

**I. Introduction and Review.**

**II. The LORD speaks to you with authority. 2:2-3**

**A. God's Word is perfect. v. 2**

1. We have infallible revelation from God. v. 2a II Pet. 1:20-21 II Ti. 3:16
2. God makes Himself clear. v. 2b *He does not mumble.*
3. God's Word is meant to be widely known. v. 2c Isa. 30:8 Deut. 27:8 Ex. 17:14 Jer. 30:2 Rev. 1:19

**B. God's timing is perfect. v. 3 Dan. 8:19 Isa. 55:8-9**

1. He has appointed the precise moment of fulfillment. v. 3ab Da. 11:35 8:17 Ga.4:4
2. He will certainly keep His promises. v. 3d Nu. 23:19 Dt. 7:10 Da. 9:19 Isa. 26:13

**C. In the meantime, patiently wait on the LORD to fulfill His promises. v. 3c Da. 12:12 Isa. 64:4 Ps. 27:14 33:20**

1. The Jews in exile had to wait for the crushing defeat of Babylon by the Medes and Persians in 539 B.C. 2:6-20
2. God's people had to wait many centuries for the Messiah's advent. Ga. 4:4
3. We have to wait patiently for the return of Christ and the final judgment of the wicked. Heb. 10:32-29 Rev. 17-18
4. God's timing is not ours. Isa. 55:8-9 II Pet. 3:3-9

**III. Live arrogantly and you will die. v. 4ab,5**

**A. The wicked oppose God.**

1. Pride is the opposite of faith. v. 4ab Pr. 21:24
  - a. The Babylonians exalt themselves. 1:7b,11c,15d-16a
  - b. They are inwardly perverse. Mark 7:21-23 Ecc. 7:29 Deut. 32:4
  - c. They are typical of man in his pride and self reliance.
  - d. Pride is most hateful to God.
2. The man addicted to evil will never be satisfied, in spite of his excesses. v. 5
  - a. A picture of the Babylonians: literally drunk and drunk with power.
  - b. They typify all who seek satisfaction from worldly things (idols). Is. 55:1f Ecc. 1:8 5:10 Pr. 30:15-16

**B. The arrogant will perish in unbelief. v. 6-20 Isa. 13:11 I Pet. 5:5**

1. The Babylonians perished (ironically in a proud drunken stupor). Dan. 5
2. As will all who oppose God.

**IV. Believe God and live. v. 4c**

**A. Those who patiently trust the LORD receive life. Heb. 10:38**

1. This is the answer to Habakkuk's question: the problem of evil.
2. Rely upon God in spite of circumstances and appearances. Heb. 10:37-11:1
3. In what sense will Habakkuk and other remaining believers "live" through the destruction by the Babylonians? 1:12c Heb. 11:39,13
4. Faith has always been the only way men could be rightly related to God. Ge.15:6
5. Trust God because He is faithful. Deut. 32:4 Ps. 119:138,90,86,75

- B. You are justified by faith. Ro. 1:16-17 Gal. 3:10-11**
1. You have no righteousness of your own. **Rom. 3:10-18,23 6:23 Eph. 2:1-3**
  2. You cannot gain life by your works. **Ro. 3:20 Ga. 3:10-11 2:16 Eph. 2:9**
  3. You can only be saved through faith in Christ, through whose finished work God declares sinners righteous. **Ro. 3:21-28 5:1 Phi. 3:9 Jo. 3:16 II Co. 5:21 I Pe. 3:18 Isa. 53:4-6,11 Gal. 3:13**
  4. God gives you life. **Eph. 2:4f Isa. 55:3 Amos 5:4,6**
    - a. He gives us regenerating life by which we believe.
    - b. He gives us eternal life in union with Jesus.
    - c. The picture of baptism. **Rom. 6:4**
  5. There is not, nor has there ever been, another way to be right with God. **He. 11:5 Jo. 14:6 Acts 4:12 Ga. 3:6-9 OT: Looked ahead: what God was going to do: Messiah**
    - a. This doctrine did not originate with Luther or even with Paul or Habakkuk.
    - b. Abraham is the paradigm of faith. **Gen. 15:6 Ro. 4:1-3,16 Ga. 3:9**
    - c. David was saved by grace. **Ps. 32:1-2 Ro. 4:6-8**
    - d. All of Scripture points to this truth. **Ge. 3:15 Is. 28:16 53:1f Jo. 3:5 Lu. 24:27**
- C. Continue to live by faith (sanctification).**
1. Believing is not a one time event, but rather it is the beginning of a life of trusting God. **II Co. 5:17 Ezek. 36:25-27**
  2. Having begun by faith, don't regress to lesser principles. **Ga. 3:3 Col. 2:20-23 Ro. 6:1 James 2:21-24**
  3. The greater your faith, the more life you will enjoy!
    - a. All sin is due to unbelief. **Ro. 14:23b Heb. 3:19**
    - b. All righteousness springs from faith. **Heb. 11:6**
  4. By faith you can do extraordinary things. **Heb. 11:4f**
    - a. Obey God's commandments by faith. **Heb. 11:17,4 John**
    - b. Serve and worship God by faith. **Heb. 11:24-27**
    - c. Endure trails by faith. **Heb. 11:35-38 Ro. 5:1-5 II Co. 4:16-18**
  5. Your faith will be richly rewarded. **Heb. 11:13-16, 26, 39-40,4**

**V. Concluding Applications. Which way do you choose: Faith or Unfaith? Josh 24:24-25 Ps. 119:75,90 I Co. 15:58**

### **Discussion Questions for Family Worship**

1. Why does the LORD tell Habakkuk to record his vision?
2. What do verses 2-3 teach concerning the nature of God's Word?
3. What do verse 2-3 teach concerning the nature of God's control over history?
4. What does it mean to "wait upon the LORD"?
 

In what ways do you have to wait?
5. What is the basic character of the unrighteous? **v. 4ab,5**
6. What is the outcome of proud unbelief?
7. How does "the just shall live by faith" apply in Habakkuk's situation?
8. How can you be righteous in the eyes of God?
9. Were people under the Old Covenant saved in a different way?
10. How does one live by faith after becoming a Christian?
11. How can you live by faith in the midst of your trials (evil)?