Habakkuk

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Date: 20 October 1975

Preacher: Mercer, Seth (1930-2017)

[0:00] I venture this evening and direct in your minds to the prophecy of Habakkuk, the second chapter, reading the third verse.

The prophecy of Habakkuk, the second chapter, reading verse 3. For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak and not lie.

Though it tarry, wait for it, because it will surely come, it will not tarry.

As the Lord may be pleased to help me, I would seek to speak from this word in one or two ways.

It will be a mercy if the Lord should speak this word, his precious word, into some heart or hearts here this evening.

[1:26] And the Lord only knows how you each have come. But I am thankful for this he does know.

Just how you've come this evening. And the exercises of your soul before him. Those that may have had to turn aside during this day before their God and have known what it is to be favoured, perhaps, to plead with him for his appearing.

For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak and not lie.

Though it tarry, wait for it, because it will surely come. It will not tarry. I can only seek to speak as I trust the Lord has enlightened my spirit with regard to this word.

A vision is a revelation. And a God-given vision is, as the Lord is pleased, to grant a revelation, a revelation of truth.

[3:06] And he has often been pleased to grant to his people revelations of truth in their secret exercises.

I know that the Lord has also often been pleased to grant a revelation of truth to his people in his house.

Under the sound of truth. How many have been favoured while listening in the house of God.

And the Lord has spoken a word directly into their hearts. They've received a vision.

They've received a revelation of truth to their hearts. And that truth has been made truth in their souls.

[4:19] So that they have gone away from the house of God with this vision. With this revelation in their souls.

But first of all, I would speak in this way, for the vision is yet for an appointed time. God's sovereign dealings in Zion among his people.

His time is an appointed time. His times. My times. Your times.

Are in his hand. And the hymn writer has continued to put it like this. All events.

Not some of them. But all events. Are at his command. And that same hymn writer goes on to say.

[5:29] His decree. Which formed the earth. Fixed my first. And second birth. Parents.

Native place. And time. All appointed. Were by him. Now as it concerns.

The election of grace. I do believe. That the appointed time. When the Lord.

Is pleased to come. And quickened into life. By the Holy Spirit. Is known. Alone to him. And such times.

Are in his hand. That time. That time. That he is appointed. Not to propose. But to call.

[6:27] By grace. To change the heart. Renew the will. And turn the feet. To Zion's hell. Now in these things.

And as I have them in my heart. At this present time. The Lord only knows. Your exercises. There are parents here.

This evening. Who have their families. And I believe. That there are parents. Here this evening. That through.

The mercy. And teaching. And grace of God. Have been brought to. The. Graciously exercised. Concerning their children.

I know. In this. That the Lord. Is a sovereign. Sometimes. It is. Where there is.

[7:26] Husband and wife. That the Lord. May exercise. The father. In a particular way. With regard to. A child. Or. Children.

Children. Amen. Amen. And often. These things. Are secret. They are those things. Which are carried.

In the heart. Sometimes. It is. And. How often. I believe. It has been. That a godly mother. Has not only.

Born. Her children. Naturally. Carried them. In her womb. Naturally. Until that time. When they. Were. To be born.

But also. The Lord. Has laid. Their children. Or a child. In their hearts. To carry. Before him. And.

[8:22] So. This word. Has come. To me. Like this. And. This is how. I must. First. Try. And. Speak. From it. For the vision. Is yet.

For an appointed. Time. But at the end. It shall. Speak. And not lie. Though it. Tarry. Wait.

For it. Because. It will. Surely. Come. It will. Not. Tarry. And. So. It is. With regard. To the purposes.

Of God. Then. I believe. As it. Concerns. The whole. Election. Of grace. There's. An appointed.

Time. To favor. Zion. In. These. Things. When. The Lord. Comes. And. Quicken. Souls. And.

[9:15] Makes. Them. Cry. Jesus. Save. Me. Or. I. I. Die. But. The vision. Is. Yet. For. An. Appointed.

Time. Maybe. Those. Here. This. Evening. That. Have. Long. Carried. A. Son. Or.

A. Daughter. Or. Sons. And. Daughters. A. A. And. If. The. Lord. Has. Laid. Any. Of. Your. Children. In. Your.

Heart. And. In. This. Let. Me. Just. Speak. A. Word. Because. The. Lord. Is. A. Sovereign. Sometimes. Parents. Have. A. Particular. Exercise. Concerning.

One. And. They. May. Feel. Very. Troubled. Because. They. Are. Not. So. Deeply. Concerned. About. Another. But. The.

