



Sermon Series: Fierce: Standing Surefooted

Big Idea: God offers us courage in times of confusion.

Main Passage: Habakkuk 3:17-19

¹⁷Even though the fig trees have no blossoms, and there are no grapes on the vines; even though the olive crop fails, and the fields lie empty and barren; even though the flocks die in the fields, and the cattle barns are empty, ¹⁸ yet I will rejoice in the Lord! I will be joyful in the God of my salvation! ¹⁹ The Sovereign Lord is my strength! He makes me as surefooted as a deer, able to tread upon the heights.

Two things to help us understand how to stand surefooted:

- Barren seasons are certain.
- His strength makes me surefooted.

Discussion:

What?

What stood out to you from Dusty's sermon or any questions you might have?

Habakkuk was a prophet who ministered sometime between 640-609 B.C. He prophesied the invasion of Jerusalem by the Babylonian army coming true in 607 B.C. The northern kingdom of Israel had already been destroyed in 722 B.C. Bored yet? The reason this snippet of history is important is it helps us understand that Habakkuk sits as a citizen of a nation on the edge of disaster when he records this book. Read the main passage and answer: How does he describe the circumstances that he sees?

Verse 18 gives a completely different response to this brink of disaster than what most of us would have. What is it?

Where does Habakkuk find his joy? What makes him surefooted?

So What?

Bad things are going to happen. There will be seasons when things just don't go well, or rather, are disastrous. What were some disastrous seasons in your life that were unavoidable?

The main passage isn't just a passage but is actually written as a hymn. Yes, Habakkuk is singing. He's in the land of disaster singing about the joy of his salvation and the strength God gives him to endure. How would the situation you described have been different if you were able to sing your way through like Habakkuk?

We need to ask ourselves where our joy really comes from? Where did Habakkuk's? Is it the same?

How does God's strength make you surefooted in times of trouble?

Do What?

What can you learn from Habakkuk that can help you stand surefooted against challenges this week?

Joy in the presence of God is about trusting him for everything. What do you need to do this week to find joy in God no matter the situation?

Scriptures for further study or memorization:

Use these as a reference to help you rejoice and stand surefooted in any situation.

John 16:22

So, also you have sorrow now, but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you.

1 Peter 1:8-9

Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

1 Chronicles 16:27

Splendor and majesty are before him; strength and joy are in his place.

Psalm 5:11

But let all who take refuge in you rejoice; let them ever sing for joy, and spread your protection over them, that those who love your name may exult in you.

Psalm 16:11

You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Roman 14:17

For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking but of righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

Romans 12:12

Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.