

# THE RIGHTEOUS SHALL LIVE BY FAITH

Pastor Lucas Almeida—Centra Baptist Church—March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022

## Habakkuk 2:2-5

ESV

[2] And the LORD answered me:

“Write the vision;  
make it plain on tablets,  
so he may run who reads it.

[3] For still the vision awaits its appointed time;  
it hastens to the end—it will not lie.

If it seems slow, wait for it;  
it will surely come; it will not delay.

[4] “Behold, his soul is puffed up; it is not upright within him,  
but the righteous shall live by his faith.

[5] “Moreover, wine is a traitor,  
an arrogant man who is never at rest.  
His greed is as wide as Sheol;  
like death he has never enough.  
He gathers for himself all nations  
and collects as his own all peoples.”

**Main Thought:** Enduring faith in the promises of God is what reveals the genuineness of our Christianity.

## 1) THE PERSEVERANCE OF FAITH (2-3)

God displays his grace in the simple fact that he speaks to us?

God instills faith in the believers when his gospel is proclaimed with clarity.

**1 Corinthians 15:1-2**—[1] *Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, [2] and by which you are being saved...*

“Preach the gospel to yourself every day.” —**Jerry Bridges**

God displays his grace in the fact that he encourages us in the midst of our waiting.

## 2) THE REWARD OF FAITH (4)

The reward of faith is eternal life.

**Deuteronomy 28:25**—“*The LORD will cause you to be defeated before your enemies. You shall go out one way against them and flee seven ways before them. And you shall be a horror to all the kingdoms of the earth.*”

But righteousness does not depend on what we do, good or bad. Righteousness depends on faith.

What is righteousness?

Righteousness is to be right with God.

**Romans 3:10-12**—[10] *as it is written: “None is righteous, no, not one; [11] no one understands; no one seeks for God. [12] All have turned aside; together they have become worthless; no one does good, not even one.”*

What is faith?

Faith is to actively believe in the promises of God.

- **Psalm 34:4**—*I sought the Lord, and he answered me and delivered me from all my fears.*
- **Psalm 50:15**—*...and call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you...*
- **Isaiah 43:2**—*When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.*

**Romans 1:16-17**—[16] *For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. [17] For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, “The righteous shall live by faith.”*

*“But up till then it was...a single word in chapter one [of Romans], ‘In it the righteousness of God is revealed’ that had stood in my way. For I hated that word, ‘righteousness of God,’ which, according to the use and costume of all the teachers, I had been taught to understand...as that by which God is righteous and punishes the unrighteous sinner...At last, by the mercy of God, meditating day and night, I gave heed to the context of the words, namely, ‘In it the righteousness of God is revealed, as it is written, ‘He who through faith is righteous, shall live.’” There I begun to understand that the righteousness of God is that by which the righteous live by gift of God, namely, by faith.”—Martin Luther*

## 3) THE WARNING OF FAITH (5)

One of the greatest dangers we face is to presume that since we have received the grace of God, we have finished the race.

**Revelation 2:10**—*Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life.*