

ISAIAH ♦ Rescued & Renewed



“Double Comfort”
Isaiah 40
September 22, 2019

Isaiah 40

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.

² Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and cry to her
that her warfare is ended,
that her iniquity is pardoned
that she has received from the LORD's hand
double for all her sins.

³ A voice cries:

“In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD;
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

⁴ Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.

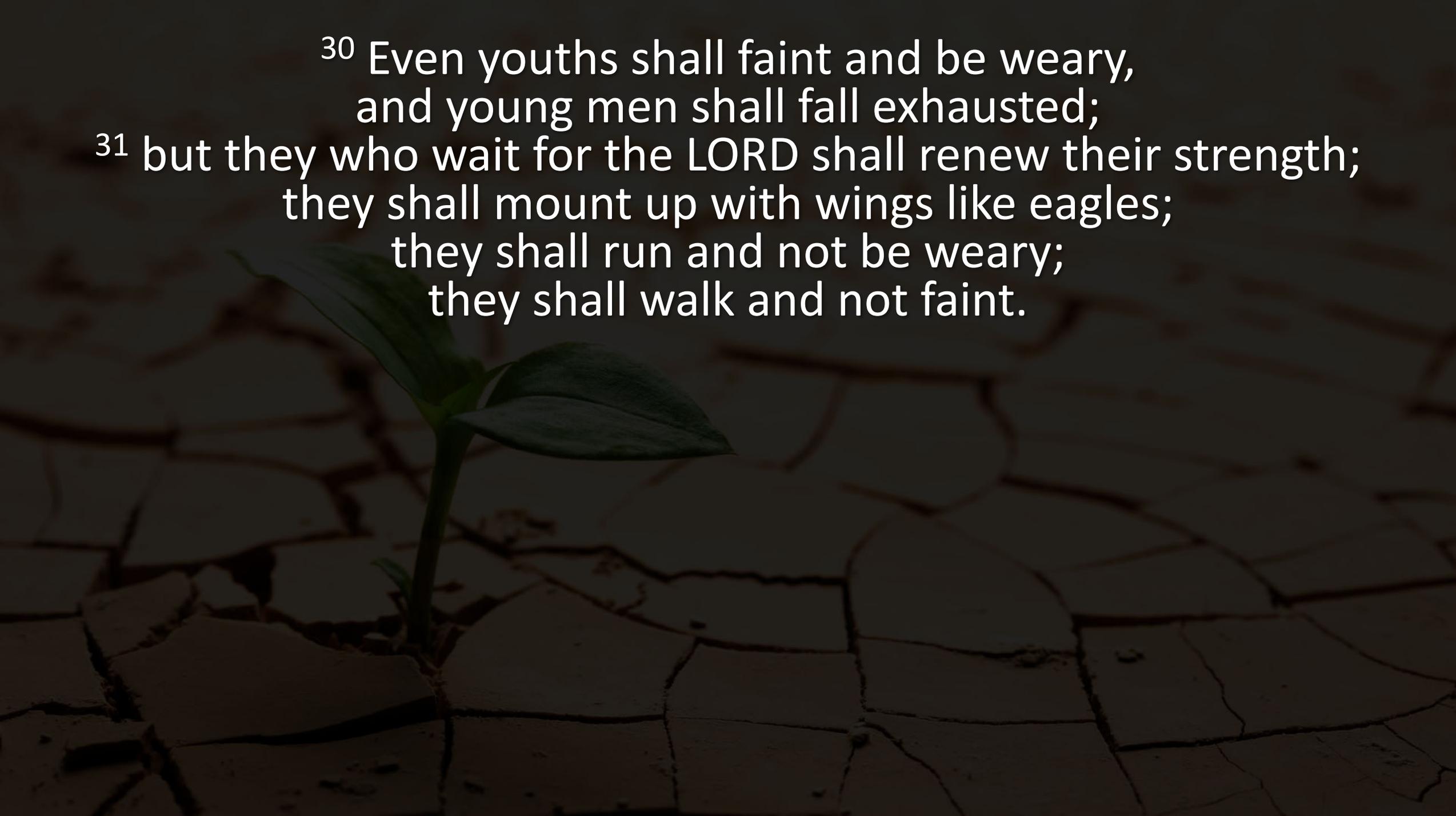
⁵ And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,
and all flesh shall see it together,
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”

²⁷ Why do you say, O Jacob,
and speak, O Israel,
“My way is hidden from the LORD,
and my right is disregarded by my God”?

