

Sermon In A Nutshell, "When Times Seem Bad!", April 3, 2020

Habakkuk 3:17 NKJV

Though the fig tree may not blossom, Nor fruit be on the vines; Though the labor of the olive may fail, And the fields yield no food; Though the flock may be cut off from the fold, And there be no herd in the stalls"

Habakkuk was perplexed over GOD using Babylon as a rod of correction for HIS people. The time of correction is hard and chapter 3 is a hymn of faith.

It seems to me, it is a good word for all of us during this virus plague.

Note; it is a time of recession in verse 17. The harvest has failed. It is a time of famine. The livestock is not producing. Times had never looked so grim. What seemed worse it was all caused by Israel's enemy. The big question was why. Much like the crisis we find ourselves in today. A deadly virus with no cure. Death is spreading all around nowhere to turn?

The prophet gives us the answer in verse 18. "I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the GOD of my salvation". That is an unlikely response to such a crisis unless you can say, "The LORD GOD is my strength."

All of us who know the LORD must find our hope in HIM in such times as these. It is not a time of despair, worry and fretting. It is a time to look up not down. It is a time to be positive, not negative. It is a time to claim the truths of scripture (Read Romans 8:28 and Psalm 71:7-8..16-17)

Let me encourage you to use these days of difficulty to reflect on your relationship with JESUS. Renew your trust and dependence on HIM. If HE can't handle this crisis then we are all doomed.

The bottom line is HE is in charge. HE is our security and hope in all things. Let us be reminded of our frailties and HIS POWER. If you have never trusted HIM, today is a good time.

## Today's Prayer:

"Thank YOU, LORD, for taking care of me in the bad times as well as the good times. No matter the situation, YOU have given me my salvation. I promise to help others in need and tell them about the love YOU have for them. Amen."

Feel HIS Blessings!

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