

For Teenagers

Be Weak Read Isaiah 40

Isaiah 40 is a great passage of Scripture to keep in your back pocket, so you can yank it out whenever you're reaching the end of yourself.

Early this week, I was there. I felt completely inadequate for the life God has called me to live. I think this is typical for us young people. The wise prophet Isaiah seemed to think so. He mentioned at the end of this chapter that "even young people get tired."

With age comes wisdom. Wisdom that says, "I can't do everything myself." Wisdom that knows, deep down, that our own human strength isn't really strength at all.

Isaiah 40 is filled with beautiful, artistic declarations of the greatness of God. He speaks of God's power over creation. He speaks of God's sovereignty over the affairs of men. He speaks of God's perfect character.

For Christians today, reading headlines and absorbing bad news, Isaiah 40 is a welcome balm to the soul. The nations, Isaiah says, "are a drop in the bucket" (15). The people of the earth are like "grasshoppers" (22). He brings the princes of the earth "to nothing" and the judges "as vanity."

Like the people of old, we like to make God in our image, but Isaiah in verse 25 repeats the words of the Lord, "To whom will you liken me or shall I be equal?"

What should our response be to the magnitude and majesty of God? Look up and "behold who has created these things." Oh, that we Christians would do that, that we would forget the silliness of this earth and behold our God.

Because God isn't just great and powerful. God is also personal. The last part of this verse brings us home again. Isaiah asks the powerful question:

Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength.

The God who sits at the corners of the earth. The God who puts judges and politicians and princes and pastors and CEO's in their place. The God who controls the weather patterns. This same God gives you and me strength when we are weak.

That's why Isaiah 40 is a part of your Bible worth remembering, marking down, and memorizing.

Crosswalk Then and Now for Teens

