

May 22, 83 Am.  
(second coming)

"WAIT A LITTLE LONGER"

Habakkuk 2:1-3

The text chosen this morning does not seem to be very modern. The prophet and his people were in a time when things were slow moving. But as for us, we want action, we want things to get going, our motto is -- that he is a real go-getter. We measure things in horsepower. To (wait) for something was just not in our make-up.

The old ancient prophet speaks with himself, he is mindful of his office. He has been communicating with God. He now goes and takes his stand like a (watchman) on a very high place to see all around. You know, prophets were called watchmen. And from that place, Jehovah answers the prophet. That he might put it down in a permanent record.

The reason for putting it down was that he might see the prophecy all the way to the end. He yearns for the fulfillment of the end. Now the prophet was not just hoping for the literal destruction of Babylon - but he was hoping for the last time. The end age to come. The Messianic age - and the world power that is Babylon is a type should be overthrown.

It will certainly come to pass - wait for it. But it will surely come. Now the original passage does not primarily refer to the coming of the Messiah. Nor to the Second Coming. But as the full and final accomplishment of the prophecy that belonged to that age. And what he said, it will not terry - it will not be behind time.

He is instructed to fix his mind upon Heavenly things and to direct his eyes Godward. And to believe that his prayers will not pass unattended. He never doubted that God would reply. And Habakkuk waited a long, long time, for this.

He saw the solution of the dark problem. The triumphing of the wicked should be short. Yet, there seemed to be a delay. Era that the end should come quickly.

Therefore, today, in this message - I should like to speak to you about something that some people have gone to sleep on.

Like Vance Hawner said, many fundamentalists are sound. They are (sound asleep).

But you know the most unappreciated man on this earth is the pullman porter. Who used to go through the sleeping cars, early in the morning, and awaken passengers. These passengers were in no mood to be aroused - but his business, being a thank-less job, at 6:00 A. M. - he had to go through and wake them up.

This morning, it is 11:00 o'clock - and too many Christians on Sunday are at rest and ease in Zion, and they have a sign hanging on them - please do not disturb.

The early Christians, somebody said, were charged with being drunk on new wine. But the average Christian today seems more doped than drunk. And to believe that we

are living in the last days, and in the midst of world emergency, and that Judgement is just around the corner, and that without Christ - men are lost and sure for Hell. Some people think that the Preacher is criminal.

Finney used to say that we must have excitement and powerful preaching. Or the Devil will have the people.

Now the Preacher is not just flapping his wings, today. We are caught in a hopeless mess of circumstances. All about us over and over again - it looks as a fore-gone conclusion. That the supreme test of our religion is - whether or not we know the way out. And whether or not we know the end.

The Pharisees had come to Jesus to tempt him, desiring that he would show them a sign from Heaven. He answered and said to them, when it is evening, you shall say - it shall be fair weather for the sky is red. And in the morning, it will be foul weather today for the sky is red. Oh ye, hypocrites, you can discern the face of the sky, and not discern the sign of the times. A wicked and adulterous generation seeking after a sign. And there shall no sign be given unto it. But the sign of the prophet Jonah and he left them and departed.

Matt. 16:1-4. We all have interests in those little words -- the (signs) of the times. This is something that speaks to us.

✓ The trouble about (some), first, they say that practically every event transpiring

today is a probable sign that Christ is coming upon us. Secondly, there are others who say, there will be absolutely no signs, whatever. When Christ comes. Now the old prophets, in the Old Testament, was instructed - you just wait for it - because it will surely come. Now we cannot say that everything is a sign. But Christ must be coming back soon - somebody would say. Because of certain things that are happening in the world today. Some say that the blocks, to rebuild a new temple on Mt. Moriah have already been ordered and are being built. There are others who say that Russia is getting ready for the invasion of Israel. Ez. 38:39.

There have been some who have mis-interpreted this. In 1844, William Miller, with his followers on a mountain, expected the end to come. He had about 50,000 people to share his vision and his views. He was a Seven-Day Adventist.

And then the Jehovah's Witness felt in 1874 that Christ was going to return and be crowned as King in 1914. He would cleanse the Temple in 1918.

