

“In wrath remember mercy”: Habakkuk 3:2

Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost – November 14, 2021

Tom Mount – Holy Trinity Chico

Scripture reading – Habakkuk 3:1-2

“A prayer of Habakkuk the prophet. On *shigionoth*

²Yahweh, I have heard of your fame;
I stand in awe of your deeds, Yahweh.
Repeat them in our day,
in our time make them known;
in wrath remember mercy.”

An honest appraisal of where we are as a people

We are turning our backs on God and his ways and have incurred his wrath

²² “Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools ²³ and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like a mortal human being and birds and animals and reptiles.²⁴ Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another.”
- Romans 1:22-24

We are calling right “wrong” and wrong “right”

“Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter.” - Isaiah 5:20

1. God says a man is not to lie with another man as one would lie with a woman, for this is an abomination (Lev 18:22; 20:13).
2. God says lawlessness is a curse on a people (cf. Mt 24:12).

3. God says he created humans male and female (Gen 1:27) and that biological males are born to grow up to be men and females, to be women.
4. God says we need to live within our financial means (Prov 13:11, 22; 21:20; 22:7).

We are murdering our own children

“You shall not murder.” – Exodus 20:13

What are we to do?

Humble ourselves and repent

“Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸ Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. ⁹ Grieve, mourn and wail. Change your laughter to mourning and your joy to gloom. ¹⁰ Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.” – James 4:7-10

Pray for God’s mercy (see Neh 9:1-37; Dan 9:1-19)

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I stand in awe of your deeds, Yahweh.
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Walk in righteousness

“Produce fruit in keeping with repentance.” - Luke 3:8