²⁸ 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.

²⁹ He gives power to the faint,
and to him who has no might he increases strength.

³⁰ Even youths shall faint and be weary,
and young men shall fall exhausted;
³¹ but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength;
they shall mount up with wings like eagles;
they shall run and not be weary;
they shall walk and not faint.



Warfare
Iniquity
Wilderness
Desert
Valley
Mountain
Uneven Ground
Rough Places
Weary
Fall Exhausted

Genesis 3:24

He drove out the man, and at the east of the garden of Eden he placed the cherubim and a flaming sword that turned every way to guard the way to the tree of life.

Scripture is brutally honest about pain, not denying, minimizing or placating.

Comfort vs. Being Comfortable



Aden Morgan

Pain is never generic.
It has a face.
A name.

You: Were, Are, Will Be
Others right next to you, right now.

*There's a side of Jesus
that is only visible in the dark.*

Comfort, comfort my people,
says your God.

² Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and cry to her
that her warfare is ended,
that her iniquity is pardoned
that she has received
from the LORD's hand
double for all her sins.

"Comfort, Comfort"
Exponential comfort

"My People"
Your Father, Your Groom, is
personally coming for you

"Tenderly"
God knows your pain and
gently comes to you.

³⁰ Even youths shall faint and be weary,
and young men shall fall exhausted;

³¹ but they who wait for the LORD
shall renew their strength;
they *shall* mount up with wings like eagles;
they *shall* run and not be weary;
they *shall* walk and not faint.

Promise #1:
You WILL faint and be weary

Promise #2:
God Will Not

Promise #3:
God Will Renew Us

**“and cry to her that
her warfare is ended”**



Matthew 26:36-39

Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples, “Sit here, while I go over there and pray.”³⁷ And taking with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, he began to be sorrowful and troubled.³⁸ Then he said to them, “My soul is very sorrowful, even to death; remain here, and watch with me.”³⁹ And going a little farther he fell on his face and prayed, saying, “My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will.

We have a God who actually understands pain

The Paraklete

John 16:7

Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the **Helper** will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you.

John 14:25

These things I have spoken to you while I am still with you. ²⁶ But the **Helper**, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.

Matthew 11:28

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

Psalm 23

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

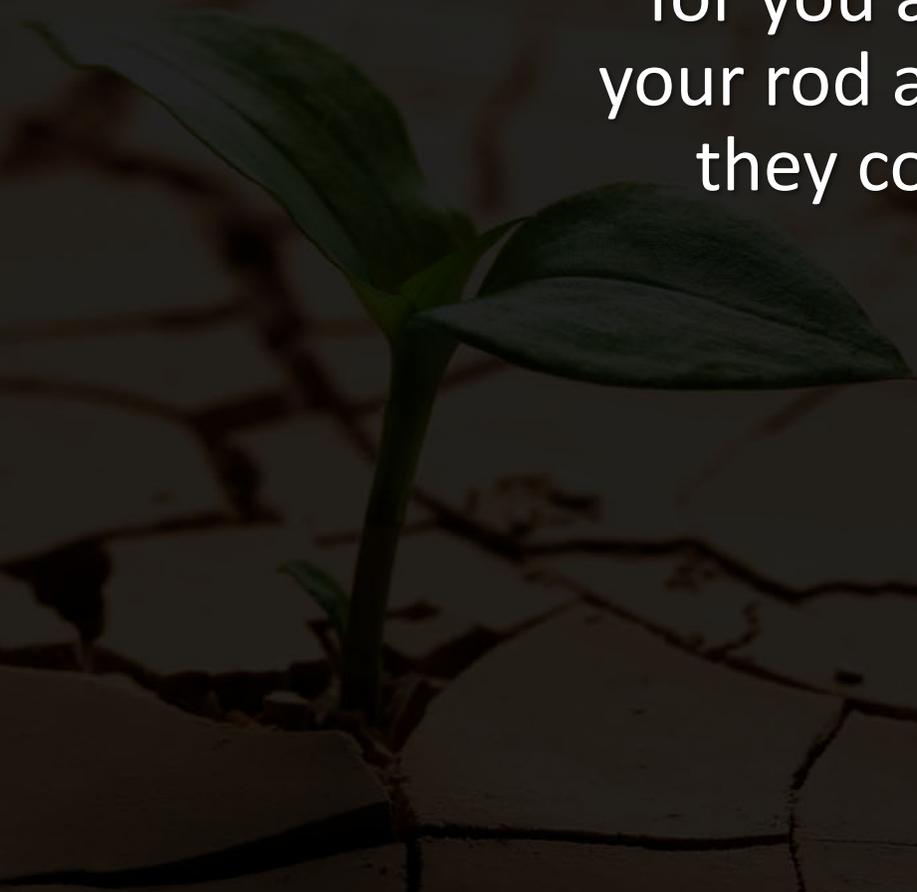
² He makes me lie down in green pastures.

