

“THE COMPLAINTS OF AN ANTI-FRAGILE FAITH”

Habakkuk 1:1-17

Pastor Art Hunt

January 6-7, 2018

Unifying theme of Habakkuk: An anti-fragile faith trusts persistently in God and His sovereign plan to set all things right.

Take-Home Truth for Habakkuk 1: A believer’s **ongoing conversation with God**, in the midst of pain, is a crucial part of growing an anti-fragile faith.

POURING OUT OUR HEART-FELT DISTRESS TO GOD FACILITATES A GROWING FAITH.

The oracle that Habakkuk the prophet saw. ²O LORD, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not hear? Or cry to you “Violence!” and you will not save? ³Why do you make me see iniquity, and why do you idly look at wrong? Destruction and violence are before me; strife and contention arise. ⁴So the law is paralyzed, and justice never goes forth. For the wicked surround the righteous; so justice goes forth perverted.
Habakkuk 1:2-4 (English Standard Version)

Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before him; God is a refuge for us.
Psalm 62:8 (ESV)

Application Tip: If you want to develop an anti-fragile faith, keep talking to God. In all circumstances, at all times, pour out your heart to God and then listen in every way possible for His voice.

SOMETIMES GOD’S ANSWER TO OUR PRAYER TAKES US BY SURPRISE.

“Look at the nations and watch—and be utterly amazed. For I am going to do something in your days that you would not believe, even if you were told.
Habakkuk 1:5 (New International Version)

(See Habakkuk 1:6-11; 2 Chronicles 36:14-16)

WHEN WE DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT GOD IS DOING, WE CENTER ON WHO HE IS.

Are you not from everlasting, O LORD my God, my Holy One? We shall not die. O LORD, you have ordained them as a judgment, and you, O Rock, have established them for reproof.
Habakkuk 1:12 (ESV)

You who are of purer eyes than to see evil and cannot look at wrong, why do you idly look at traitors and remain silent when the wicked swallows up the man more righteous than he?
Habakkuk 1:13 (ESV)

“So the statement, ‘A good God always prevents evil as far as he is able to,’ is simply false, isn’t it? Instead, it is more accurate to say that a good God always prevents suffering and evil unless he has a good reason to allow it. Sometimes God might allow evil because it will prevent a greater evil (like the spy). Sometimes he might allow evil because it will produce a greater good (like parents do with their children).”

[From “The Story of Reality: How the World Began, How it Ends, and Everything Important In-Between”, by Gregory Koukl]

Application Tip: When you don’t understand what God is doing, go back to Who He is. Search the Scriptures. Center on Jesus in the Gospels to better understand God’s nature and heart.