III. God's surety for His promises (Isa. 40:26-31).

A. The guarantee of God as Creator (Isa. 40:26).

To the discouraged, downhearted, dismayed, faltering people in Babylon, God now commands them to look up!!

Every night that goes by, every season that comes, every year that unfolds, the stars and heavenly bodies emerge in the sky.

Not one star goes missing or is overlooked by God for He knows all their attributes, qualities, and characteristics. All of their movements, locations in the sky, speed, distance from each other, and intensity of light are all known to God.

"If God, who loves His children as a devoted Father, looks after each inanimate heavenly body, will He not care for His sons and daughters?" (Hailey 339).

B. The guarantee of God as Preserver (Isa. 40:27).

Transition: Was God powerful enough to keep His word? Was He watching over the people when He seemed to have forgotten them or was nowhere to be found? Had God grown weak and tired waiting on His people? Had God died? Isaiah is about to confirm that God was still around and great as ever!

C. The guarantee of God's Greatness (Isa. 40:28-29).

****The God of eternity is Jehovah (40:28b)** - Jehovah is the eternal God, without beginning or ending. He is not under the control of time for He created time. His attributes and perfections are eternal. He is the self-existing, all-provident One. Therefore, when He says that He watches over His children, they can be assured of His never-ending presence. What Divine reassurance!

**God is Creator of the entire earth (40:28c)

****God does not faint or grow weary (40:28d)** – God does not become tired, nor does He ever become depleted in strength or energy. Frailty is not in His vocabulary or a part of His character.

****God is omniscient (40:28e)** –God knows absolutely everything. No man can truly grasp how great and wise God is.

Yet, God can be known. He provided a most excellent way to know Him through His Son, Jesus Christ. The Bible confirms this throughout its pages.

Certainly, then God knew and cared for the Israelites plight!

****God is powerful (40:29)** – Since God is not weary or weak He will have all the power and strength to meet the needs of the weary: His people.

Exhausted through suffering, the antidote they needed was a dose of Jehovah's power. Anyone that receives and trusts in that strength of the eternal God will never go wrong.

D. The guarantee of man's frailty (Isa. 40:30).

Despite all the training, weightlifting, running, body building, exercise, vitamins, and specialty drinks, the young men grow fatigued.

E. The guarantee of trusting in God and His promises (Isa. 40:31).

Those who wait on Jehovah will be given great blessings. The concept of *waiting upon the Lord* means *to be full of hope, to have trust or confidence in someone*. In the OT this refers to the remnant who patiently longed for the Lord to fulfill His promise of the coming Redeemer (Luke 2:25, 38). But for us today it means we wait on God to fulfill His future promises to us.

To the hurting, to the hopeless, to those with tears, trials, and problems, Isaiah now boasts of the mighty power of God. This does not mean their captivity would be over immediately or their problems would cease to exist. What this means is that those who trust in the Lord, place their dependence and hope in His word, and confidently wait for Him to further act will now be able to rise above all their problems, trials, and current situations.

These people will *renew their strength*, a phrase meaning "to reestablish on a new, usually improved, basis or make new or like new".¹ The thought is to exchange one's strength for a better strength. Man's weakness is clear (v. 30), while God's strength is also obvious in this chapter. Poor is exchanged for power.

God Hath Not Promised by Annie Johnson Flint

God hath not promised skies always blue, Flower-strewn pathways all our lives through;
God hath not promised sun without rain, Joy without sorrow, peace without pain.
God hath not promised we shall not know Toil and temptation, trouble and woe;
He hath not told us we shall not bear many a burden, many a care.
God hath not promised smooth roads and wide, Swift, easy travel, needing no guide;
Never a mountain rocky and steep, Never a river turbid and deep
But God hath promised strength for the day, Rest for the labor, light for the way,
Grace for the trials, help from above, Unfailing sympathy, undying love

Maybe you have tried to soar, but in the end you have fallen. The smaller issue is that we fall, for certainly we truly do all fall many times. The greater tragedy is not trying to fly again. If you are discouraged, if you have fallen, lift up your heart to the truth: "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

²

¹ Brannan, R., ed. (2020). In *Lexham Research Lexicon of the Hebrew Bible*. Lexham Press.