Martin Luther, the great reformist, felt that the year 1556 might mark the event of Christ's coming.

Isaac Newton, thought that 1715 would be the year.

And of course, Thomas Weber wrote about the fanaticism of many people. That a Roman Catholic Priest figured that Christ would return in 1847. But by the time he secured the church's permission to publish the findings, it was already 1848.

That was an unfortunate affair.

We know that God attached a great deal to numbers. For example, 30 is a number of maturity. 50 is a number of jubilee. 70 is a number of restoration.

In 1917 General Allenby freed Jerusalem from the Turks. 1947, 30 years later, the (United Nations) voted to create the new statehood for Israel.

In 1967 - 50 years after General Allenby's action, Israel captured the old city of Jerusalem. And possessed a sacred Western wall. A spirit of jubilee. Immediately arose in Jewish hearts.

In 1987, 70 years following - the 1917 date - Christ will come and completely restore the Promised Land.

So the Second Coming of Christ may happen in 1988.

Israel officially became a nation - May 14, 1948.

*Many people are asking are we moving towards the end of the world?*

So Habakkuk, the prophet, was instructed. You wait, you watch, God is going to fulfill his mission.

The challenge is to every Christian today, you wait, you watch. It will surely come. It will not terry.

Some signs are already in the making.

First, Micah 4:3 - rumors of wars. And they shall beat their plowshears and their spheres into pruning hooks. Nations shall not lift up a sword against nation. Neither shall they learn war anymore.

Did you know that these words are inscribed on the Headquarters of the United Nations in New York. This speaks of some glorious day - when the prince of peace shall come and reign. When Jesus shall come. And he warns, Matt. 24:6 - of continual war. It seems to have been the appointed way of society.

It was pointed out by one - but there have been 268 years of peace. During the last 4,000 years of human history. Despite the signing of some 8,000 separate peace treaties.

A former President of the Academy of Sciences in Norway, with the aid of historians, has said - that since 3600 BC over 14,531 wars have been waged in which 3 billion, 640 million people have been killed. This figure is 17 times the entire population of the United States. The value and the destruction of the wars, you could make a gold belt to go around the world - 90 miles in width, 33 feet thick, and some of the earliest historical records talk about the soldiers fighting

in close quarters. In Rome, it was a way of life. In the Middle Ages, all over Europe, the horror of war. Even the 30 year war, which ended in 1648. By that time, 3/4 of the German speaking people died in that war.

The most costly in terms of human life, was World War II. In 1939-1945. The number of deaths in civilians, soldiers - 54 million, 800 thousand. Poland, 6 million, 28 thousand - or 22.2% of her population killed. And the material cost of World War II was 3.5 trillion dollars.

Enough money was spent by just the United States on this war, to keep a million, 500 thousand missionaries on the field for 100 years.

Since World War II - there have been at least 12 limited wars. 48 revolts. 74 rebellions. And 162 social revolutions.

2 Tim. 3:1-2 - Ye may as well know this too, Timothy, for in the last days it is going to be very difficult to be a Christian. People will love only themselves and their money. We look for things of materialism. Romance, with things of the world. We know the price of everything and the value of nothing - somebody has said. But this is our Lord's message to us. Luke 17:26-30. In the days of Mark and Noah - it would be a prevailing attitude in the last days. He went on to describe how they ate, drank, married, bought, sold, planted, and built. They lived and died as if there was no denying judge or coming Judgement.

Rev. 3:15, 19 - The Apostle John warns about materialism. When he said, thou sayest I am rich and increased in goods. And have need of nothing. Knowest thou not that thou art wretched, miserable, and poor, blind and naked.

2 Tim. 3:2-4 - For men shall be lovers of themselves. Covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, without natural affection, truce breakers, false accuser, incompentent, fierce and despisers of those that are good, traitors, pety, high-minded, lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God. This describes a season of lawlessness. And if there is one word that would describe one sign of our time, that single word in the English language would be "lawless". And Timothy puts it in the Scripture. To help men live an orderly life down here - God gave us marriage, human government, and the church. The spirit of man rebels against all of these things.

