



SUNGAI WAY-SUBANG METHODIST CHURCH

SERMON
5 June 2022

Treading on High Places

Living with Joy and Confidence in a World out of Control

Habakkuk 2:5 - 3:19

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Rock-Climbing Goats <https://youtu.be/Hu8TJKMtmtl>

13,568,018 views May 2, 2015 The nubian ibex, a desert-dwelling goat, can scale near-vertical

Treading on High Places – Living with Joy and Confidence in a World out of Control

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SSMC

Habakkuk 2:4 – 3:19

A World out of Control

Question: How do we live in such times?

Habakkuk's Times

- 612 Fall of Nineveh and the Assyrian Empire;
Babylonian Empire now dominant
- 605 Carchemich & Egypt's defeat; 1st Deportation
of Jews (Daniel & 3 friends)
- 597 2nd Deportation (Ezekiel)
- 586 Destruction of Jerusalem and Temple;
3rd Deportation

God's response to evil in history: Hab. 2:4-20

But the word to His people:

“the righteous shall live by his faith” (2:4b)

5 Woes

- 2:6-8; Woe to the those who plunder
“what is not his own”
- 2:9-11; Woe to the plotter seeking
“evil gain for his house”
- 2:12-13; Woe to the violent who
“builds towns with blood”
- 2: 15-17; Woe to those who shame
others for their own enjoyment
- 2:18-19; Woe to the idolatrous
who trust in false gods

God's Sovereignty and Majesty

2:14; “For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.”

2:20; “But the LORD is in His holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before Him.”

Is God BIG Enough?

“Do it again Lord!” (3:1-2)

“A prayer of Habakkuk the prophet,
according to Shigionoth.

² O LORD, I have heard the report of You,
and Your work, O LORD, do I fear.

In the midst of the years revive it;
in the midst of the years make it known;
in wrath remember mercy.”

Joy and confidence in a world out of control: Hab 3:17-19

¹⁷ Though the fig tree should not blossom,
nor fruit be on the vines,
the produce of the olive fail
and the fields yield no food,
the flock be cut off from the fold
and there be no herd in the stalls,

18 yet I will rejoice in the LORD;
I will take joy in the God of my salvation.

19 GOD, the Lord, is my strength;
He makes my feet like the deer's;
He makes me tread on my high places.

What did that mean for Habakkuk in his days?

- God's people are called to live by faith and faithfulness: "the righteous shall live by his faith" (2:4b)

● How?

- The prophets
- Daniel and his 3 friends
- Jeremiah's message in Jer 29:7;
“But seek the welfare of the city
where I have sent you into exile,
and pray to the LORD on its behalf,
for in its welfare you will find your
welfare.”

What does this mean for us today?

- Joy and confidence in the Lord.
- Returning to God in repentance, obedience to His Word and holy living.
- Being faithful where we are and wherever God sends us!
- Boldly ask God: Do it again, Lord!