

## A Vision of Your Divine Inheritance

1. Read Habakkuk 1:1-4. The prophet Habakkuk (Huh-BACK-uk) ministered during a time of great trouble when “justice was not going forth.” Disorder, corruption, and murder were common. He cried out, “How long, O Lord, must I call for help, but you do not listen?” Habakkuk 1:2. His culture was in a state of despair. And he was personally in a state of despair. We all understand those feelings.
  - a. When you look at the world around you today, what most tempts you to feel despair?
  - b. When you look at your personal life right now, what most tempts you to feel despair?
2. Habakkuk models what we should do when we feel despair. He said, “I will stand at my watch-post, and station myself on the rampart. I will keep watch to see what God will say to me and what God will answer concerning my complaint.” Habakkuk 2:1. To see what happened next, read Habakkuk 2:1-4.
  - a. The text doesn’t tell us exactly what Habakkuk’s vision was, but we know it was “a vision of redemption.” In other words, the answer to despair is an offsetting vision of hope. When we feel despair, we should seek God’s vision for how things can be better. Pastor Jason suggested several ways we can do that. **First Step: To get in touch with God’s vision for any situation, often we have to WAIT.** Habakkuk had to “stand at the watch-post . . . on the rampart” and wait. Isaiah said, “They that wait for the Lord . . . shall mount up with wings like eagles.” Isaiah 40:31. Birthing a vision is no different from birthing life; there’s always a gestation period. Tell us about a time in your life when you had to wait for something good to happen. What did it feel like while you waited? What did it feel like when the good thing happened? Are you glad you waited?
  - b. **Second Step: We must wait in faith.** Jason suggested we practice visualization by assuming the feeling of the wish fulfilled. Do you think there is power in visualization? Why or why not?
  - c. **Third Step: Write.** That’s what Habakkuk did. “The Lord answered me and said, ‘Write the vision; make it plain. . . .’” Habakkuk 2:2. E. Jordan says, “Writing is the entry point of spirit into matter.” Let’s take a minute as a group to sit in silence. Think about one of the areas of despair you identified in response to Question 2 above. Ask God to speak to you about that area, then write a simple sentence that best captures what God might be saying to you. Then, if comfortable, share your sentence with the group.
  - d. **Fourth Step: Work.** God told Habakkuk, “The righteous live by their faith.” Habakkuk 2:4. In other words, we have to live into the vision God has given us by faith. What’s at least one concrete action step you can take in response to the area of despair you identified in response to Question 2?

3. In the balance of his sermon, Jason focused on why being a visionary makes such a huge difference in our lives. He offered three key insights.

**Insight 1** – When you live according to spiritual vision, you transcend the confines of your temporary predicament. Jason said, “What you see, you gravitate toward. Whatever dominates your field of perception, that is the direction in which you’ll head.”

Read Genesis 12:1-3, and 13:14-15.

Notice the emphasis in these passages on “looking” and “seeing.” “God told Abraham, ‘Look up from where you are. . . . As far as you can see . . . will I give to you and your descendants for an inheritance.’ Genesis 13:14-15 (KJV) The implication is that Abraham would get no more, and no less, than he could see, i.e., visualize.

Do you think that’s true? Have you ever seen someone get stuck in life because they couldn’t see beyond their narrow confines? Tell us what happened in that situation.

**Insight 2** – When you’re guided by divine vision, it awakens divine forces on your behalf.

Read II Kings 6:8-19.

Neville Goddard says, “The habit of seeing only that which our senses permit, renders us totally blind to what we otherwise could see. To cultivate the faculty of seeing the invisible, we should often deliberately disentangle our minds from the evidence of the senses and focus our attention on an invisible state, mentally feeling it and sensing it until it has all the distinctness of reality. . . . The habit of withdrawing attention from the region of sensation and concentrating it on the invisible develops our spiritual outlook and enables us to penetrate beyond the world of sense and to see that which is invisible. ‘For the invisible things of God from the creation of the world are clearly seen.’ Romans 1:20. This vision is completely independent of the natural faculties. Open it and quicken it!”

What do you think Goddard means when he says, “We should often deliberately disentangle our minds from the evidence of the senses and focus our attention on an invisible state”? How does one do that?

**Insight 3** – Proverbs 29:18 says, “The one who can keep the law of vision [and visualization], will be happy!” Why? “Because you’re not distracted by the volatility of the external world,” Jason said. “You shift your consciousness in the direction of what you see! And where your attention goes, power flows!”

What practical thing are you going to do this week to shift your consciousness in a more visionary direction?