

# Pastoral REFLECTIONS

February 19, 2023

## Walk in the Light

What is the Godhead view of the races? Here are some passages of scripture that we need to reflect on:

“And I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse. And in you all the families of the earth will be blessed.” (Genesis 12:3)

“For this reason it is by faith, in order that it may be in accordance with grace, so that the promise will be guaranteed to all the descendants, not only to those who are of the Law, but also to those who are of the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all.” (Romans 4:16; NASU)

“For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's descendants, heirs according to promise.” (Galatians 3:26-29; NASU)

“For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name...” (Ephesians 3:14-15; NASU)

“Opening his mouth, Peter said: “I most certainly understand now that God is not one to show partiality, but in every nation the man who fears Him and does what is right is welcome to Him. The word which He sent to the sons of Israel, preaching peace through Jesus Christ (He is Lord of all).” (Acts 10:34-36; NASU)

“But when the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on His glorious throne. All the nations will be gathered before Him; and He will separate them from one another, as the shepherd separates the sheep from the goats; and He will put the sheep on His right, and the goats on the left.” (Matthew 25:31-33; NASU)

“But you are A CHOSEN RACE, A royal PRIESTHOOD, A HOLY NATION, A PEOPLE FOR God's OWN POSSESSION, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; for you once were NOT A PEOPLE, but now you are THE PEOPLE OF GOD; you had NOT RECEIVED MERCY, but now you have RECEIVED MERCY.” (1 Peter 2:9-10; NASU)

This is the reason the scripture teaches; “The one who says he is in the Light and yet hates his brother is in the darkness until now. The one who loves his brother abides in the Light and there is no cause for stumbling in him. But the one who hates his brother is in the darkness and walks in the darkness, and does not know where he is going because the darkness has blinded his eyes.” (1 John 2:9-11; NASU)

Walk in the light!



## UPCOMING Events



**SILVER STARS BLACK HISTORY EVENT**  
Join the Silver Stars (55+) Ministry on Saturday, Feb. 25th from 11:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m. in the Legacy Sanctuary for a dynamic Black History Month program: Black Resistance—Still Hear But God!!!

**ALL ARE WELCOMED!** For more information contact **Jacqueline Jordan** at [jacqjordan@att.net](mailto:jacqjordan@att.net)



**BLACK HISTORY MONTH**  
Journey with us through a historical journey in February for Black History Month. Tour our elaborate Black History Month displays and learn historical facts the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Sundays in February. Celebrate our unique and dynamic African American culture from national treasures to local Acres Home historical moments. For more information and to volunteer, contact **Mary Wheatley** at (713) 851-8831.



**LWCA FREE VALENTINES EVENT**  
**February 25, 2023 4:00—6:00 P.M.**  
Roses are Red, Violets are Blue. Jesus Loves you and we do too! Join us for a Living Word Christian Academy Valentines Event! Calling all fathers & daughters, mothers & sons, DRESS UP & Join us for an evening of LOVE! Register at <https://bit.ly/LWCAValentines2023> or contact Sylvia Edwards for more information.



**VETERANS RESOURCE EVENT—Sun. 2/26**  
Calling all Veterans and caretakers of Veterans, join us for a FREE Resource Event Sunday, February 26th 10 a.m.—1 p.m. in the Main Sanctuary foyer. Get information, resources and stay connected for future events by registering with the Veterans Faith Initiative at <https://bit.ly/VeteransFaithInitiative> For more information contact Reginald Parker at [reginald.parker@veteransfaithinitiative.org](mailto:reginald.parker@veteransfaithinitiative.org)



**CONTEMPORARY SERVICE FELLOWSHIP—2/26**  
Join us for fellowship after second service in the Legacy Sanctuary. Free Food, Fun, Basketball, Card Games and Fellowship with your church family. Food provided by the Covenant Keepers Marriage Ministry. For more information contact Rashaud Hudson or Keron Brown at [keron.brown@lwfellowshipchurch.org](mailto:keron.brown@lwfellowshipchurch.org)



## ORDER OF WORSHIP

Announcements

Communion

Visitor's Welcome

Worship In Giving

*Offering boxes are located at all perimeters under crosses*

Special Music

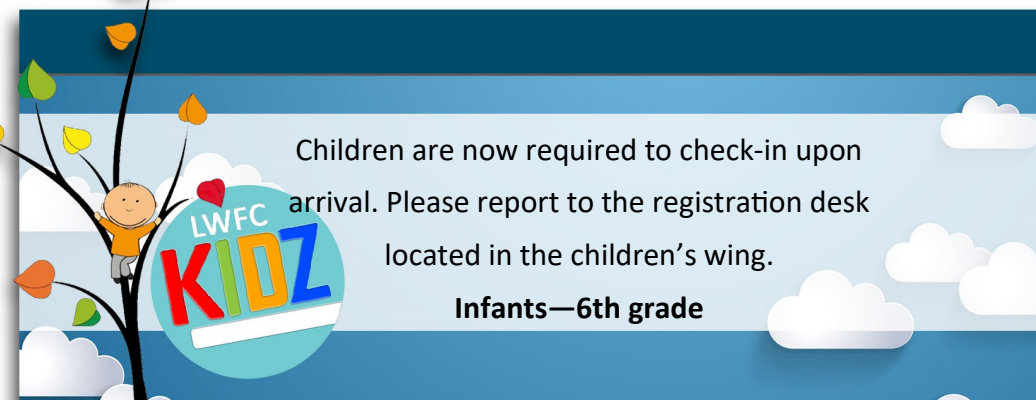
“Delay, Not Denial”

