

## Waiting Upon the Lord (*El Estero June 13, 2021*)

Have you not **known**? Have you not **heard**? The everlasting God, the Lord, The Creator of the ends of the earth, **Neither faints nor is weary**. His understanding is unsearchable.

He gives power to the weak, And to those who have no might He increases strength.

**Even the youths shall faint and be weary**, And the young men shall utterly fall,  
**But those who wait on 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**.

(Isaiah 40:28-31)

### I. Introduction:

- a. *Wish this to be interactive, un-mute yourself if you wish to respond.*
- b. Blood pressure Rx with possible side effect of tiredness or fatigue.  
**How many of you already feel TIRED all the time? Worn out/weary?**
- c. FAINT & WEARY is repeated 3X in this passage
  - i. The everlasting God... **NEITHER** faints nor is weary
  - ii. Even the youths **SHALL** faint and be weary
  - iii. Those who wait on the Lord... **NOT** be weary and **NOT** faint.

### II. PROBLEM of REDUCED strength:

- a. **Do you know what is making you weak & tired?** ...5 possibilities
- b. **SICKNESS** – unrelenting **illness** (drains us **physically** )
- c. **SORROW** – loss or broken **relationships** (drains us **emotionally**)
- d. **SIN** – the dissipation of sin (drains us **spiritually**) - Samson
  - i. Samson and his **SUPERNATURAL** strength. When you are too much into the things of this world, “**the young men shall utterly fall**”
  - ii. “O Lord God , remember me, I pray! Strengthen me, just this once”
- e. **SERVICE** – the demands of service, ministering to others
  - i. Jesus and the woman who touched his garment — “**Virtue (power) has gone out of me.**” (Mark 5:30)
  - ii. When you serve others it drains your strength
    1. Physically and Emotionally draining
    2. Hard to tell if simply **tired IN the work or tired OF the work.**”
- f. **SATAN** – the devices of Satan
  - i. **Amalek: how he met you on the way and attacked your rear ranks, all the stragglers at your rear, when you were tired and weary; and he did not fear God.** (Deuteronomy 25:18)
  - ii. When we are the weakest Satan is there ready to pounce
    1. Make us focus on the **circumstances, others, ourselves**
    2. To make us **discouraged, sad and lose faith**
    3. To make us **physically, emotionally, & spiritually** weak
- g. What makes this even harder is we often go through it alone: **lonely struggle**.
  - i. **No one** seems to **know** what we are going through and those who might know, does not fully **understand** what we are experiencing.
  - ii. **But God knows our struggles**: “**His understanding** is unsearchable”