Daniel 12:4 - But Daniel kept his prophecy a secret. Sealed it up so that it would not be misunderstood. Until the end time, when (travel and education) shall be vastly increased. This is another sign. Speed, and knowledge. Somebody, as Sir Isaac Newton said, after reading this portion in Daniel - personally, I cannot help but believe that these words refer to the end of time. Men will travel from country to country in an unprecedented manner. There may be some inventions which will enable people to travel much more quickly. Now this was written around 1680. By Newton who went on to speculate that speed might actually be to 50 MPH. Now some 80 years later, the French Voltaire read Newton's words and this was the remark that he made. See what a fool Christianity makes of an otherwise brilliant man. Here, a scientist like Newton, actually writes that man may travel at actually



a rate of 30-40 MPH. Has he forgotten if man should travel at this rate - he would be suffocated. His heart would stand still.

Now one wonders what Voltaire would have to say today about the American Astronauts in their space craft - or who walks across the continent in less than 15 minutes. Strolling along at 17,500 miles per hour. Or during the moon landing - man will exceed a speed 12 times faster than that of a 22 rifle bullet. And yet Daniel predicted that travel and knowledge would take place.

Knowledge is growing - by the time the child born today graduates from college, the amount of knowledge in the world, someone has estimated will be 4 times as great. By the time that child is 50 years old - it will be 32 times as great. And 97% of everything known in the world, will have been learned since the time he was born.

*My life Time - A Boy - Not have Radio - Automobiles just getting started - airplane  
odd thing - Television unheard of - I came from the Dark Ages! - T.V. came out Pure  
war one in this town station 100 mi away, all could see snow & little Dick,*

So, it seems that the half-way point 8 years ago, every 60 seconds, 2,000 typewritten pages are added to man's knowledge. And the material produced every 24 hours would take a college graduate 5 years to read.

75% of all (medicines) in use today were developed after World War II. Dr. Carl Hammer, Director of Computer Science, at Sperry-Rand said, that computers can handle about 100% of clerical work in America. He said if every person in the world was a highly trained, efficient clerk - they could not do and keep up the work done by computers at that one company alone. These computers built years back, would fill up 4 rooms. Now they can be placed in a small compartment. And yet they can store 5 million words per second.

1873 a bill was introduced in Congress to close the U. S. Patent Office. Because everything that could be invented had already been invented.

Gen. 3:4, 5 - "And the serpent said unto the woman, he shall not surely die for God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, that your eyes shall be opened, and you shall be as God's - knowing good and evil."

Humanism is another sign that goes way back to the beginning of Eden. It centers in the (philosophy) - it is man centered. And it attempts to solve the problems of man and the world (independently) of God. Now, Rom. 1:21-22 says because when they knew God - they glorified him not as God. Neither were thankful but became vain in their imagination. And their foolish heart was darkened. The matter of humanism has its own moral codes. And fails to meet the pressing need of today and tomorrow. It cannot cope with an existing world.

It says the promise of salvation or fear of damnation is harmful. It says that there is no evidence that life survives the death of the body. And also, the right to abortion and divorce should be recognized. This deadly philosophy is on the move today and it advocates that the lock should be taken out of wed-lock. That there is no God, and it believes in the pure materialistic evolution of life.

It is the glorification of mankind. And the contradiction of the wisdom of God.

It advocates these (statues) in public places of nude people. Well, that is a contradiction of God. God covered Adam and Eve with animal skins.

VI  
In Revelation 13:4-8 - and verse 16 and 17 - we read something about the anti-Christ and about the systems of this world. Today we find several systems in operation. The United Nations, offers new hope to people, Christians, Jews, Buddhists, Hindus - and they all call on God in different names.

This made up of three groups, the United States and her allies, Russia and her allies, the neutrals - who attempt to get the best out of the other two.

Think about the political organizations that have come into being. Since World War II. First, the North Atlantic Treaty. ATO. April, 1939. Second, European Common Market. 1971. The Asian Nations in Association. 1967. Fourth, the League of Arab States. 1945. Fifth, the Organizations of African Unity. 1963. Sixth, The Warsaw Pack. 1955.