Habakkuk 1:2-4

Click on the “Resources” tab and click “Sermon Notes”

Call to Discipleship  
Please remain seated at this time

Benediction





Delay, Not Denial  
Habakkuk 1:2-4

A. God is Silent, Not Absent (v. 2):

- 1. Habakkuk cries out to the Lord because he knows (long history proves) the Lord has all power and authority to fix all the injustice and evil he sees amongst the people, especially when they come into the temple. He knows that the Lord would desire to do this because He wants to have a relationship with Israel.
- 2. Habakkuk’s passion for justice and for the Lord to rise up against wickedness is intense. He does not look to anyone; he adamantly and persistently with no intent on ever stopping, implores God even though he does not believe the Lord is listening. We see the same passion with Nehemiah.
- 3. The passage repeats ‘I cry out’ (meaning continuously with no plans to stop), but this time it highlights that the circumstances have created an emergency that has completely disturbed Habakkuk’s heart. He needs divine aid because what is going on is horrible and violent.
- 4. Habakkuk is accusing the Lord of continuously knowing all that is taking place, but yet He totally does not seek to remove the oppression, the burden that the violence has placed upon them.

B. Faith is Tested (vs. 3-4):

- 1. Habakkuk asks the Lord why He would continuously make him come to a complete understanding of all that is before Him. In other words, if the Lord is not going to do anything, why let Habakkuk have a complete intellectual comprehension of what is taking place?
- 2. The Lord constantly makes Habakkuk have spiritual discernment leading to sustained evaluations of the wickedness that was taking place around him.
- 3. The quarrels and disputes were so argumentative, they created dissension which spread throughout the community (Proverbs 17:14; 19:19; 10:12; 15:18). People did not care to talk to each other anymore.
- 4. The Word of the Lord, written to direct our everyday lives so that we learn how to please the Lord by walking righteously, has been paralyzed. There is no effort to learn it or to walk in it.
- 5. The government does not seek to demonstrate a constant desire to do what is right under the law. It quickly abandons the Lord’s governmental structure and His Word to act wickedly.
- 6. There are also individuals, because they have no respect for God, violate the social rights of others, and are willfully oppressing, exploiting, and abusive, carrying out deceitful practices while doing business without regrets and no desire to change.
- 7. Habakkuk concludes that because the righteous are faithful to believe and live in accordance with the Word of God, the only way they can sustain in these evil, wicked times is to live by faith (Habakkuk 2:4)
- 8. Because there is no heart to do what is right, Habakkuk is crying out for the Lord, who seems silent, to do what is righteous (Habakkuk 2:1-5). If we remain faithful we will hear from the Lord (Chapter 3) and it will lead to worship (3:18-19).

C. God is at Work (v. 5):

- 1. It is Habakkuk’s turn to listen. He must clearly understand God’s message and trust that it is credible.
- 2. He must make a careful evaluation of what is about to take place. We see all the devastation in California, Turkey etc. We must keep an eye on how frequently the birth pains are taking place.
- 3. What the Lord is going to allow to take place is going to be so profound they would have a hard time imagining the devastation that is to come. It would be so terrifying that they would be fearful at the sight of it.
- 4. God is making a specific plan to be at work to address the wickedness and injustice that is taking place.
- 5. If the Lord was to continuously narrate and exhibit all that He plans to do in Habakkuk, he would find it incomprehensible. What is about to take place is unimaginable. Habakkuk would find it difficult to find it true or trustworthy.

**VETERANS RESOURCE EVENT**  
SUN. FEBRUARY 26TH 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
7350 W. TC Jester Blvd. Houston, TX 77088 ~ Main Foyer  
Veterans , Military Service Members , & Spouses  
Register with VFI at <https://bit.ly/VeteransFaithInitiative>

• Veterans Faith Initiative • Aloma Home Care • VET Center  
• The Mission Continues • The Davis Law Firm • Dress 4 Success  
• The Mission Continues • Iora • TriCare • City of Houston  
• US Family Health Plan

For more info contact  
Reginald Parker, Jr. at  
832.791.2614  
[reginald.parker.jr@veteransfaithinitiative.org](mailto:reginald.parker.jr@veteransfaithinitiative.org)

You May Be Eligible For Benefits!

The Silver Stars 55+ Ministry  
Presents  
**BLACK HISTORY**  
Theme: Black Resistance Still Here, But God!!!  
ALL ARE WELCOMED!  
SATURDAY  
FEBRUARY 25, 2023  
11:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.  
For More Information Contact:  
Jacquelyn Jordan  
[jacqjordan@att.net](mailto:jacqjordan@att.net)

**PRAYER REQUESTS**




**Grieving:** Mignette Dorsey & family, Curtis & Felicia Sanders & family, Verna Mitchell & family, Pam Collier & family, Lorna Turner & family, Vicki Wilson & family, and Gloria Franklin & family.

**Health and Healing:** Lurlean Lane, Florence Wiggins, Retha Amos, Margaret Baptiste, Cici Sharpe, Eunice Johnson, Jeffrey McQueen, Barbara Gordon, Eric White, Ella James, Pat Crawford, Lisa Roberts, Birdie Williams, Jon Heard, Lakessia Davis, Rutha Patrick, Betty Goode, Latifah Brown, Tanisha Collins, Eric Prichett, Rufus Hadnot, Pat James, Kevin Carey, Lori Lee, Nikisha Doyle, Jessie Austin, Patricia Jackson, Sherri Love, Elizabeth Clark, Clara Williams, Betty Cunningham, Wanda Turk, and Deborah Smith.

DELAY  
NOT  
DENIAL

HABAKKUK 1:2-4

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

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