[10:08] Lord. Is. The. One. Who. Lays. These. Exercises. In. Hearts. If. He. Has. Laid. A. Son. Or. A. Daughter. In. Any. Of.

Your. Hearts. Your. Family. I do. Hope. You. Will. Be. Encouraged. In. This. Because. If. The. Lord. Has. Laid. Any. Soul.

In. Your. Heart. To. Carry. Before. Him. To. Travel. Before. God. Concerning. Then. As. That. Appointed. Time.

Is. In. The. Lord's. Hand. I. Hope. This. Will. Encourage. You. For. The. Vision. Is. Yet. For.

An. Appointed. Time. When. The. Lord. Will. Come. And. Grant. Such. A. Vision.

[11:00] As. This. To. A. Poor. Sinner. When. He. Will. Come. And. Call. Them. By. His. Grace.

The. Lord. Is. A. Sovereign. In. How. This. Is. Brought. To. Pass. And. When. It. Is. Brought. To. Pass. But. The. Mercy. Is. That. None. Not.

One. Of. The. Whole. Election. Of. Grace. Can. Go. Beyond. The. Limits. Of. His. Love. And. That.

Is. Their. Mercy. And. That. Is. Our. Mercy. And. How. True. It. Is. Concerning.

Every. Soul. That. God. The. Father. Gave. To. His. Beloved. Son. In. In. The. Covenant. Of. Grace. They.

[11:54] Will. Be. Fenced. With. Jehovah's. Shells. And. Wills. Firm. As. The. Everlasting. Hills. The.

Vision. Is. Yet. For. An. Appointed. Time. Hannah. Traveiled.

For. Samuel. And. The. Lord. Gave. Her. Grace. When. The. Time. Came. To. Fulfill. Her. Vow.

And. That. Must. Have. Been. An. Experience. When. She. Took. That. That. Little. Child. To. The. House.

Of. God. The. Lord. Was. In. That. Which. She. Vowed. Because. The. Lord. Had. A. Sovereign. Purpose. To. Fulfill. In.

[12:51] And. Through. Samuel. But. Although. Hannah. Prayed. For. Him. Traveiled. For. Him. Took.

Him. To. The. Temple. And. Every. Year. She. Went. Up. Her. Exercise. Continued. But.

There. Was. An. Appointed. Time. In. Samuel's. Case. When. He. Must. Be. Called. By.

Sovereign. Grace. And. That. Vision. Was. For. An. Appointed. Time. But. When. The. Time. Came. The. Lord. Came. And.

This. Is. What. Transpires. How. Many. Times. I. Have. Heard. Parents. Feelingly. Say. We. Cannot. Give. Our. Children. Grace. But.

[13:47] Oh. As. The. Lord. Shall. Help. You. You. Can. Pray. For. And. If. The. Lord. Lays. Them. In. Your. Hearts. Then. You. Will. Have. To. Pray. For.

Them. You. Will. Know. What. It. Is. Then. To. Take. Them. To. The. Throne. Of. Grace. You. Will. Know. What. It. Is. Then. To. Plead.

With. The. Lord. On. Their. Behave. When. That. Appointed. Time. Came. In. Samuel. Experience. It.

Was. God's. Time. And. God. Came. And. Stood. In. The. Temple. And. He. Called. And. The.

Lord. Used. Eli. To. To. Teach. Samuel. How. And. What. To. Say.

[14:39] Before. God. And. The. Lord. Has. Been. Pleased. Many. Times. To. Use. His. Servants. To. Instruct.

Those. That. He. Calls. By. His. Sovereign. Grace. The. Lord. Does. And. This. Is. One. Of. The. Mercies. That.

Belong. To. Our. God. For. The. Vision. Is. Yet. For. An. Appointed. Time. What.

A. Mercy. What. A. Thought. It. Is. That. When. That. Time. Comes. However. Far. Off. A. Soul. May.

Be. However. Far. Off. They. May. Have. Run. And. Not. Beyond. The. Voice. Of. Jehovah.

[15:35] So. Even. With. Regard. To. The. Salvation. Of. Sinners. In. God's. Sovereign. Purposes. I. Hope. That.

The. Lord. Will. Speak. This. Word. Into. Some. Burdened. Heart. Here. This. Even. May. Have. Come. In.

A. Particular. Way. With. Regard. To. Another. That. Has. Laid. With. Such. Weight. Upon. Your. Heart. For. The. Vision.

Is. Yet. For. An. Appointed. Time. But. At. The. End. It. Shall. Speak. And. Not. Lie. Though. It. Tarry.