And last, the OPEC, founded in 1960, those petroleum exporting countries. All organizing together, in great force, international agreements. That they might help those, to work with them, or discipline those who violate their rules.

VII  
I Tim. 4:1-3 - Now the Spirit speaketh expressively that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith - giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of Devils, speaking lies and apocrycy. Their conscience seered with a hot iron - forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from meats. I would say an increase in demon activity. During the early ministry of Jesus, there were great out-bursts of this. There were seven miracles in which he cast out demons. Paul expected and had the same type of demons to deal with.

Today we have demons also. We have demons that are forbidding marriage. Tempting to break up homes. In the last days, an attempt to destroy the institution.

It used to be called "living in sin". Now it is simply called "living together". And the last census showed several thousand unmarried female and male couples, living together.

There are demons today encouraging the use of hard drugs. These body-destroying, uncontrollable, and unsolveable drugs.

This damages the brain and causes it to be immature.

*VII*  
The demons also are bringing a revival of astrology. This is a money-making racket. And we have today the revival of the witches - there are books on witch-craft and Jean Dixon carries a lot of weight today. They say there are 6,000 witches in England. 500 in New York alone. And that it is a 200 million dollar per year business in France. The occult movement is also being promoted - the magazines and films.

Astrology - between 5,000-10,000 of these. And they fill two columns in one of the big cities in the Yellow Pages in the phone book. The horoscope column in the newspaper. The hare krishna founded and brought here in 1965. They have 12,000 full-time devotees. With over 30 Temples.

The children of God in the late '60's came. They have over 400 colonies throughout

the world.

The Unification Church, founded in 1954. In Korea by Sun Moon - who says he was selected by Christ on Easter Sunday morning, 1936, to finish the Saviour's work. To be the true Messiah.

The World Wide Church of God - in 1934 by Herbert W. Armstrong, is a 75 million dollar business and has a magazine "The Plain Truth".

Transcendental Meditation came to the U. S. in 1959. And claims many many converts.

Scientology founded in 1950.

The First Church of Satan, 1966, in San Francisco. That was the same year that the "God is Dead" movement got under way as well.

It is very much like the old judge Samuel was up against - give us a King, somebody to judge us. This has always been the cry of mankind. Give us a leader to guide us. In the fullness of time. Gal. 4:4 - God sent the perfect leader. But we find that there are sorts of departures from the Christian faith that men are falling away from Christ.

In 1901, in Kansas, Agnes Osman received her baptism and spoke in tongues. And seems to be the date - the (birthdate) of modern Pentecostalism. With an amazing theology with practice and belief. And the great danger coming from this movement is very subtle. It is the elevation of personal experience over the Bible.

And one of the most amazing things is that this movement has crossed all religious boundaries - the Mormans, Eskimos, and even shepherds get on emotional highs. This could possibly be a sign of the last days.

Norfolk - 1st week - "New Life" church of Hayes - seeking Nat. recognition

In Gen. 1:5 - we find that the people multiplied and wickedness of man was great, and every imagination of the thoughts of his heart were only evil. And this has been pretty much the nature, and the work of man. Because today, we are searching for (Surrogate Mothers). They are looking for a substitute to replace the mother. They want to hire somebody else for the service of the mother. And so, there are attempts to change even the biological structure. By test-tube babies and invitro fertilization. That is in the glass or outside of the human body.