- III. PROMISE of RENEWED Strength
- a. The **Promise**: “But those who wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength”
  - b. “**renew**” - “EXCHANGE”
    - i. We exchange OUR **weakness** for HIS **strength**.
    - ii. “HE does not faint and is never weary.”
    - iii. Finally, my brethren, **be strong in the Lord** and in the power of **His might**. (Ephesians 6:10)
  - c. Therefore, **we do not lose heart**. Even though our OUTWARD man is perishing, yet the INWARD man is being renewed day by day. (2 Cor 4:16)
  - d. Promise with a **Condition**:
    - i. They that “WAIT UPON THE LORD” shall renew their strength.
    - ii. Not simply to just wait but to wait FOR GOD, ON GOD.
    - iii. **Wait on the Lord**; Be of good courage, And He shall STRENGTHEN your heart; **Wait, I say, on the Lord!** (Psalm 27:14)
- IV. **What does it mean to “wait upon the Lord”?** ...4 Ways
- a. **LONG** for the Lord: My soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning. Yes, more than those who watch for the morning. (Ps 130:6)
    - i. **Do you Long for the Lord?** **YEARN** for Him; HUNGER & THIRST for God; WANT to KNOW Him, CHASE after Him and SEEK Him
    - ii. you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart. (Jer 29:13).
    - iii. **How much God do you have?** You HAVE all of God that you WANT.
  - b. **LISTEN** to the Lord: **Blessed is the man who LISTENS to me**, watching daily at my gates, **Waiting** at the posts of my doors. (Prov 8:34)
    - i. Our prayers: often TELLING God what to do and what we want. To wait on the Lord is to ask the Lord, “**What do YOU want me to do?**”
    - ii. David’s prayer: **SHOW ME** Your ways, O Lord; **TEACH ME** Your paths. **LEAD ME** in Your truth and teach me, For You are the God of my salvation; On You I **wait** all the day. (Ps 25:4-5). **OBEY** Him
  - c. **LOOK** to the Lord: “And now, Lord, what do I **wait** for? **My HOPE is in You**.” (Ps 39:7)
    - i. **DEPEND** upon Him/ **TRUST** Him: **My soul, wait silently for God ALONE**, for my expectation is from Him. (Psalm 62:5)
    - ii. **Rest in the Lord**, and **wait patiently** for Him; **Do not fret** because of him who prospers in his way, Because of the man who brings wicked schemes to pass. For evildoers shall be cut off; But those who **wait on the Lord**, They shall inherit the earth. (Psalm 37:7,9)
  - d. **LIVE** for the Lord: To wait on the master is to **SERVE** the master. **Waiter**
    - i. **Whoever keeps the fig tree will eat its fruit; So he who waits on his MASTER will be honored**. (Prov 27:18) He is **LORD**
    - ii. Why should God give you strength to serve yourself, your sinful desires, or the devil? (to the least of these, you’ve done it unto Me)

- V. PURPOSE of RELEASED Strength: **Have you ever experienced God's strength?**  
 3 basic times of our lives when we need supernatural strength:
- a. **"They shall mount up with wings as eagles"**
    - i. Power to rise above **times of ADVERSITY**
    - ii. Eagle is not afraid of the storm. He soars the highest to the heavens!
    - iii. Strength to master the **STORMS of life**.
      1. The times we grow the most are the times when we have the winds of adversity in our lives.
      2. Times when we go at it **ALONE**.
  - b. **"They shall run, and not be weary;"**
    - i. Power to run in **times of SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY**.
    - ii. Times of special tasks that require an extra surge of energy.
    - iii. Philip the evangelist and the Holy Spirit. "Go near & overtake chariot"
    - iv. How many opportunities have we missed because we did not have the strength needed and were not sensitive to the Spirit?
    - v. Labor of Love —> Joy of the Lord —> is my strength!
  - c. **"They shall walk and not faint."**
    - i. Power to resolve in **times of NECESSITY**.
    - ii. Anti-climatic? No, the last is the most important, it is Where we live most of our lives
      1. Hard to **stand in the sun all day** without fainting
      2. Hard to walk a marathon day after day without fainting
    - iii. it is a lot of work to live each day and not faint...
    - iv. His **GRACE** is sufficient
- VI. Conclusion: We are to wait upon the Lord but it is interesting that **the Lord is also waiting upon us...**
- a. **Therefore the Lord will wait, that He may be gracious to you; ... Blessed are all those who wait for Him.** (Isaiah 30:18)
  - b. **What does it mean for God to wait?** God is **longing** for you (He loves you), He is **listening** to your prayers, He is **looking** for you to turn to Him to Trust Him to provide all that you need and Christ is **living** in you to give you His strength so that you will run and not be weary, walk and not faint.
  - c. **"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."** (Matthew 11:28)
    - i. **Are you tired and weary?** Jesus is able to give you the rest you need.
    - ii. To restore you physically, emotionally, and spiritually
    - iii. All He asks of you is... "Come to Me". **Will you go to Jesus today?**
  - d. And He said to me, **"My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness."** Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in **my infirmities**, that the **power of Christ** may rest upon me. Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ's sake. **For when I am weak, then I am strong.** (2 Cor 12:9-10)