

DEC 20th, 2020

IT'S STILL JESUS
Habakkuk 1:1-12; 3:17-19

*“Oh little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep, the silent stars go by
Yet in thy dark streets shineth, the everlasting light
The _____.”*

Approximately six-hundred years before Bethlehem...

² O LORD, how long shall I cry for help,
and you will not listen?

Or cry to you “Violence!”
and you will not save?

³ Why do you make me see wrongdoing
and look at trouble?

Destruction and violence are before me;
strife and contention arise.

⁴ So the law becomes slack
and justice never prevails.

The wicked surround the righteous—
therefore judgment comes forth perverted. – Habakkuk 1:2-4

Scripture can teach us:

1. That humans who are _____ with God can become
_____ with God. Hab. 1:2-4; 1 Kings 19:3-4; Jonah 4:8-9; Jer. 20:14-18

2. That God can handle being on the _____ and
_____ end of difficult things. Hab. 1:5-12; 1 Kings 19:9-12; Jonah 4:9-11; Jer. 30-31

3. That there is a way for our _____, _____, _____
and _____ to produce worship for the _____
_____ in the dark night. Hab. 3:17-19; Col. 1:11-20

Today, as we approach Christmas 2020, we can sing:

“The hopes and fears of all the years, are _____ tonight”

In a year like no other year, it's _____. Heb. 13:8-15

TALK IT OVER

Talking through the message during the week can really help clarify the things that God is teaching you and let others learn from your experiences. Get with someone this week and talk about your answers to the following questions:

What thought from the message was most helpful to you?

What thought from the message was most challenging to you?

When you reflect on 2020, what are some hopes and fears that come to mind?

Read the passages of Scripture listed in bullet point number 1. What can you learn from the prophets and their relationship with God producing such honest, heartbroken, and even hurtful complaints? Is there anything that surprised you?

Has this year produced any doubt or new doubt in you? Doubts about faith? Doubts about the purpose of church? Doubts about the future? Doubts about your ability to handle any more stress? Doubts about relationships? Doubts about finances? Doubts about stability?

How is it possible for our confession of doubts, feelings of lack, hopeless, or longings for peace pave the way for faith, being filled, hope, and peace?

In a year like no other year, and in a Christmas season unlike any other Christmas season, what does it mean for you to see the statement: It's still Jesus?

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1. That humans who are **ENGAGED** with God can become **ENRAGED** with God. Hab. 1:2-4; 1 Kings 19:3-4; Jonah 4:8-9; Jer. 20:14-18

2. That God can handle being on the **RECEIVING** and **GIVING** end of difficult things. Hab. 1:5-12; 1 Kings 19:9-12; Jonah 4:9-11; Jer. 30-31

3. That there is a way for our **HOPES, FEARS, FAITH** and **DOUBT** to produce worship for the **ONE WHO MEETS US** in the dark night. Hab. 3:17-19; Col. 1:11-20

Today, as we approach Christmas 2020, we can sing:

“The hopes and fears of all the years, are MET IN THEE tonight”

In a year like no other year, it's **STILL JESUS**. Heb. 13:8-15

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