Wait. For. It. Because. It. Will. Surely. Come. It. Will. Not. Tarry. Secondly.

[16:30] I. Would. Seek. To. Speak. From. This. Word. In. This. Way. The.

Lord. Grants. To. Those. That. He. Has. Called. By. His. Sovereign. Grace. He. Grants. Them. Visions. Of. Truth.

I. Would. Just. Turn. To. Our. Text. Again. We. Ventured. With. Yesterday. He. Hath. Showed. The. O. Man.

What. Is. Good. And. As. The. Lord. Grants. These. Revelations. Of.

That. Which. Is. Good. Into. A. Poor. Sinner's. Heart. He. Makes. Those. Revelations. Of. Truth. To. Become. Their.

[17:27] Soul's. Desire. The. The. Burden. Of. Their. Heart. Have. We. Known. This. From. Time. To. Time. That. As. The. Truth. Has. Been. Preached. Perhaps.

As. A. Word. Has. Been. Spoken. Has.

To. Be. Favoured. To. Know. That. Truth. To. Feel. That. It's. Become. That. It. Is. A. Revelation. Of. Truth. To. Our. Soul. And.

We've. Seen. A. Sacredness. In. And. There's. Been. That. In. Our. Hearts. That. Has. Gone. After. The. Sacred. Fulfillment. Of. It. In.

Our. Hearts. Experience. Have. We. Known. Occasion. When. We. Have. Felt. That. We. Could. Not. Give. Up. Until.

[18:25] The. Lord. Should. Make. That. Word. To. Be. Ours. Because. There. Are. Times. When. The. Lord. Brings.

A. Word. Grants. A. Revelation. Of. Truth. He. Comes. With. It. And. Exercises. The. Soul. In. It. They. May. Be. Favored. With.

The. Earnest. Of. That. Truth. In. Their. Hearts. And. Yet. They. Do. Not. Feel. To. Possess. It. Now.

The. Lord. In. These. Things. Is. A. Sovereign. Only. Recently. A. A. Dear. A. Dear.

Seeking. Soul. Said. This. To. Me. Oh. Could. I. Say. The. The. Lord. Is. Mine. It. Is. All.

[19:18] My. Soul. Desires. And. I. Knew. That. They. Meant. It. And. What. An. Encouragement. It.

Was. To. Me. To. Know. That. They. Me. It. And. How. Many. This. Is. Where. The. Lord. Does. Bring. His. People. To.

Oh. Could. I. Say. The. Lord. Is. Mine. It. Is. All. My. Soul. Desires. What. A. Lot. There. Is. Contained.

In. Those. Lives. I. Believe. It. Could. Be. Summed. Up. Really. In. This. Jesus. Revealed. Thyself.

To. Me. To. Have. A. Revelation. Of. Jesus. Christ. The. Lord. Brings. Son. To. Long. To. Have.

[20:13] A. Revelation. In. Their. Hearts. Experience. That. The. Precious. Blood. Of. Christ. Was. Shed. For. Them. I. Know.

That. This. Is. I. Believe. A. Very. Deep. Concern. To. A. Child. Of. God. I. Remember. The. Late. Mrs. Stocks.

On. One. Occasion. It. Was. The. Only. Occasion. That. I. Was. Favored. To. Go. Into. Their. Home. But. I. Remember. Her. Speaking. About.

This. Exercise. That. She. Had. Concerning. Her. Interest. In. In. The. Blood. Of. Christ. She. Long. That.

The. Lord. Would. Reveal. This. To. Her. Now. The. Lord. Brought. These. Lines. To. Her. If. They. Will. Come. Correctly. Oh.

[21:07] Ye. Who. Long. To. Feel. And. See. Your. Interest. In. His. Blood. The. Thing. Is. Proved. Beyond.

A. Doubt. Because. Ye. Thirst. For. God. And. That. Was. Applied. She. Embraced. In.

Her. Heart. So. How. We. Do. Need. The. Lord. To. Come. To. Reveal.

Christ. To. Our. Souls. As. Our. Hope. Of. Glory. For. The. Vision. Is. Yet. For. Un. Appointed. Time.

But. At. The. End. It. Shall. Speak. And. Not. Lie. Though. It. Tarry. Wait. For. It. Because. It. Will. Surely. Come. It.

[22:03] Will. Not. Tarry. And. The. More. We. Are. Exercise. Concerning. A. Revelation. Of.

Truth. To. Our. Souls. The. More. We. Shall. Long. For. The. Fulfillment. Of. It. Now. The. Lord. Only. Knows. If. Any. Here. Tonight. Have. A. Particular.

