

Strong Faith for Hard Times (4)
Pressing On When You Feel Like Stopping
(Isaiah 40:28–31)

Introduction: We continue **Strong Faith for Hard Times** remembering that sometimes hardship does not frighten us—it simply *wears us out*. Isaiah 40 begins with God’s word of comfort and reaches weary people who wonder whether God still sees them; the answer is, “*Look again at your God. (Isaiah 40:1, 27)*”

I. The permanence of our God: v.28

Isaiah is not giving them new information. *He is reminding them of old truth.*

A. Everlasting in His existence (Ps. 90:2; 121:4)

Wiersbe – *God’s people were viewing God through their circumstances instead of viewing their circumstances through the greatness of God. Isaiah reverses the perspective reminding them who God is.*

B. Almighty in His creation

The God who made the world is not overwhelmed by your world. (Isa. 40:12, 26; Jer. 32:17)

C. Exhaustless in His energy - God never experiences what we experience.

1. *We reach the end of our strength.* God doesn't.
2. We have limits. God doesn't.
3. We say, "That's all I've got." *God never says that.*

D. Unsearchable in His understanding - *God does not always give us the answer to every why.* But He gives us something better. He gives us Himself. (Ps 147:5)

When your strength is failing, remember that God’s strength never does!

II. The poverty of our strength: vv. 29–30

A. We faint - Isaiah assumes there will be times when God's people become weary. *Being tired does not necessarily mean you are unspiritual.* (Jn. 4:6; 1 Kgs. 19)

B. We fall – *All human strength has a ceiling, but God’s power does not!*

C. We fail – (Jn 15:5; 2 Cor. 12:9)

MacArthur – “*when human resources are exhausted, the sustaining power of God becomes the believer's true sufficiency.*”

III. The Posture of our faith: v. 31a

“But they that wait upon the LORD...”

The Hebrew term translated "wait" carries the idea of expectant, dependent hope—waiting with confidence in the One for whom you are waiting.

A. Expect Him – Waiting is expectation (Ps. 130:5)

Scripture repeatedly treats waiting as an arena in which faith matures, not as wasted time.

B. Entrust the outcome – (Ps. 37:7)

There comes a moment when you must say: "Lord, I've done what You told me to do. Now I put what I cannot control into Your hands."

C. Engage in obedience - Waiting does not mean sitting down spiritually. Biblical waiting involves active dependence rather than passive resignation. *You do the last thing God clearly told you to do until He tells you the next thing.* (Ps. 27:14; Gal. 6:9)

Waiting is often where God separates faith from feeling. And when expectant faith rests its weight on an inexhaustible God, something happens.

IV. The promise of renewed strength: v. 31b

Rogers - *The Christian life is not merely a changed life; it is an exchanged life.* Gal. 2:20; Eph. 6:10; Phil. 4:13)

A. Strength for the crisis — we soar

1. The eagle does not manufacture the lift. It spreads its wings into strength already available.
2. Christian, that is what God is teaching you. (2 Cor. 12:9)
3. **Strength for the challenge — we run** (Heb. 12:1) *Because when God calls you to run, God supplies strength for the race.*

4. Strength for the commonplace — we walk

Rogers - Much of Christian victory consists in ordinary, daily walking with God through good days, bad days, exciting days, and dull days. (Mt. 6:34; Lam.3:22–23; Mt. 11:28).

The God who kept you yesterday is still sufficient today.

