

Title: **I Will Wait Quietly: The Divine Warrior and a People in Repose**  
Text: **Habakkuk 3:1-16**  
Date: **October 30, 2022**

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## Big Idea

You're struggling with something. Right now. We all are. Life is hard. But, even still, hear this: God is fighting for you! And because he is fighting for you, even in the roughest of circumstances, you can find deep rest in him.

### 1. He Fights for Us (vv. 3-15)

"From his position in the middle of Israelite history, the [prophet] looks back to God's mighty actions at the exodus and ponders the future" (TOTC). As we said last week: he goes backward to go forward.

#### Verse 3

What I love about this is it immediately gets us to look up. "His splendor covered the heavens . . ." One of the things that is often so hard to do when you're in the midst of suffering or trial is to see beyond it, to see above it, to look up. We get so consumed with our stuff, we go to bed thinking about it, we wake up thinking about it, we're drowning in it. We don't have time to look up. But that which feels almost impossible for us to do is the very thing we must do. Look up! Behold the glory of the one who is fighting on your behalf!

#### Verse 4

If you have little kids, you know that they never like the dark. Why? Because it's scary. You feel vulnerable. You feel like something could sneak up on you out of the shadows and you would never know. So light in general is a good thing. And light breaking into darkness is a marvelous thing. It's what we long for.

#### Verse 5

God does not just get us through our suffering by the skin of our teeth, he makes our suffering a servant of our glory.

#### Verse 6

You thought the mountains and the hills were everlasting, but even they give way to the everlasting God: "His were the everlasting ways." He's the only truly eternal reality. He is the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. And he is fighting for you!

#### Verses 7-12

Justice and grace, wrath and mercy, judgment and salvation, go hand in hand. And that's the idea in Habakkuk's song here. God comes for judgment, but he comes also for salvation.

#### Verses 13-15

Here we're shown it's not just God the Father who is fighting for us, but God the Son. What he accomplishes for us at the cross is the true Exodus and entrance into the land of promise. It's the true return from the place of exile. It's the true and everlasting redemption.

### 2. We Rest in Him (v. 16)

Habakkuk draws all of this to a point of application for himself and his situation. He's gotten silent before God. He's reviewed the biblical record of the Exodus. He's fought for faith in what's been revealed. He's sung about it. And now he comes out here and he just says: "If you're the God of the Exodus, if you're the Divine Warrior who fights for your people and their deliverance, I know you're going to fight for me. And, therefore, I don't have to get all angsty and anxious, I don't have to take matters into my hands with these Babylonians when they come. I can quietly wait for your salvation. Because you're fighting for me, I can rest in you." And, do you know what? We can too!



## Reflection Questions

- How does the idea of God as a "Divine Warrior" initially strike you? Does it sound encouraging or troubling? Or maybe a little bit of both?
- Have you ever read the Scriptures and then essentially "sung" them back to God as Habakkuk does here? Why might such a practice be helpful and worth considering?
- What would you say you are struggling most with right now? How might the reality that God is fighting for you help you find rest in him? What would it look like to "wait quietly" for him to come?

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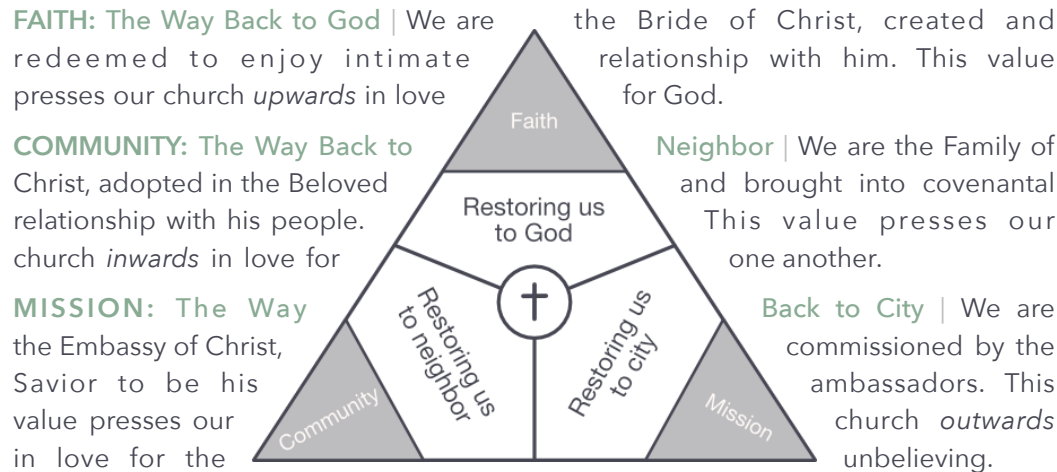


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## Our Mission & Values

*Mercy Hill Church exists to help restore us to God, neighbor, and city through the good news of Jesus Christ.*



## Your Next Steps

When approaching the Christian faith and life, it can be confusing to know where to even begin. Come find us at the Next Steps Table after the service—it would be our joy to help you along in the journey! And if you're a visitor, we have a special gift bag for you. Don't miss it!



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## Announcement Spotlight

### All Church Hangout - Next Sunday!

Meaningful community is hard to find in Silicon Valley, even in the church. Our congregation is spread out all over the city. But there is one day of every week when we all commit to gather together and worship our God: Sunday. It seems strategic to take this pre-existing momentum and work with it in an attempt to develop deeper community within our body. Therefore, on occasional Sundays throughout the year we will invite the church to enjoy picnic-style afternoons together immediately following the service.

*The Plan:* After service, bring or buy your lunch and join us at the tables out back for a picnic-style afternoon.

If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to us at [info@mercyhillchurch.org](mailto:info@mercyhillchurch.org).

### Mercy Hill Women's New Study - Adorned!

"Imagine older women investing themselves in the lives of younger women. Imagine younger women widening their circle to include women who've walked further down the road. Imagine women of all ages and seasons—being transformed by His truth and making the gospel beautiful and believable to those around them." This is how the book *Adorned: Living Out the Beauty of the Gospel Together* by Nancy DeMoss Wolgemuth describes God's plan for women outlined in Titus 2:1-5, 10.

Join us for a weekly Bible Study based on this book and the accompanying study guide on Tuesday nights. Though the study began on October 25th, you can still jump in anytime!

Marcia Bolster is leading an in-person study at 7:00pm in her home near Lake Almaden and Christina Lugo is leading an online study via Zoom at 8:00pm. Each study's ending time will be determined by the group.

For more info and to find a link to register, please scan the QR code below.

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