

# Habakkuk 3:19

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The LORD God is my strength, and he will make my feet like hinds' feet, and he will make me to walk upon mine high places. To the chief singer on my stringed instruments.

## Analysis

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Habakkuk concludes with triumphant declaration: 'The LORD God is my strength, and he will make my feet like hinds' feet, and he will make me to walk upon mine high places' (Yahweh Adonai cheyli veyasem raglai ka'ayaloth ve'al-bamothai yadrikheni). After describing total agricultural failure (v.17) and declaring he'll rejoice anyway (v.18), he affirms God as 'my strength' (cheyli)—source of power and ability. God 'will make my feet like hinds' feet' (veyasem raglai ka'ayaloth)—deer's feet, sure-footed on dangerous mountain terrain. 'Make me to walk upon mine high places' (ve'al-bamothai yadrikheni)—navigate successfully through difficult circumstances. This isn't presuming prosperity but expressing confidence that God will provide what's needed to navigate whatever comes. The imagery suggests agility, stability, and ability to traverse dangerous terrain successfully—not by avoiding difficulties but by divine enablement to get through them.

## Historical Context

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The musical notation 'To the chief singer on my stringed instruments' (lamnatzeach bingino'atay) indicates this prayer became part of temple worship. Habakkuk's personal spiritual journey—from complaint through revelation to confident faith—became resource for community worship. During exile, this conclusion would provide immense encouragement: regardless of circumstances, God remains strength, and He enables His people to navigate impossible situations. Post-exilic community, facing ongoing difficulties rebuilding, could sing

Habakkuk's declaration, affirming faith despite hardships. The passage teaches that faith's goal isn't avoiding difficulties but developing confidence that God will sustain through them. This same confidence characterizes New Testament faith—'I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me' (Philippians 4:13).

## **Related Passages**

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**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

**1 Corinthians 13:4** — Characteristics of love

**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

## **Study Questions**

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1. How does the imagery of 'hinds' feet' and 'high places' depict God's enabling believers to navigate difficult spiritual terrain?
2. What is the difference between faith that expects ease and faith that expects divine enablement through difficulty?
3. How can Habakkuk's progression from complaint to confidence guide believers through their own spiritual struggles?

## Interlinear Text

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יְהוָה	אֱדֹנִי	חֵילִי	וַיַּשֵּׁם	רַגְלִי	כְּאַיִל	וְתַלְפִּי
H3068	God	is my strength	and he will make	my feet	like hinds	H5921
	H136	H2428	H7760	H7272	H355	
בְּמוֹתַי		וַיַּדְרִכֵּנִי		לְמִנְצֵחַ		
upon mine high places		feet and he will make me to walk		To the chief singer		
H1116		H1869		H5329		
בְּנִגְיֹנוֹתַי						
on my stringed instruments						
H5058						

## Additional Cross-References

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**2 Samuel 22:34** (Parallel theme): He maketh my feet like hinds' feet: and setteth me upon my high places.

**Psalms 18:33** (Parallel theme): He maketh my feet like hinds' feet, and setteth me upon my high places.

**Philippians 4:13** (Parallel theme): I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

**Psalms 46:1** (References God): God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

**Deuteronomy 32:13** (Parallel theme): He made him ride on the high places of the earth, that he might eat the increase of the fields; and he made him to suck honey out of the rock, and oil out of the flinty rock;

**Psalms 27:1** (References Lord): The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the LORD is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

**Isaiah 58:14** (References Lord): Then shalt thou delight thyself in the LORD; and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob thy father: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it.

**Isaiah 12:2** (References God): Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid: for the LORD JEHOVAH is my strength and my song; he also is become my salvation.

**Colossians 1:11** (Parallel theme): Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness;

**Ephesians 3:16** (Parallel theme): That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man;

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