Exercise. With. Regard. To. A. Particular. Word. Truth.

Truth. Truth. And. You. I. Believe. You. Could. Say. That. The. Lord. Has. Revealed. To. You. Your. Need. Of. This. Your.

Need. Of. This. The. Fulfillment. Of. It. In. Your. Soul. Experience. The.

[22:57] Lord. Gave. To. Simeon. A. Vision. Truth. And. What. Was. That. Vision. Of. Truth. It. Was. This. And.

It. Was. By. The. Holy. Spirit. And. All. True. Visions. Revelations. Of. Truth. To. The. Soul. Are. By. The. Holy. Spirit. It.

Was. Revealed. Unto. Him. By. The. Holy. Ghost. That. He. Should. Not. See. Death. Until. He. Had. Seen. The. Lord. Christ. Yet.

That. Vision. Was. For. An. Appointed. Time. And. It. Goes. On. To. Speak. Of. Simeon. He. Was. One. Of. Those. And. I.

Believe. There. Are. Such. Here. Tonight. That. Are. Waiting. For. The. Consolation. Of. Israel. There. May. Be. Those. That.

[23:52] Feel. Like. This. That. They. Long. They.

Feel. Might. I. Reverently. Put. It. Like. This. They. Feel. That. They. Are. Not. Ready. To. Die.

But. They. Will. Not. Be. Ready. To. Die. Without. This. Wrought. Within. Their. Hearts. Have. You. A. Vision. Of. Truth. In. Your.

Experience. You. That. You. Are. Waiting. For. The. Lord. To. Fulfill. Have. You. Waited. A. Long. Time. And.

Maybe. Those. Here. Too. Who. Have. Been. Granted. A. Divine. Revelation. Of. Truth. To. Their. Soul. And. It. Might. Be. That.

[24:46] You. Have. Been. Brought. To. A. Place. Where. You. Long. You. Might. Have. It. Again. It. Is. So.

In. The. Experience. Of. A. Child. Of. God. As. The. Holy. Spirit. Exercises. Their. Hearts. In. Such. A. Way. Now. We.

Do. Know. With. Simeon. He. Never. Waited. In. Vain. Never. Waited. In. Vain. And. I. Do. Not. Believe. You. Will.

Wait. In. Vain. You. May. Indeed. Sometimes. Tremble. And. Feel. That. You. Will. Never.

Get. What. You. Long. To. Receive. But. He. Tarries. Off. Till. Men. Are. Fain. And. Comes. At. Evening.

[25:40] Late. But. The day. Came. In. Simeon's. Life. But. At. The end. It. Shall. Speak. And. Not. Night. Though. It. Tarry.

Wait. For. It. Because. It. Will. Surely. Come. It. Will. Not. Tarry. And. How. Did. The. Lord. Bring. That. Sacred. Blessing. About. In. Simeon's.

Heart. Well. There. Was. An. Appointed. Day. An. Appointed. Time. For. The. Fulfillment. Of. That. Vision. And. This. Is. How. The.

Lord. Brought. It. About. And. This. Is. How. The. Lord. Is. Still. Bringing. His. Purposes. To. Pass. He. Came. By. The. Spirit. I.

Would. That. We. Might. Notice. This. Evening. How. These. Things. Are. Word. He. Came. By. The. Spirit. Into. The. Temple. The.

[26:33] Day. Came. Came. By. The. Spirit. Into. The. Temple. And. I. Venture. To. Say. This. That.

There's. Going. To. Be. An. Appointed. Day. In. Some. Heart. Or. Hearts. Here. Present. This. Evening. When. You. Are. Going. To. Come. Into. Huffington. Chapel. To.

Receive. The. Promised. Blessing. Ere. You. Die. Came. By. The. Spirit. Into. The. Temple. As.

That. And. They. Brought. In. The. Child. Jesus. And. He. Knew. Who. He. Was. And. He. Took. Him. Up. In. His. Arms.

And. Said. Then. He. Could. Say. Now. Lett. Thou. Thy. Servant. Depart. In. Peace. According. To. Thy. Word.

[27:30] For. Mine. Eyes. Have. Seen. Thy. Salvation. Which. Thou. Has. Declared. Before. The. Face. Of. All. People. Which.

The. Lord. Had. Spoken. For. The. Vision. Is. Yet. For. An. Appointed. Time. That. In. Soft.

A. Father. Who. Long. To. Receive.

A. Revelation. And. Oh. His. Revealed. To. Infinite. shelves. What. He. Will. Do. then he will most surely perform it.

What does one hymn writer say in this? There might be one here tonight in a very low place as to these things and eternity has been standing out before you.

