

Speaker: Pastor Buster Brown

Today's Message: Strength for the Journey

Today's Text: Isaiah 40:28-31

“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.” **Isaiah 40:28-31**

We live before an i_____, e_____, and r_____ God.

Steps to Renewal As We Live in Expectation Before God

1. P_____ know the character of God. (v. 28)

“This one true and living God is infinitely perfect both in his love and in his holiness. He is the Creator of all things, visible and invisible, and is therefore worthy to receive all glory and adoration. Immortal and eternal, he perfectly and exhaustively knows the end from the beginning, sustains and sovereignly rules over all things, and providentially brings about his eternal good purposes to redeem a people for himself and restore his fallen creation...”

The Gospel Coalition, Confessional Statement, Article 1, *The Tri-une God*

2. Understand that life is s_____ and the creature is dependent upon the Creator. (Isaiah 1:6-8)

“As for me, I said in my prosperity, ‘I shall never be moved.’ By your favor, O Lord, you made my mountain stand strong; you hid your face; I was dismayed.” **Psalms 30:6-7**

3. Rejoice in the Lord who i_____ and e_____. (v. 29)

“For the simple are KILLED by their turning away, and the complacency of fools DESTROYS them; but whoever listens to me will DWELL SECURE and will be at ease, without dread of disaster.” **Proverbs 1:32-33**

“When you did awesome things that we did not look for, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From of old no one has heard or perceived by the ear, no eye has seen a God besides you, WHO ACTS FOR THOSE WHO WAIT for him.” **Isaiah 64: 3-4**

“And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he REWARDS those who seek him.”

Hebrews 11:6

GOD IS MOST GLORIFIED IN US WHEN WE ARE MOST SATISFIED IN HIM.

ANSWER KEY: inviting, empowering, replenishing, short, invites, empowers

“What Satan put into the heads of our remote ancestors was the idea that they could ‘be like gods’ —could set up on their own as if they had created themselves—be their own masters—invent some sort of happiness for themselves outside God, apart from God. And out of that hopeless attempt has come nearly all that we call human history—money, poverty, ambition, war, prostitution, classes, empires, slavery—the long terrible story of man trying to find something other than God which will make him happy.

The reason why it can never succeed is this. God made us: invented us as a man invents an engine. A car is made to run on gasoline, and it would not run properly on anything else. Now God designed the human machine to run on Himself. He Himself is the fuel our spirits were designed to burn, or the food our spirits were designed to feed on. There is no other. That is why it is just no good asking God to make us happy in our own way without bothering about religion. God cannot give us a happiness and peace apart from Himself, because it is not there. There is no such thing.” **CS Lewis**, Mere Christianity, p. 54

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

- 1) Which quality/attribute of God from Isaiah 4:28 is most comforting/relevant to you today?
Everlasting God
Creator
All-powerful and Unwearied
The Fountain
Inexhaustible Source (of wisdom)
- 2) Give examples of the Psalm 30:6-7 experience. How do we guard against forgetfulness of our daily dependence on the Lord?
- 3) What is the difference between the simple who “turn away” and the “complacency of fools”? (Proverbs 1:32)
- 4) What is the “reward” of Hebrews 11:6?
- 5) What is the “fight” to find satisfaction (and empower renewal) in the triune God?

###