

7. God ⁽⁸⁾ _____ Habakkuk and gave him rest.

Habakkuk 3:16, “When I heard, my body trembled; my lips quivered at the voice; rottenness entered my bones; and I trembled in myself, that I might rest in the day of trouble. When He comes up to the people, He will invade them with his troops.”

8. God revealed Himself as Habakkuk’s only strength!

Habakkuk 3:17, “Though the fig tree may not blossom, nor fruit be on the vines; though the labor of the olive may fail, and the fields yield no food; though the flock may be cut off from the food, and there be no herd in the stalls – 18) Yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation. 19) The LORD God is my strength; He will make my felt like deer’s feet, and He will make me walk on my high hills.”

Additional Notes: _____

¹ Elwell, W. A., & Beitzel, B. J. (1988). *Baker encyclopedia of the Bible* (1951). Grand Rapids, Mich.: Baker Book House. NIV New International Version

² Walvoord, J. F., Zuck, R. B., & Dallas Theological Seminary. (1983-). *The Bible knowledge commentary : An exposition of the scriptures*. Wheaton, IL: Victor Books.

³ *The Pulpit Commentary: Habakkuk*. 2004 (H. D. M. Spence-Jones, Ed.) (50). Bellingham, WA: Logos Research Systems, Inc.



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Pastor Jerry Johnston’s *Sermon*
Wednesday, June 16, 2010
“How to Overcome Doubt & Learn to Trust: Part II”
Bible Text: Habakkuk 3:1-19
Message 2 in the *HABAKKUK* series

Bible Text: Habakkuk 3:1-19, 1523-1524 in the *Nelson Study Bible*

JOY BEST EXPRESSED IN SINGING – 3:1

*Habakkuk 3:1, “A prayer of Habakkuk the prayer, on **Shigionoth**.”*

- Is this prayer or a song?

>>> **Shiggaion, Shigionoth.** It is a word relating to music; perhaps a musical point used to indicate the way the musical piece was to be played. Some think it was a musical instrument.

“Hebrew words in the titles of Psalm 7 and Habakkuk 3, respectively, perhaps denoting a hymn, or a psalm accompanied with instruments.”¹

The word *shigionoth* is somewhat obscure. In Hebrew it is the plural of the noun that appears elsewhere only in the title to Psalm 7 where it is in a slightly different form rendered “*shiggaion*” in the NIV. It seems to be related to a verb meaning “to reel to and fro.” Thus some see this as an erratic song of enthusiastic irregularity sometimes used in songs of triumph or victory, or an elegy or plaintive song of variant chords.²

Upon *Shigionoth* (comp. title of Ps. 7); Septuagint, μετὰ ᾠδῆς “with song;” Vulgate, *pro ignorantis*. For this latter rendering Jerome had etymological ground, but did not sufficiently consider the use of *shiggayon* in Ps. 7, where it indicates the style of poetry, nor, as Keil shows, the fact that all the headings of Psalms introduced, as the present, with *al*, refer either to the melody, or accompaniment, or style in which they were to be sung. The Revised Version gives, “set to *Shigionoth*;” and the expression is best explained to mean, in an impassioned or triumphal strain, with rapid change of emotion, a dithyrambic song—a description which admirably suits this ode.³

- Habakkuk has overcome his doubt. He has learned to trust in the Lord, exercise his faith, and he is ⁽¹⁾ _____!

- What a change has taken place in Habakkuk! He has gone from questioning God to praising God!

WHAT IS HABAKKUK SINGING ABOUT?

1. God delivered Habakkuk from ⁽²⁾_____.

Habakkuk 3:2, “O LORD, I have heard your speech and was afraid.”

2. God sent ⁽³⁾_____ to Habakkuk’s heart and soul.

*Habakkuk 3:2, “O LORD, I have heard Your speech and was afraid; O LORD, revive Your work in the midst of the years! In the midst of the years make it known; **in wrath remember mercy.**”*

- Great tip in prayer for the lost and ourselves: “in wrath remember mercy.”

3. God revealed His ⁽⁴⁾_____ and power to Habakkuk.

Habakkuk 3:3, “God came from Teman, the Holy One from Mount Paran. Selah His glory covered the heavens, and the earth was full of His praise. 4) His brightness was like the light; He had rays flashing from His hand, and there His power was hidden. 5) Before Him went pestilence, and fever followed at His feet. 6) He stood and measured the earth; He looked and startled the nations. And everlasting mountains were scattered, the perpetual hills bowed. His ways are everlasting. 7) I saw tents of Cushan in affliction; the curtains of the land of Midian trembled.”

>>> **Selah:** a pause in the music, a breathing place, a crescendo with drums. Others believe it is a “pause for consideration.”

- God’s glory fills the heavens!

Psalms 19:1, “The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament shows His handiwork.

- Verse 5 – “fever and pestilence” refers to the plagues in Egypt as God delivered His people.
- Verse 6 – “He measured the earth” – God’s promise to ⁽⁵⁾_____ of the land.

4. God showed Habakkuk how He ⁽⁶⁾_____ His people.

Habakkuk 3:8, “O LORD, were You displeased with the rivers, was Your anger against the rivers, was Your wrath against the sea, that You rode on Your horses, Your chariots of salvation? 9) Your bow was made quite ready; oaths were sworn over Your arrows. Selah.

- The crossings of the Red Sea and Jordan – tributes to God’s deliverance.
- God made good on His covenant with Israel, His promise to His people.

5. God put the fear of the Lord in the heart of Habakkuk.

Habakkuk 3:10, “The mountains saw You and trembled; the overflowing of the water passed by. The deep uttered its voice, and lifted its hand on high. 11) The sun and moon stood still in their habitation; at the light of Your arrows they went, at the shining of Your glittering spear. 12) You marched through the land in indignation; You trampled the nations in anger.”

6. God revealed His salvation to Habakkuk.

*Habakkuk 3:13, “You went forth through the land in indignation; You trampled the nations in anger. 13) You went forth for the salvation of Your people, for salvation with **Your Anointed.** You struck the head from the house of the wicked, by laying bare from foundation to neck. 14) You thrust through with his own arrows the head of his villages. They came out like a whirlwind to scatter me; their rejoicing was like feasting on the poor in secret. 15) You walked through the sea with Your horses, through the heap of great waters.”*

- “Your Anointed” – refers to ⁽⁷⁾_____.