 3:19, Acts 26:16-18).
  - c. Confess the Lord Jesus. (Acts 8:37).
  - d. Be baptized (Mark 16:16; 1 Pet. 5:21; Acts 2:38).