Emily Boykin Ministry Assistant Michele Smith Treasurer

The Coffee Baptist Vision

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September 22, 2022

Meditation from the Moderator

I recently read in Habakkuk 3 that he was praying and seeking revival. In chapter 3 and verse 1 the Bible says, **"O Lord, revive Your work in the midst of the years!"** What caught my ear and spoke to my heart was the phrase, **"revive Your work"** O Lord. This is good, really good, because it reminds me that the work is God's and not mine. I am called to be a steward of God's resources and a workman in His vineyard. I can't help but to think of the parable of the laborers in the vineyard found in Matthew 20:1-16. One of the teaching of this parable is we must remember our place and that is we are the laborers and workers and He is the landowner and the boss.

I absolutely love verses 16-18 which basically says Habakkuk will trust the sovereign God though things are not going well. Look at verses 17-18: "Though the fig tree may not blossom nor have fruit on the vines; Though the labor of the olive may fail and the fields yield no food; Though the flock may be cut off from the fold and there be no herd in the stalls---YET I WILL REJOICE IN THE LORD." Now there is a person I want to model my life after. How about you? I love it. In the midst of possibly complete loss, Habakkuk could and did still rejoice in the Lord. You see, Habakkuk knew something we often forget. He knew that calamity in his life did not diminish who God is and will always be. God is good and full of grace and mercy regardless of what I have been through or currently experiencing. I am personally challenged by the faith of this man of God. How did Habakkuk respond in his dire circumstances? He could find no joy in the fig tree or in the vines or in the fields or among the flock yet he knew that God was unchanging and unfluctuating. He could rejoice in the Lord because God is immutable.

So, child of God, how do we live in this world when hard things come our way? How is your faith muscle these days? Are you able to rejoice when, like Habakkuk, things are falling apart all around you? The truth is that our faith grows when we use it. The best way I know to strengthen our faith muscle is to feed on the word of God and do what it says. Feeding on the word of God is what will keep us well fed when there's famine in our midst. I am challenged by Habakkuk, how about you?

Annual Church Profiles are due September 16. Please encourage your church clerk to complete your church profile.

CCBA Annual Meeting

October 13 at 6:30 PM

Woodland Grove Baptist Church Rev. Bryan Simoneaux Moderator Rev. John Gunter Hispanic Missionary Steve Tipton Vineyard Manager

Calendar of Events <u>September</u> 22 - Ministers' Meeting - 11:00 AM <u>October</u> 3 - Widows' Ministry Meeting - 6:00 PM 13 - Annual Meeting - 6:30 PM 27 - Ministers' Meeting - 11:00 AM

Ministers' Meeting

September 22 at 11:00 AM

CCBA Conference Center

Guest: BJ Cardwell Coffee County Food Pantry

Widow's Ministry Meeting

October 3 at 6:00 PM

Coffee Baptist Association

Senior Adult Luncheon

October 25 at 11:00 AM

Bethany Baptist Church

2022 Community Revival

September 18-19 at 6:00 PM Westside Baptist Church

September 20-21 at 6:00 PM First Baptist Church Elba

Guest Speaker: Dr. Michael Mynatt Worship with Nick Akin

> Contact Westside 897-2520 or FBC Elba 897-2246

Whitewater Baptist Church Homecoming

161 Years

October 9 at 10:30 AM with lunch to follow

Singer: Derek Snellgrove Speaker: Former Pastor Bruce Williams

Please pray for the **Military Support Group.**

Tuesdays at 7:00 pm at Church on Boll Weevil Circle

Call Dr. John Granger if you are in need.

Goodman Baptist Church is in search of a **Bi-Vocational Youth Minister.**

Contact Bro. Bruce Williams at 334-389-3621 for more info.