

#1 "Comfort My People" Isaiah 40

SIX WAYS for God's People to Find COMFORT during Disheartening Days

1. Take Comfort in the fact that God's Judgment of your <u>SINS</u> has been Completed

Isaiah 40:1 (NIV) Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. ²Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her hard service has been completed, that her sin has been paid for, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins.

2. Take Comfort in the realization that Preparations are being made for God's Arrival and the Universal Display of His GLORY

Isaiah 40:3 A voice of one calling: "In the desert prepare the way for the LORD; make straight in the wilderness a highway for our God. ⁴ Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain. ⁵ And the glory of the LORD will be revealed, and all mankind together will see it. For the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

3. Take Comfort in the truth that the Glory of Powerful People won't last, but the <u>WORD OF GOD</u> will Endure Forever

<u>Isaiah 40:6</u> A voice says, "Cry out." And I said, "What shall I cry?" "All men are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field. ⁷ The grass withers and the flowers fall, because the breath of the LORD blows on them. Surely the people are grass. ⁸ The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God stands forever."

4. Take Comfort in the announcement that God is a Sovereign Conquering King with a SHEPHERD'S HEART

<u>Isaiah 40:9</u> You who bring good tidings to Zion, go up on a high mountain. You who bring good tidings to Jerusalem, lift up your voice with a shout, lift it up, do not be afraid; say to the towns of Judah, "Here is your God!" ¹⁰See, the Sovereign LORD comes with power, and his arm rules for him. See, his reward is with him, and his recompense accompanies him. ¹¹ He tends his flock like a shepherd: He gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart; he gently leads those that have young.

"What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us." --A. W. Tozer

5. Take Comfort in Knowing that your God is Incomparably Big, Strong, and <u>WISE</u>, and has No Equal (*Isaiah 40:12-26*)

The LORD alone towers over all of creation!
The LORD alone towers over all the nations!
The LORD alone towers above all rulers!
The LORD alone towers above all supposed deities!
Nothing and no one compares to God!

6. Take Comfort that Your Tireless God is Not Unaware of your Difficulties and stands ready to Offer His <u>STRENGTH</u> to His Weary Ones who put their <u>HOPE</u> Fully in Him

<u>Isaiah 40:27</u> Why do you say, O Jacob, and complain, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the LORD; my cause is disregarded by my God"? ²⁸ Do you not know? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. ²⁹ He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. ³⁰ Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; ³¹ but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

When you are tired and worn out, weary from life's challenges, emotionally depleted, disheartened by the prospect of a dismal future, and maybe even inclined to throw in the towel or seek escape into fantasy,

YOU CAN FIND RENEWED STRENGTH!

to soar like an eagle and run like the wind by putting your hope fully in The Sovereign Lord, The Good Shepherd Who cares deeply for your soul!