

# DAY 30



## **Scriptural Background:** Hab 3

*"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."*Hab 3:17–18

The book of Habakkuk wrestles with the question of what God is up to when life is hard (see, for example, 1:1–4). We often find ourselves wondering the same thing. In the midst of such confusion and perplexity, God affirms some incredible truths to Habakkuk. One is that He is working His perfect purpose even through the wicked actions of evil people (1:5–11). Another is that full deliverance will come at the appointed time (2:3). In the light of such promises, Habakkuk ends up at an astounding place. As quoted above, he affirms “even if there is absolutely nothing going materially”—the agrarian terms used here would equate to a modern diversified portfolio completely tanking—“still he will rejoice in the LORD.” What leads a person to be able to say such a thing? However much Habakkuk understood, we in the age of the Church have more grounds to do so. Jesus Christ came in the fullness of time (Gal 4:4) and lost everything (2 Cor 8:9; Matt 22:19, 27:35) because of the actions of wicked men (Acts 2:23), and through this God was working His perfect plan of redemption (Acts 4:27–28). See this and rejoice in the LORD, though you lose everything in this world (Matt 16:24–28)! That’s what it means to live by faith (2:4), and that’s what’ll turn you from idolatry (2:6–19) and toward the living God.

## **Prayer:**

*Sovereign LORD Jesus, be our strength. Enable us to stand in the midst of rocky, dangerous places (3:19). Let us do this because we see and understand what Your cross is all about. Give me the kind of confidence in You this day that is unshakeable no matter what I experience in this world. Then will I be part of Your glory spreading and spreading, until all the earth is filled with knowledge of You (2:14). Thank You, Jesus. Amen.*