He leads me beside still waters.

³ He restores my soul.

He leads me in paths of righteousness
for his name's sake.

⁴ Even though I walk through
the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil,
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.

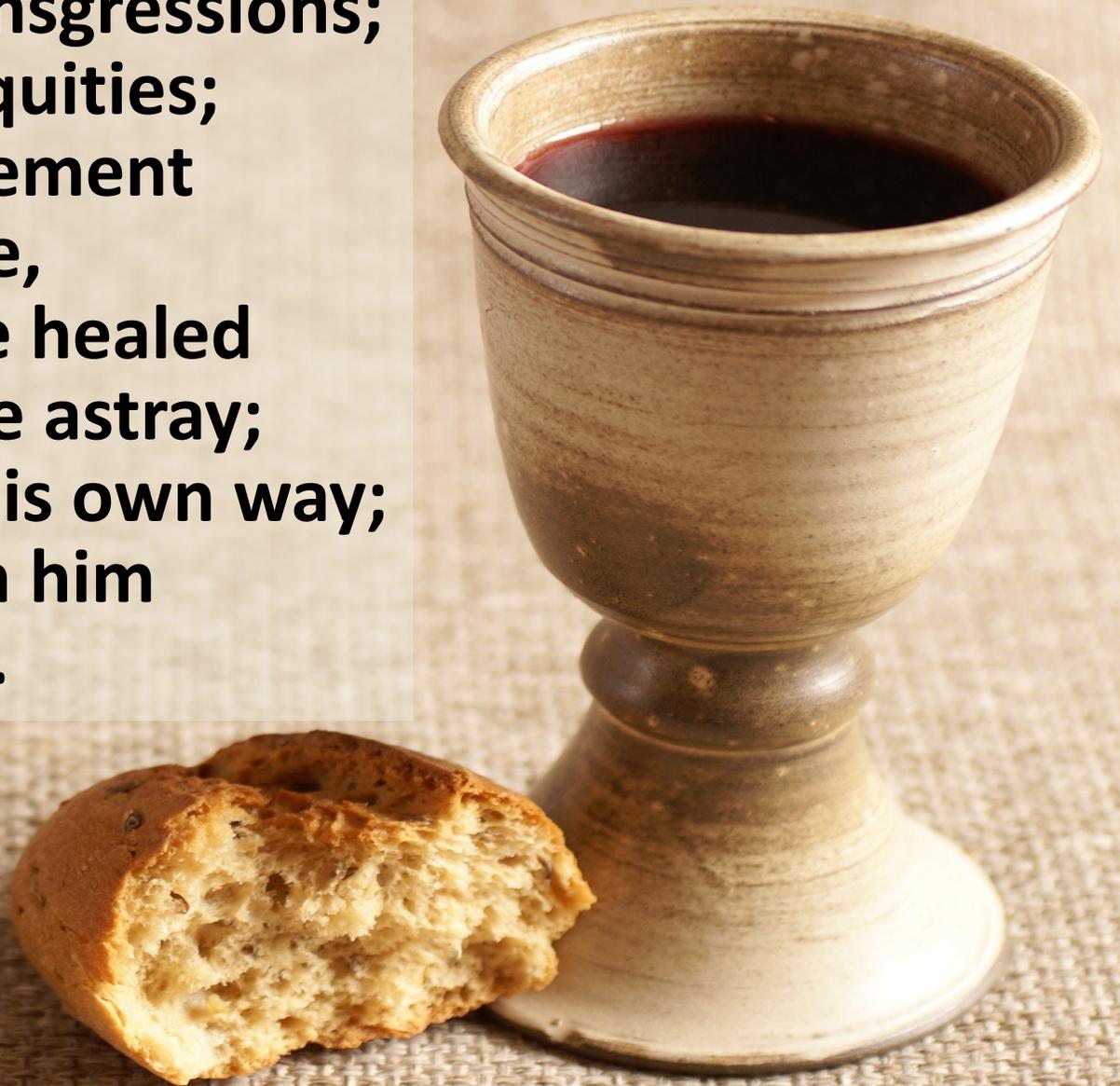


⁵ You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.

⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD
forever.

Isaiah 5

**⁵ But he was pierced for our transgressions;
he was crushed for our iniquities;
upon him was the chastisement
that brought us peace,
and with his wounds we are healed
⁶ All we like sheep have gone astray;
we have turned, every one, to his own way;
and the LORD has laid on him
the iniquity of us all.**



Mark 1

¹ The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ,
the Son of God.

² As it is written in Isaiah the prophet,

*“Behold, I send my messenger before your face,
who will prepare your way,*

³ the voice of one crying in the wilderness:

*‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight,’”*

⁴ John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness
and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for
the forgiveness of sins.

Already...
Not Yet...

God has and is
making all
things new.

Look Backwards

*“with thanksgiving”
Joshua stacked 12 stones
as a reminder.*

Create an Ebenezer.

Philippians 4

*⁶ do not be anxious about anything,
but in everything by prayer and
supplication with thanksgiving let
your requests be made known to
God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which
surpasses all understanding, will
guard your hearts and your minds
in Christ Jesus.*

Look Backwards

*“with thanksgiving”
Joshua stacked 12 stones
as a reminder.*

Create an Ebenezer.

Look Forward

Psalm 30:5b

*Weeping may tarry for the night,
but joy comes with the morning.*

You might be in-between waves

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but in everything by prayer and
supplication with thanksgiving let
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Look Upward

The Healing of Worship.

66 Psalms are Laments, and almost all of them end in worship.

Psalm 13

¹ How long, O LORD? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me?

⁵ But I have trusted in your steadfast love; my heart shall rejoice in your salvation. ⁶ I will sing to the LORD, because he has dealt bountifully with me.

