

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

The prophet Habakkuk has been complaining to the Lord, "How long must I call for help, but you do not listen?" Have you ever had that thought? I must confess that I have, and particularly in the midst of everything that has been going on lately. But the Lord answers with an instruction to wait for the revelation that will certainly come and not delay. And then the Lord says, "For the righteous person will live by his faithfulness."

Sometimes that needs to be enough. We have all experienced disappointment, that which seemingly keeps us from our God-appointed destiny. Disappointment tries to obscure the vision we have for a hopeful future, what God has promised to us. But the Lord says that the just shall live by faith, whether they can see what has been promised or not.

Right now, we are contending, along with hundreds of thousands of believers, for the healing of Nabeel Qureshi from Stage 4 stomach cancer. I prayed with him again last Saturday evening and then kept vigil most of Saturday night, waiting with expectation for the Lord to bring healing. But the doctors decided to put him on palliative care and gave him about two more days to live.

Yet as the children of God have persevered on behalf of our brother for healing, things have now begun to change. He is being put back on nourishment as the doctors are confounded by his body that continues to live despite the dire circumstances. We are walking by faith and not by sight, trusting in Jesus alone to bring complete healing and restoration.

As I was reading Dr. Randy Clark's new book, *The Healing Breakthrough*, a particular testimony encouraged my faith to persevere for Nabeel's healing. Randy had been ministering at a church to a man in a wheelchair who was in the last stages of AIDS acquired from a blood transfusion. The man had been given only a few more weeks to live, so Randy prayed several times for him but there was no indication of any healing going on - no heat, no tingling, no peace, no nothing.

About ten months later when Randy returned to the same church, a big, muscular man strode up to him and said, "Do you recognize me?"

"No, I really don't," Randy replied.

"Do you remember a man in a wheelchair who wore a patch over one eye?"

“Yes. The guy was seeing double out of one eye, and he was close to dying of AIDS. What happened to him?”

“That’s me!” the man cried. “I am that man! I didn’t feel any better the day you prayed, or the next day, or the day after that. But on the third morning, I work up feeling stronger. I was totally healed.” That man at death’s door got healed without any visible manifestations at all.

The prophet Habakkuk ends his lament with a prayer:

“Though the fig tree does not blossom and there are no grapes on the vines; though the olive crop may fail 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 Savior. The Sovereign Lord is my strength; he makes my feet like the feet of a deer; he enables me to tread on the heights.”

Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for He who promised is faithful.