



FAITH

ADVENT



Nov. 28, 2021 – Rich Kao – Fives Stones Church

Faith: An Advent Message from Habakkuk

Hab. 3:16-19 NIV

¹⁶ I heard and my heart pounded, my lips quivered at the sound;
decay crept into my bones, and my legs trembled.

Yet I will wait patiently for the day of calamity to come
on the nation invading us.

¹⁷ Though the fig tree does not bud, and there are no grapes on the vines,
though the olive crop fails and the fields produce no food,
though there are no sheep in the pen and no cattle in the stalls,

¹⁸ Yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will be joyful in God my Savior.

¹⁹ The Sovereign Lord is my strength;
he makes my feet like the feet of a deer,
he enables me to tread on the heights.



Faith: An Advent Message from Habakkuk

1. The Setting: Christmas with Covid Again
2. The Response: The Call to Faith – Turning the Prevailing Mood Around
3. The Outcome: The Power of Hearing of His Fame



1. The Setting: Christmas with Covid Again

“Decay has crept into my bones.” Hab. 3:16c



2. The Response: The Call to Faith – Turning the Prevailing Mood Around

“The everlasting mountains [are] shattered, The ancient hills [have] collapsed.” Hab. 3:6

“I saw the tents of Cushan in distress, the dwellings of Midian in anguish.” Hab. 3:7



2. The Response: The Call to Faith – Turning the Prevailing Mood Around

¹⁷ Though the fig tree does not bud
and there are no grapes on the vines,
though the olive crop fails
and the fields produce no food,
though there are no sheep in the pen
and no cattle in the stalls,

¹⁸ Yet I will rejoice in the Lord,
I will be joyful in God my Savior. (Hab. 3:17-18)



2. The Response: The Call to Faith – Turning the Prevailing Mood Around

Secret to Habakkuk's faith (3:2):

“Lord, I have heard of your fame; I stand in awe of your deeds, Lord.”



2. The Response: The Call to Faith – Turning the Prevailing Mood Around

Faith is trusting in God's words, God's ways and God's character no matter the situation.



3. The Outcome: The Power of Hearing of God's Fame.

Rom. 10:17 - "Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."



3. The Outcome: The Power of Hearing of God's Fame.

Hab. 3:3-6:

- 3 God came from Teman, the Holy One from Mount Paran.
His glory covered the heavens and his praise filled the earth.
- 4 His splendor was like the sunrise; rays flashed from his hand,
where his power was hidden.
- 5 Plague went before him; pestilence followed his steps.
- 6 He stood, and shook the earth;
he looked, and made the nations tremble.



3. The Outcome: The Power of Hearing of God's Fame.

Hab. 3:2 - "Lord, I have heard of your fame; I stand in awe of your deeds, Lord."



3. The Outcome: The Power of Hearing of God's Fame.

Rom. 12:2 - "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind."



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Rom. 12:2 - "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind."

Hab. 3:16 - "I will wait patiently for the day of calamity to come on the nation invading us."



3. The Outcome: The Power of Hearing of God's Fame.

Hab. 3:19 - "The Sovereign Lord is my strength;
he makes my feet like the feet of a deer,
he enables me to tread on the heights."



3. The Outcome: The Power of Hearing of God's Fame.

1 Jn 5:4 - "For everyone born of God overcomes the world. *This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith.*"