IX  
In Dan. 3:4-5 - to you it is commanded, o people, nation and language - that at what time you hear the coronet, the flute, the harp, all kinds of music - you fall down and worship the golden image. That Nebuchadnezzar has set up. I think the coming of Rock Music has enforced upon this world an image that is equal to this. And I think of the rendition of Presley with "Heartbreak Hotel" and "Hound Dog" and "I Want You, I Need You, I Love You" etc. Did you know that in 1956, 1957 that that sort of music took over the business. And the hit parade which had been popular since the start of radio in 1935 - went off the air in 1957. Such groups as The Beatles, "I Want To Hold Your Hand". What is rock - it is a sound electrical amplification. It is relentless.

pound beating. Deafening assault. To be felt and not heard. There is no rock music to dine by. Or to march by, or to sing along with. It advocates blasphemy - the song, "Son of Jesus". Jesus had a son by Mary Magdalene. John Lemmon, the Beatles, once wrote a book entitled "A Spainard in the Works". And he portrayed Christ as a garlic eating stinking little yellow greasy illegitimate child. So the disease of this in the world - I think this is a sign. Because Charles Manson claimed this and pigs was written at the Tate mansion in blood.

I have not time to give to you all of those <sup>many</sup> who have died in violence from drug over-doses. Jim Morrison, Bryan Jones, Janice Joplin, Elvis Presley. And this thing that they used during the Vietnam War - "where have all the young flowers gone" - you did not hear one musical note. About 150,000 young people who died from drug overdoses.

*How Different - Charles Wesley, Meth. Hymn writer wrote 7,000 Hymns - 5,000 with 3rd Coming*

X In the book of Revelation 13:16 - it says that there would be a mark in the forehead - well, there is really not time to give the universal number and system. But did you know that people today, some of them, never see their Social Security check. It is deposited in the bank. And no paper is changed - it is just a matter of number. You go to a check-out counter at the super market, and the clerk simply slips a plastic card on a terminal in a line - and there is the transaction. And you get a new balance. And you go on your way.

X One final word about the restoration of Israel. In Matt. 25:32 - Jesus said now learn the parable of the fig tree and this was always a symbol for the nation. And some 40 years after that sermon - Jerusalem was destroyed by the Roman General Titus in AD 70. And since that time, the fig tree of Israel has been without fruit almost without hope. And then we find things happen down through the years. And in 1948,

it was on that day at 4:30 - Israel officially became a nation again. And in 1949 the United States recognized Israel as an member of the United Nations - the 59th member. That was a historical event.

If you go back over the history, you read in AD70 the Temple was destroyed. In AD73 Masada falls to the Romans - 960 Jews kill themselves.

In AD 325 Constantine controls Jerusalem.

In 614, the Persians control Jerusalem.

In 634, the Arabs control Jerusalem.

In 1099, AD - the Crusaders control Palestine.

In 1517, the Turks control Jerusalem.

In 1898 - the organization of the World Zionist Movement got under way.

In 1917, there was a declaration by Great Britain in favor of establishing Palestine as a national home of the Jews.



In 1917 - General Allenby captured Jerusalem from the Turks. And then, we find that in 1937, the U. N. purposed to create the statehood. In 1948 the Jews declared themselves a state, of Israel, and they were forced to fight wars for survival. And they have had plenty of wars since that time. When you think about Israel being invaded. The Arab world, Egypt with 5,000 coming in from the South. The Lebanese coming from the North. And those sweeping down from Galilee. And on the East, was Jordan sending 10,000 men. And they were all well armed invasions. And they had plenty of ammunition.

But Israel had to tend their farms, create a Navy, and lift the seige of Jerusalem. And this tiny little group, at the price of many individuals, In 1967, there was a six-day-war. Which began at a great price. When Israel struck their enemy with a brilliant campaign. And Egypt suffered great loss. 100,000 men were completely destroyed. Or put to flight. They had Soviet weapons and supplies. The airplanes were destroyed. It is believed that 100 out of Egypt's 350 pilots were killed on the ground during the first air strike.

Promise is often mentioned - 300 Times - one of many 25 verses Deuteronomy

John 14:1-3 - Christ P. to Pat.  
 1 Thes 4:13 - apostles repeated -  
 acts 1:11 - angels said now -

Program - Personal 1 Thes 4:16 - visible acts 1:11 Mysteries 2 Pet 3:10

Purpose - Raise the Dead 1 Cor 15:51 - Final Judgment acts 17:31

Reward Rev 22:12 Reunion 1 Thes 4:14

Separation mat 25:31 -

Preparation for the coming - disciples encouraged - heard no hope -

even in this time is coming - (are you real for this)