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Look Around

We need each other.

1 Thessalonians 5:11

Therefore encourage one another and build one another up...

Look Inward (1)

You are not alone. The Holy Spirit Himself is in you, “groaning” to the Father on your behalf.

Romans 8:26

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words.

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Look Inward (2)

All of us are constantly talking to ourselves, telling our hearts what to do and how to think.

Intentionally speak the Gospel to yourself.

Psalm 42:5

Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me?

Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation.

Look Outward

*Get unstuck in your own darkness.
Comforting others comforts our own hearts.*

2 Corinthians 1:3

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, 4 who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.

Isaiah was speaking to us while also speaking to literal slaves...



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TO END
SLAVERY**


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Talk with Courtney Lotz in the back.

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³¹ ***but they who wait for the LORD***
shall renew their strength;
they shall mount up with wings like eagles;
they shall run and not be weary;
they shall walk and not faint.

“Wait”

Active, not passive.

For a wedding, not a funeral

He has already come

And is coming again

Revelation 21

¹ Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more.

² And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. ⁴ He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”

⁵ And he who was seated on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things new.”

Psalm 130

Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD!

² O Lord, hear my voice!

Let your ears be attentive
to the voice of my pleas for mercy!

³ If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities,
O Lord, who could stand?

⁴ But with you there is forgiveness,
that you may be feared.

⁵ I wait for the LORD, my soul waits,
and in his word I hope;

⁶ my soul waits for the Lord
more than watchmen for the morning,
more than watchmen for the morning.

⁷ O Israel, hope in the LORD!
For with the LORD there is steadfast love,
and with him is plentiful redemption.

⁸ And he will redeem Israel
from all his iniquities.