

THE SHIFT #2

Introduction: When you receive revelation / spiritual insight / vision – write it down.

- If it is real, you need to feel it.
 - Burden – which drives us to God.
 - Desire – to make a change
 - Passion – to carry it out.

Habakkuk 2:2-3 *write down the revelation and make it plain on tablets so that a herald may run with it. For the revelation awaits an appointed time; it speaks of the end, and it will not prove false. Though it linger, wait for it; it will certainly come and will not delay.*

1. The Vision.

- Your vision must come from God.
- There is a difference between goal-setting and a God-given vision.
- Vision is based on revelation where hope and faith are involved.

2. The Life of Faith.

Habakkuk 2:4 *See, he is puffed up; his desires are not upright – but the righteous will live by his faith...*

- Righteous will live by his faith.
 - The first part describes the arrogant Babylonian empire.

Hebrews 11:1 *Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.*

- In 2011, a group of Christians which became N3C had a vision to be part of a team who love God, love people and love life.
 - Love God with a passion.
 - Love people enough to reach them where they are.
 - Love life – Jesus came to give life to the full.
 - Spoke of a dream to have facilities which are multi-purpose.

- It was a time of fruitfulness, especially with youth among all the evangelical/ Pentecostal churches of the area.
 - One church had up to 100 young people in their youth programs.
 - N3C had 40 in its youth program,
 - N3C had a second outreach in Nanango with a congregation that rivaled Burpengary in numbers,
 - N3C also ran a Limited Hours childcare program.
- Within a few years, that all changed.
 - All the churches struggled in the next decade for a variety of reasons.
 - All were under enemy attack of various types.
- The righteous will live by faith.

3. The Waiting.

Habakkuk 2:3 *For the revelation awaits an appointed time; it speaks of the end, and it will not prove false. Though it lingers, wait for it; it will certainly come and will not delay.*

- Wait for it.
- Don't get snared by fear or mindset of the world.
 - Snare = pit, cord, net...
- If God has given you a vision, then it has an appointed time.
- World events in the Middle East have our attention.
 - Has a vision of these events been written down?

ILLUSTRATION #1: Timeline after Habbakuk

| Area | 700BC | 650BC | 600BC | 550BC |
|---|--|---|--|---|
| Northern Powers | Assyrian Empire ⌘Sennacherib ⌘Esarhaddon ⌘Ashurbanipal | Assyrian > Babylonian Nineveh falls to Babylon. ⌘Nebuchadnezzar | Babylonian Empire Babylon falls to Persia ⌘Cyrus of Persia | Persian Empire ⌘Darius 1 ⌘Cambyses |
| Israel | Israel in exile | Israel in exile | Israel in exile | Zerubbabel leads the return. |
| Judah | ☆Manasseh | ☆Amon ☆Josiah | ⌘Nebuchadnezzar takes Jerusalem ☆Jehoahaz ☆Jehoiakim ☆Jehoiachin ☆Zedekiah | |
| Prophets | ☺Isaiah ☺Micah | ☺Nahum ☺Habakkuk ☺Zephaniah ☺Jeremiah. | ☺Daniel. ☺Ezekiel ☺Obadiah ☺Jeremiah | ☺Daniel ☺Haggai ☺Zachariah. |
| ⌘= Northern Power kings ☆Judean kings ☺ Prophets speaking at that time. | | | | |

ILLUSTRATION #2: Stick Illustration

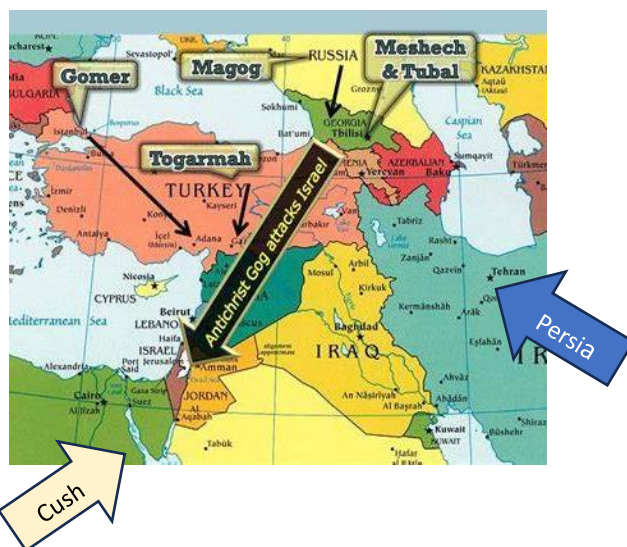
Ezekiel 37:20-22 *Hold before their eyes the sticks you have written on and say to them, “This is what the Sovereign Lord says: ‘I will take the Israelites out of the nations where they have gone. I will gather them from all around and bring them back into their own land. I will make them one nation in the land, on the mountains of Israel. There will be one king over all of them and they will never again be two nations or be divided into two kingdoms.’”*

- Show timeline again (slide)
 - Persia allowed them to return.
 - Became one people, built a second temple – but NOT self-governing.
 - That did not happen until 1948.
 - If Israel did not become a nation till 1948, then other events following (in the prophecy) should be AFTER that.

Ezekiel 38:1-6 *The word of the Lord came to me: “son of man, set your face against Gog, of the land of Magog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal; prophesy against him and say: ‘This is what the Sovereign Lord says: I am against you, O Gog, chief prince of Meshech and Tubal. I will turn you around, put hooks in your jaws and bring you out with your whole army – your horses, your horsemen fully armed, and a great horde of large and small shields, all of them brandishing their swords.*

Persian, Cush and Put will be with them, all with shields and helmets, also Gomer with all its troops, and Beth Togarmah from the far north will all its troops – the many nations with you.”

- List of nations coming against Israel:
 - Magog- Russia
 - Meshech & Tubal – Georgia
 - Gomer & Togarmah – Turkey
 - Persia- Iraq/Iran
 - Cush – Upper Nile region.
- Ezekiel 40-45 talks of new temple, division of land & temple worship



Zechariah 12:2-3 *I am going to make Jerusalem a cup that sends all the surrounding peoples reeling. Judah will be besieged as well as Jerusalem. On that day, when all the nations of the earth are gathered against her, I will make Jerusalem an immovable rock for all the nations. All who try to move it will injure themselves.*

4. The Promise.

Proverbs 3:25-26 *Have no fear of sudden disaster or of the ruin that overtakes the wicked, for the Lord will be your confidence and will keep your foot from being snared.*

- We don't have to fear

- We don't have to be shaken.

Habakkuk 3:16 *I heard, and my heart pounded, my lips quivered at the sound; decay crept into my bones, and my legs trembled. Yet I will wait patiently for the day of calamity to come on the nation invading us.*

- Lips quivered; legs trembled.
- But waited for the fulfilling of the promise.

Habakkuk 3:17-19 *Though the fig tree does not bud and there are no grapes on the vines, though the olive crop fails and the fields produce no food, though there are no sheep in the pen and no cattle in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will be joyful in God my Saviour. The sovereign Lord is my strength; he makes my feet like the feet of a deer; he enables me to go on the heights.*