

**Gospel Culture: REJOICE**  
**Text: Habakkuk 3:17-19**

**The CIRCUMSTANCES in which WE are called to REJOICE:**

Habakkuk 3:17-18a

- 1) **WICKED times – when it SEEMS societal sin, conflict, division, destruction REIGN:** Habakkuk 1:3
- 2) **Times when God's LAW is ignored and JUSTICE is BROKEN:** Hab. 1:4
- 3) **Times of OPPRESSION by ENEMIES:** Habakkuk 1:6–7a, 9
- 4) **Times of God's DISCIPLINE and/or WRATH:** Habakkuk 1:12
- 5) **Times of IDOLATRY & FALSE TEACHING:** Habakkuk 2:18–19
- 6) **Times when our labor, plans and dreams ALL SEEM to come to NOTHING:** Habakkuk 2:13
- 7) **Times when GOD SEEMS FAR AWAY:** Habakkuk 1:2
- 8) **REJOICE!** Philippians 4:4. See also: Philippians 3:1
  - a) **A FAILURE to REJOICE in life IS SIN and will RESULT in CONSEQUENCES:** Deuteronomy 28:47–48
  - b) **What does it mean to REJOICE (rightly)?**
    - i) **JOY** ≠ situational happiness, optimism or foolish unrealism
    - ii) **JOY** = steadfast gladness and delight IN GOD (See: Ps 37:3-6)
    - iii) **My situational LACK of TRUE JOY is REVEALING my IDOLS**
    - iv) **Singing in the DARKNESS:** Habakkuk 3:19d. See: Acts 16:25
    - v) **True JOY is NOT CONTINGENT on but REVEALED BY my circumstances**

**The REASON for our REJOICING – GOD:** Habakkuk 3:18

- 1) **God's PLAN is WONDROUS:** Habakkuk 1:5
- 2) **God's PURPOSE is GLORIOUS:** Habakkuk 2:14; 2 Cor. 4:16–17. See also: Isaiah 43:7; 1 Corinthians 10:31; 2 Corinthians 3:18
- 3) **God's PACE is PERFECT:** Hab 2:3; 2 Peter 3:9; See: 2 Peter 3:1-10
- 4) **God's POWER is UNLIMITED:** Habakkuk 3:3, 5–6
- 5) **God's PENALTIES are CERTAIN:** Habakkuk 3:16f. See: 2 Peter 2:4-10
- 6) **God's PARDON & PRESERVATION are PERSONAL:** Habakkuk 3:13.  
See also: Genesis 3:15
  - a) **A joyful BIRTH:** Luke 2:10
  - b) **A joyful LIFE:** John 15:11. See also: John 16:22, 24; 17:13
  - c) **A joyful DEATH and RESURRECTION:** Hebrews 12:2b
  - d) **A joyful SALVATION:** Isaiah 61:10ab. See also: Is.35:10; Ps. 35:9; Zeph. 3:14-17; Zechariah 9:9; Luke 1:46–47, 10:20; Acts 16:34
- 7) **God's PRESENCE is PLEASURABLE:** Psalm 16:11

**The OUTCOME of REJOICING:**

- 1) **We will RECEIVE God's gracious GIFTS – STRENGTH; SECURITY & VICTORY:** Habakkuk 3:19abc
- 2) **HOW?**
  - a) **WATCH & WAIT:** Habakkuk 2:1. See also: Isaiah 25:9
  - b) **PRAY:** Habakkuk 3:2
  - c) **STOP COMPLAINING:** Habakkuk 2:20. See: Philippians 2:14-18
  - d) **TRUST God (reject PRIDE filled WILLFULLNESS) and OBEY:** Habakkuk 2:4. See: Romans 1:17; Galatians 3:11; Hebrews 10:38

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**Use these “Gospel In Life” questions this week  
to help you and your friends REFLECT on and APPLY this message!**

- 1) **BELIEVE:** WHAT TRUTHS did God REVEAL to me through His Word today about HIM and/or MYSELF?
- 2) **ASSESS:** HOW do these truths ENCOURAGE and/or CHALLENGE (convict) ME?
- 3) **PROCESS:** WHY is this message GOOD NEWS (GOSPEL) to ME today? (CONNECT the GOSPEL story to MY present story)
- 4) **CHANGE:** WHERE will I APPLY (BELIEVE, REPENT, DO) this message in MY own life this week?
- 5) **PROCLAIM:** WHO does God want ME to share these truths with this week?
- 6) **PREPARE for NEXT WEEK:** Read 1 Corinthians 4:1-2; Luke 12:41-48