[28:32] You may have been brought feelingly to the gates of the grave and yet his love in times past his love in times past forbids me to think he'll leave me at last in trouble to sink each sweet Ebenezer I have in review confirms his good pleasure to help me quite through.

Have you been without a sacred vision? Have you been without a sacred revelation of truth to your heart?

For the vision is yet for an appointed time. Now as it concerns these things where the Lord exercises a poor sinner's heart and where he grants a revelation of truth he will keep them exercised.

This is one of the evidences I believe of a thing proceeding from the Lord the Lord keeps the exercise alive. And this comes to my mind and how necessary this is and you will say preserve the power of faith alive in those that fear thy name for sin and Satan daily strive to quench the sacred flame.

So then with regard to your soul's exercises I venture to say may the Lord say to your hearts this evening for the vision this vision that you may have been favoured to enter into in seeing the desirability the need of it this vision that perhaps you're waiting for but at the end it shall speak and not lie though it tarry wait for it because it will surely come it will not tarry and the Lord says blessed are they that wait beforehand then in a third way

[31:10] I would seek just to speak this word for the vision is yet for an appointed time but at the end it shall speak and not lie though it tarry wait for it because it will surely come it will not tarry and I felt I trust I was led by the Lord to read that portion of scripture this evening and in that portion of scripture we have the sacred account of three of God's dear people to whom he gave visions of truth Zacharias Mary and Elizabeth now as this word concerns

Zion as it concerns Zion because those blessed visions that were given to those three concerned Zion in a most wonderful way as it concerned John Baptist and the Lord Jesus now there are those things that the Lord has purposed in Zion there are those things which he has purposed and he only knows what those purposes are with regard to Huffington Chapel or as we have friends here this evening I would mention them in this way as it concerns Grove Chapel and as it concerns Milton Chapel and as it concerns Zion everywhere now in those things that the

Lord has purposed concerning Zion concerning his those causes of truth that are his and we have had an instance recently of the sovereignty of God with regard to Kilburn we can but believe that the Lord sent that tremendous rain and that chapel was flooded as it was and as events have proved it would indeed appear that the time has come that that chapel must be closed that these things rightly viewed are in the Lord's hand are in the

Lord's hand but all the while the Lord has a purpose of grace to fulfill in a cause of truth I believe that that cause will be maintained all the while the Lord has a purpose of mercy and grace to fulfill that chapel that cause of truth will be maintained will be continued now this through the spirit's divine power in our hearts I believe would prove to be an encouragement an encouragement now the Lord only knows your hearts he only knows if any of you here this evening have been given a vision a vision and if the Lord should help you to speak and if it was a time to speak you would perhaps say well I believe

I have known what it is for the Lord to speak a word to my soul concerning Huffington Chapel you may have received a vision you may have had that which has been shown to you and I believe if the Lord has shown anything to any of you it will be sorely try and you will be brought into times with those things or that thing when you will wonder after all whether it came from the Lord or that oh if the Lord has spoken anything to anyone here in this chapel this evening in any way if you had a revelation of truth and I believe it will be fulfilled [36:30] I believe it will be brought to pass the Lord knows there are those here tonight that could say this and I do believe you might be able to go further than that and say I know that the Lord spoke that to me I know that the Lord revealed that to me and some of you may have lived to see some things come to pass you've lived to prove that the thing proceeded from the Lord and the Lord only knows if any have that which lays upon them and continues to lay upon them not always with the same weight but the Lord has kept that exercise alive and so in this way might the

> Lord speak it into our hearts you may have seen this by the eye of faith you may have embraced it you may have indeed embraced some precious vision in your soul and some gracious power has accompanied it and it has melted you before God in secret and yet you believed indeed that it would be brought to pass and what did Elizabeth say to Mary and blessed is she that believed for there shall yet be a performance of those things that were told her from the Lord have you something in your heart that you believe the Lord has told you for the vision is yet for an appointed time but at the end it shall speak and not lie though it tarry wait for it because it will surely come it will not tarry and this thought just comes to my mind and I will leave it with you in conclusion sometimes the

> Lord gives to his people a vision that they never live to see fulfilled and yet it is fulfilled and they die and in dying they are favoured in believing that what the Lord has said will be fulfilled it may not be the Lord's purpose that they should live to see it yet they've had the earnest of it they've embraced it in the arms of faith and yet what a wonderful thought it is to think that the Lord should so bless any of his dear people that they should die believing that what Christ has said must be fulfilled and as far as they're concerned it is fulfilled the thing is done amen amen poor you you you you