

Hope Presbyterian Church
Sermon-Based Bible Study

February 15, 2026

“Rejoice”

#4 in the Series

When God Doesn't: The Book of Habakkuk

Scripture Texts

Habakkuk 3:16–19 (CEB)

Philippians 4:4, John 16:33 (NIV)



1. We have learned about the prophet Habakkuk’s **complaint** about God’s indifference to Judah’s waywardness, his **disappointment** in God’s response, and his dismay at learning he must **wait** for God’s final “vision” for Judah to be accomplished. Now, we consider the prophet’s choice to **rejoice** even in the midst of loss.
 - How have Habakkuk’s responses to God made you think about God’s role in difficult situations you have experienced?
2. **Read Habakkuk 3:16**

Habakkuk is in physical and mental distress about what God has said the Babylonians will visit upon Judah - fierce attacks and destruction by the powerful Babylonian empire.

 - Have you ever experienced a distressing situation to the point that it affected your physical well-being? What happened?
3. **Read Habakkuk 3:17-18.**

Habakkuk imagines the losses Judah will suffer at the hands of the Babylonians.

 - In the face of inevitable loss, how/in what would Habakkuk have been able to **“rejoice”**?
 - Have you ever experienced loss, even though you believed God was present in the midst of it? What happened and what did you learn from the experience?
4. **Read Habakkuk 3:19, John 16:33, and Philippians 4:4**

Habakkuk, Jesus, and Paul offer words of encouragement about rejoicing in true source of our peace and joy. Consider the following thoughts related to joy and rejoicing:

 - Locate joy in God regardless of the circumstances.
 - God doesn’t promise smooth ground; he promises a strong and steady footing.
 - Rejoicing isn’t escapism - it’s a declaration that the brokenness of the world doesn’t have the final word over our souls.
 - Which of these thoughts resonates with you and why?
 - What have you found interesting about Habakkuk’s relationship with God through the study of the book?
5. How can we pray for you?