



Date: March 30, 2025

Speaker: Sam Rainer

Series: Habakkuk

Message: Waiting on God for an Answer

Reflect:

- When was a time you had to wait for something important? How did the waiting affect your attitude or choices?
- Have you ever looked back on something you really wanted, only to realize it didn't bring the happiness or satisfaction you hoped for? What was it?

Encounter:

- Read Habakkuk 2:1–3. What do you notice about the posture Habakkuk takes while waiting for God's response? How might that shape the way we wait on God today?
- In Habakkuk 2:4, we see the phrase "the righteous shall live by his faith." Why do you think this is considered a key verse in the whole Bible (also quoted in Romans 1:17, Galatians 3:11, and Hebrews 10:38)?
- Review the five woes in Habakkuk 2:6–20. Which one stands out most to you and why? What do these woes reveal about pride, idolatry, and injustice?

Transform:

- What are you currently waiting on God for? How can your waiting become a spiritual discipline instead of a spiritual struggle?
- How might our small group or church community better reflect the call to live by faith in seasons of waiting? What practical steps can we take together?

Related Passages:

- **Psalms 27:14** – “Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart...”
 - Reinforces the idea that waiting requires courage, not passivity.
- **Romans 1:17 / Galatians 3:11 / Hebrews 10:38**
 - All quote Habakkuk 2:4, showing how foundational the idea of “living by faith” is to New Testament theology.
- **Isaiah 40:31** – “Those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength...”
 - Offers encouragement that waiting brings renewal, not weariness.
- **Lamentations 3:25-26** – “The Lord is good to those who wait for him...”
 - A poetic reflection on hope and waiting during suffering.
- **James 5:7-11** – Encourages believers to be patient like the prophets and Job, waiting for God’s purposes to be fulfilled.
- **Matthew 16:25** – “If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it...”
 - Ties directly into Habakkuk 2’s call to give up pride and self-reliance.

Interesting Facts and Tidbits:

- **“Wait” in Hebrew** (as used in Habakkuk 2:3) carries the idea of endurance and humility. It’s not passive—it’s an active form of strength.
- **The watchtower image in Habakkuk 2:1** is a powerful metaphor—like a lighthouse for ships or a tower in a fort. It gives both vision upward (hope) and vision downward (perspective).

- **Habakkuk's honesty with God** is part of faithful living. Asking "how long?" doesn't show weakness—it shows relationship and trust.
- **Habakkuk's message is a reversal of Babylon's pursuit:** they conquer to cover pride and fill emptiness. God invites us to lay down pride and be filled with His grace.

Additional Discussion Questions:

- How does the concept of "faith that shines in struggle" resonate with your own experience? When has your faith been most visible?
- Which do you find harder: waiting patiently or trusting God's timing? Why?
- If someone asked you for advice on how to wait on God, what would you say?