

Habakkuk 2:1-4

Chapter 1 God can use bad times to bring about His good plans

Chapter 2 God gives His Word: "Trust Me, I will deal with it in time, be faithful while you wait."

"I will climb up to my watchtower and stand at my guard post. There I will wait to see what the Lord says and how he will answer my complaint. ² Then the Lord said to me, "Write my answer plainly on tablets, so that a runner can carry the correct message to others. ³ This vision is for a future time. It describes the end, and it will be fulfilled. If it seems slow in coming, wait patiently, for it will surely take place. It will not be delayed. ⁴ "Look at the proud! They trust in themselves, and their lives are crooked. But the righteous will live by their faithfulness to God."

Key verse - 2:4

Key Bible Theme - Delay/Waiting

When we see evil and injustice, we naturally question God.

God answers us with His Word: "Trust Me, I will deal with it in time, be faithful while you wait."

N.T. Wright, Surprised by Scripture

Our general responses to evil/wrong:

- We ignore the problem of evil until it hits us in the face (gets personal)
- We are surprised by evil/wrong when it does
- We react in immature and dangerous ways

Three introductory Biblical responses to evil/wrong:

- there are no easy answers, in Scripture or elsewhere
(if we think we have solved the problem of evil that just shows we haven't really understood it.)
- the line between good and evil does not lie between "us and them", it runs thru middle of all of us
- God will put the world right in Christ

What does waiting on the LORD look like for us?

We Practice Patience to Seek God's Word

"I will climb up to my watchtower and stand at my guard post.

There I will wait to see what the Lord says and how he will answer my complaint."

Romans 5:3-4 "We can rejoice, too, when we run into problems and trials, for we know that they help us develop endurance. ⁴ And endurance develops strength of character, and character strengthens our confident hope of salvation."

Job 23:10 "But he knows where I am going. And when he tests me, I will come out as pure as gold."

How does God want to use this wrong to shape me according to His Word?