

Waiting On The Lord

“I will look to see what he will say to me...”

Habakkuk 2:1 (NIV)

The evening of July 16, 2012, in Toronto, a shooting spree at a neighbourhood party left 2 young people dead and over 20 wounded. Police believe that the shootings were gang related. To date this year the city has experienced 163 shootings. Instead of just a single individual being shot, the police observe that there are more shootings where several people are either wounded or murdered.

People were calling the city of Toronto, “Toronto the Good” as far back as the late 1800’s. Sadly now we see the good city becoming very actively evil.

Habakkuk was a man who was struggling to understand the plans the Lord had for a very evil society. Jehovah had revealed to him that a wicked nation would be His instrument of judgment against His own people. Habakkuk was convinced that God was holy, and so it did not make sense how the Lord could work with people who would commit such sinful deeds.

His question was, “How could such a holy God take the sinful acts of others to work His holy will?” Habakkuk had prayed about the social sins of God’s people and then he expressed his confusion to the Lord concerning how the Lord was going to deal with the problem.

So we see that the prophet did the right thing. First he prayed to God to intervene against the evil all around him. Then when the Lord told him how He was going to deal with His people, Habakkuk expressed his confusion. Then, when it was confirmed to him that this was the sovereign will of God, Habakkuk again did the right thing.

Our verse today tells us what Habakkuk did. Instead of resisting the clear will of the Lord he chose to quietly wait on the Lord. He chose to watch and see the work of God.

This servant of the Lord is an excellent role model for all of us when we witness sin

and its effects on the world around us. We need to pray and ask the Lord to come into the situation and judge the evil people.

Then, if the Lord acts in a manner we cannot understand, we should do what this holy man did. We need to wait on the Lord, that is, we ought to bow before His will and watch for the ultimate answer to come.

Paul the Apostle made a wise statement in 1 Corinthians 4:5, “Cease passing judgment before the time. Rather, wait until the Lord comes to bring light where it is dark...” The Lord is worth waiting for. When you do not understand the Lord be submissive to what He does and trust that He will prove to be just and holy in spite of the evil in His world.

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