

THE RIGHTEOUS SHALL LIVE BY FAITH

Pastor Lucas Almeida—Centra Baptist Church—March 27th, 2022

Habakkuk 2:2-5

ESV

[2] And the LORD answered me:

“Write the vision;
make it plain on tablets,
so he may run who reads it.

[3] For still the vision awaits its appointed time;
it hastens to the end—it will not lie.

If it seems slow, wait for it;
it will surely come; it will not delay.

[4] “Behold, his soul is puffed up; it is not upright within him,
but the righteous shall live by his faith.

[5] “Moreover, wine is a traitor,
an arrogant man who is never at rest.
His greed is as wide as Sheol;
like death he has never enough.
He gathers for himself all nations
and collects as his own all peoples.”

Main Thought: Enduring faith in the promises of God is what reveals the genuineness of our Christianity.

1) THE PERSEVERANCE OF FAITH (2-3)

God displays his grace in the simple fact that he speaks to us?

God instills faith in the believers when his gospel is proclaimed with clarity.

1 Corinthians 15:1-2—[1] Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, [2] and by which you are being saved...

“Preach the gospel to yourself every day.” —**Jerry Bridges**

God displays his grace in the fact that he encourages us in the midst of our waiting.

2) THE REWARD OF FAITH (4)

The reward of faith is eternal life.

Deuteronomy 28:25—“The LORD will cause you to be defeated before your enemies. You shall go out one way against them and flee seven ways before them. And you shall be a horror to all the kingdoms of the earth.”

But righteousness does not depend on what we do, good or bad. Righteousness depends on faith.

What is righteousness?

Righteousness is to be right with God.

Romans 3:10-12—[10] as it is written: “None is righteous, no, not one; [11] no one understands; no one seeks for God. [12] All have turned aside; together they have become worthless; no one does good, not even one.”

What is faith?

Faith is to actively believe in the promises of God.

- **Psalm 34:4**—*I sought the Lord, and he answered me and delivered me from all my fears.*
- **Psalm 50:15**—*...and call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you...*
- **Isaiah 43:2**—*When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.*

Romans 1:16-17—[16] For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. [17] For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, “The righteous shall live by faith.”

“But up till then it was...a single word in chapter one [of Romans], ‘In it the righteousness of God is revealed’ that had stood in my way. For I hated that word, ‘righteousness of God,’ which, according to the use and costume of all the teachers, I had been taught to understand...as that by which God is righteous and punishes the unrighteous sinner...At last, by the mercy of God, meditating day and night, I gave heed to the context of the words, namely, ‘In it the righteousness of God is revealed, as it is written, ‘He who through faith is righteous, shall live.’” There I begun to understand that the righteousness of God is that by which the righteous live by gift of God, namely, by faith.”—**Martin Luther**

3) THE WARNING OF FAITH (5)

One of the greatest dangers we face is to presume that since we have received the grace of God, we have finished the race.

Revelation 2:10—*Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life.*