

How Long Will I Wrestle With God? Habakkuk 3

Small Group Questions:

1. We all have said we're doing fine when we weren't really doing fine. Why do we do this?
 2. Let's reverse this. Share one negative reality in your life currently?
 3. Read Habakkuk 3 and the 5 ways to walk with God through suffering above. Can you connect each step to a verse in the text? Go for it.
 4. When God's goodness dictates your response to bad circumstances rather than bad circumstances dictating your response to God, you will rejoice in suffering. Can you describe what this process has been like for you?
 5. As a group, pray Habakkuk 3: 1-2 for the state of Utah.
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We all have said we're doing **FINE** when we weren't really doing **FINE**.

VIDEO: <https://fb.watch/s4E38GzWrN/> SLIDES ONLY

It's **OKAY** to be honest about the fact that you're not **OKAY**.

Even when you **WRESTLE** with God you are still in His hands.

Habakkuk 3:1-2 *A prayer of Habakkuk the prophet. On shigionoth. 2 LORD, I have heard of your fame; I stand in awe of your deeds, LORD. Repeat them in our day, in our time make them known; in wrath remember mercy.*

Shigionoth: a Hebrew word for a passionate song of praise.

God, at this time, show your fame, that Utah would know your name.

Habakkuk 3:3-15 *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. The ancient mountains crumbled and the age-old hills collapsed—but he marches on forever. 7 I saw the tents of Cushan in distress, the dwellings of Midian in anguish. 8 Were you angry with the rivers, LORD? Was your wrath against the streams? Did you rage against the sea when you rode your horses and your chariots to victory?.. 13 You came out to deliver your people, to save your anointed one. You crushed the leader of the land of wickedness, you stripped him from head to foot. 14 With his own spear you pierced his head when his warriors stormed out to scatter us, gloating as though about to devour the wretched who were in hiding. 15 You trampled the sea with your horses churning the great waters.*

God's **WORK** stretches from the stars of creation, through wilderness wanderings, upon the waves of the Red Sea, through the smells of a manger, to the sounds of the cross, in the shadows the empty tomb, to the unity of the local church, and into the beauty of eternity.

Habakkuk 3:16 *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.*

Habakkuk 3:17-18 *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, yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will be joyful in God my Savior.*

The Famines of Affluency:

Economic famine

Relational famine

Performance famine

Emotional famine

Physical famine

When you unhitch your attitude from your circumstances and hitch it to God's character, you will always be **CHAINED** to his goodness.

Habakkuk 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. For the director of music. On my stringed instruments.*

Philippians 4:11-13 *I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. 12 I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. 13 I can do all this through him who gives me strength.*

How To Walk With God Through Suffering:

1. Recall God's work.
2. Repeat God's truth.
3. Respond honestly.
4. Reject the god of circumstance.
5. Rejoice in God.

Even though _____, yet I will _____.

Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices, who wondrous things has done, in whom his world rejoices; who from our mothers' arms has blessed us on our way with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today. O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us, with ever joyful hearts

and blessed peace to cheer us, to keep us in his grace, and guide us when perplexed, and free us from all ills of this world in the next. Martin Rinkart

When God's goodness dictates your response to bad circumstances rather than bad circumstances dictating your response to God, you will **REJOICE** in suffering.

Bottom Line: Even though you wrestle, **WORSHIP**.