

AColyte

May 26, 2022

A Journal of Faith, Doubt, and Other Things
at Austin College



O Lord, how long shall I cry for help,
and you will not listen?
Or cry to you "Violence!"
and you will not save?
Why do you make me see wrongdoing
and look at trouble?
Destruction and violence are before me;
strife and contention arise.
So the law becomes slack,
and justice never prevails.
The wicked surround the righteous;
therefore judgment comes forth perverted.

--Habakkuk 1:2-4

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TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN...

America

Texas

May 2022

Same as it ever was.

--Talking Heads

*You can gaze out the window, get mad and get madder
Throw your hands in the air and say, "What does it matter?"
But it don't do no good to get angry, so help me, I know
For a heart stained in anger grows weak and grows bitter
'Til you become your own prisoner and you watch yourself sit there
Caught up in the trap of your very own chain of sorrow.
--John Prine, "Bruised Orange"*

*O Lord, how long shall I cry for help,
and you will not listen?
Or cry to you "Violence!"
and you will not save?
Why do you make me see wrongdoing
and look at trouble?
Destruction and violence are before me;
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So the law becomes slack,*

*and justice never prevails.
The wicked surround the righteous;
therefore judgment comes forth perverted.
--Habakkuk 1:2-4*

Then the Lord answered me and said:
Write the vision;
make it plain on tablets,
so that a runner may read it.
For there is still a vision for the appointed time;
it speaks of the end and does not lie.
If it seems to tarry, wait for it;
it will surely come; it will not delay.
--Habakkuk 2:2-3

My wife and I get up and go to work every morning.

In Texas.

Here's why:

<https://youtu.be/gO-E7r9AKjc>

*I woke up worried today—can't help but wonder why
I see all these little children; disillusion in their eyes.
There's no one to look up to who will set their spirits free.
I swear those days are over. The change begins with me.
We've got to break through the fear. We've got to bust through the hate.
Reach out our arms. Pass on the love.
(to the little children)*

*Don't hold back. Don't hold back. Don't hold back.
Pass on the love.
Don't hold back. Don't hold back. Don't hold back. Pass on the love.*

Today we turn the corner, we've got to start to make things right.

*We've got to come step out from the darkness. We're switching on the light.
We've got to teach our children a sense of worth and pride.
We've got to get to filling their emptiness inside.
We've got to break through the fear. We've got to bust through the hate.
Reach out our arms. Pass on the love.
(to the little children)*

*Don't hold back. Don't hold back. Don't hold back.
Pass on the love.
Don't hold back. Don't hold back. Don't hold back.
Pass on the love.*

*We're sending out a message to those who hurt and feel alone.
We've got to build a world where every child belongs.
It's a law of truth and gentleness no one can be above.
Where the malady is ignorance, the antidote is love.
We've got to break through the fear. We've got to bust through the hate.
Reach out our arms. Pass on the love.
(to the little children)*

*Don't hold back. Don't hold back. Don't hold back.
Pass on the love.
Don't hold back. Don't hold back. Don't hold back.
Pass on the love.*

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Rant if you want to.

Vote with your eyes wide open.

Demonstrate, March, and Protest when it's necessary.

Cry when you need to.

Then write the vision.

Do something patient, kind, and loving for someone younger than you today.

Do that again tomorrow.

And the next day.

And the next.

Pass on the love.

Until next time, I remain,

Just Another Cowboy Preacher,
Following the Advice of Mr. Rogers to “Look for the Helpers,”

JOHN WILLIAMS
Chaplain