

## ***“Have You Not Heard?”***

**Isaiah 40:28-31**

**On Monday, December 8, 1941, President Franklin Roosevelt addressed a Joint Session of Congress to officially inform the American people of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. He would also ask the Congress for a declaration of war. He told them that December 7, 1941 would be remembered as a date that would “live in infamy.” The president said that there was “severe damage to American naval and military forces,” and that “very many American lives have been lost.” Specifically the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor killed 2,402 people, and 21 ships were damaged or sunk, and 188 planes were destroyed and 159 were damaged.**

**After telling of the Japanese deception and attack, President Roosevelt said that “the American people in their righteous might will win through to absolute victory.” Had the American people known how many were killed and how much was lost, and how unprepared our military was, they would doubt winning “absolute victory.” Though it took four long, bloody years, the United States and her allies defeated the Axis powers.**

**The people of Israel felt that God had abandoned them. They could not see how they could return to their land after being in captivity and slavery for so long. They said, “My way is hidden from the Lord, and my claim is ignored by my God” (v. 27b). God not only had the ability and strength to deliver His people from captivity and return**

**them home, but He would renew their lives and bless them in abundance. This passage of scripture teaches us about God’s ability to give us hope and encouragement in uncertain times.**

### **1. Focus on God, not your circumstances (40:28)**

***“Do you not know? Have you not heard? Yahweh is the everlasting God, the Creator of the whole earth. He never grows faint or weary; there is no limit to His understanding.”***

- The people of Israel were overwhelmed and in despair. They could not see God working to deliver them from captivity and returning them to their homeland. They were too focused on their circumstances to see who God was and what He could do. Isaiah asked, “Do you not know? Have you not heard?” He reminded his people that their God was everlasting, and that He was the Creator of the world. He is never overwhelmed, weary, or confused. He has all knowledge and wisdom. He knows what to do for His people**
- Are you so focused on your circumstances that you miss who God is and what He has done? Worship God for who He is, and for what He has done. Confess your fear and lack of faith. Ask Him to help you. The writer of Hebrews said: “Since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith, let us strip off every weight that**

*slows us down, especially the sin that so easily hinders our progress. And let us run with endurance the race that God has set before us. We do this by keeping our eyes on Jesus, on whom our faith depends from start to finish” (Hebrews 12:1-2a). The writer was saying to the readers: focus on Jesus, not your circumstances. Live out your faith daily. Our Savior does not grow “faint or weary,” and “there is no limit to His understanding.”*

2. Trust in God, not in yourself (40:29-31)

*“But those who trust 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 faint.”*

- The people of Israel were focused on their circumstances and their own abilities. They could not get passed the overwhelming situation that they found themselves in. Isaiah told them to trust in the Lord, not in themselves. The word “*trust*” in Hebrew means “*to put confidence in.*” He told his people to put confidence in the Lord and not in man. David said: “*Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God*” (Psalm 20:7). King David did not put his confidence in his army, but in the Lord.
- In whom or what do you have confidence? Put your confidence or trust in God. When you put trust in God, He will do two things: He will give strength to the weary and powerless, and He will renew your

strength as you live day to day. The word “*renew*” in Hebrew means “*to exchange.*” When you put your trust in God, He will exchange your weakness for His strength. He will exchange your crisis for His peace. You will “*soar on wings like eagles;*” you will “*run and not grow weary;*” you will “*walk and not faint.*” He can accomplish this because He is “*the everlasting God, the Creator of the whole earth*” (v. 28b).

*“Do you not know? Have you not heard?”* God loves you, and He wants you to trust in Him, no matter what your circumstances. He wants to renew your strength; He wants you to soar like an eagle. Trust in the Lord!