

Wisdom not Worry
Tuesday, May 26
Habakkuk 2:4-14

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

Habakkuk is confused. He just can't understand how God could use an arrogant and greedy nation like Babylon to do His bidding. How can he tolerate much less orchestrate the stripping of Judah's human rights? In this moment of over three months of social distancing, government mandated cancelled church services and elderly loved ones showing the strains of isolation, I wonder if you are asking the same?

God's answer to us is the same as it was to Habakkuk. In time, says the Lord, Babylon too will be judged. Until then, wait patiently and yield confidently to the sovereign purposes of God to fill the earth “with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea” (2:14). Do you hear what God is saying to Habakkuk? This isn't about you and your rights; it's about me and My Glory. God allows, even orchestrates, the infringement our rights to ensure His right to glory.

Throughout the scriptures, we see this principle illustrated. God allowed Paul's Roman constitutional rights to a fair trial to be trampled so a jailer might believe in Jesus Christ (Acts 16:34), the gospel could be proclaimed to a crowd in Jerusalem (Acts 22) and King Agrippa could hear his testimony (Acts 26). Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians and Philemon were each written while Paul was unjustly imprisoned. Paul urges us to follow him as He follows the example of Christ (1 Cor. 11: 1) who suffered the most vicious violation rights. Jesus “committed no sin and no deceit was found in his mouth. Yet when they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead he entrusted himself to him who judges justly” (1 Peter 2:22-24). His unjust death won our freedom and displayed His glory.

As we begin to wonder just how far government orders will infringe upon our constitutional rights, may God grant us faith to trust He is bringing about the knowledge of His glory. God, give us eyes to see.

Grateful,
Pastor Ben