

“The Choices of an Anti-Fragile Faith Habakkuk 3:1-19

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“Though the fig tree should not blossom, nor fruit be on the vines, the produce of the olive fail and the fields yield no food, the flock be cut off from the fold and there be no herd in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the LORD; I will take joy in the God of my salvation. GOD, the Lord, is my strength; he makes my feet like the deer’s; he makes me tread on my high places . . .”
Habakkuk 3:17-19 (English Standard Version)

An anti-fragile faith chooses to embrace difficulty.

Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evil people and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived.
2 Timothy 3:12-13 (ESV)

- **Suffering and difficulty are a normal part of life with God.**

But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong. 2 Corinthians 12:9-10 (ESV)

- **Difficulty is often a tool in God’s hands to transform us.**

An anti-fragile faith chooses to remember and depend on God’s character.

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.* Psalm 46:1 (ESV)

*The Hebrew here could also be translated “well-proved”.

Habakkuk 3:3-15 can be summarized into two ideas:

- 1) God has control and power over the nations.
- 2) God has control and power over nature.

An anti-fragile faith chooses faithfulness even if it doesn't make sense.

*I hear, and my body trembles; my lips quiver at the sound; rottenness enters into my bones; my legs tremble beneath me. **Yet I** will quietly wait for the day of trouble to come upon people who invade us. Habakkuk 3:16 (ESV) [emphasis, mine]*

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, ²looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. ³Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted. Hebrews 12:1-3 (ESV)

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Our [Satan's] cause is never more lost than when a person looks at a world round about them, a world from which every shred of God's goodness has disappeared, and still chooses to obey.
C.S. Lewis, "The Screwtape Letters"

Take Home Truth: An anti-fragile faith joyfully surrenders in the confident expectation of an anti-fragile God.

Where is God inviting each of us to choose joyful surrender?