Isaiah 40:27-31: At the time of this prophecy, Hezekiah was King in Judah.

Isaiah 40 revealed some of the most wonderful future promises ever written to the people of Israel. Isaiah in (C39) had just told Hezekiah about their captivity that would come in their near future when they would be overtaken by Babylon.

But now in (C40), Isaiah prophesied of a wonderful time and the best time in Israel's future history. <u>Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11</u>

<u>These promises were written some 700 years before they were fulfilled in the coming of their Messiah.</u>

Beloved, much of our daily Christian life is defined by living and walking by faith and obedience to God and His Word, daily seeking His presence and communing with Him in prayer, and then, by every day, patiently waiting upon God and simply trusting and believing God in what He has taught us in His Word. It's the last part that is so difficult, especially the waiting part!

We don't like to wait, but brethren this is where we must trust and be patient in our Lord and believe Him that He knows what is best for us.

As time continues, and we watch things getting worse and worse all around us, and we see the wicked sinning with impunity and boldness and in rebellion against God, (IF that's what we focus on) we will become cast down, grow weary, and faint BECAUSE we are focused on the wrong things.

As difficult as it may be at times, we must look away from the wickedness and sin that is all around us (sometimes it's very close to us) and set our affections (our spiritual sight and focus) on things above, to that which is NOT SEEN! Because to live by sight as a Christian, and not by faith is to faint as a Christian! 2 Corinthians 4:15-17, Romans 8:18-24

If you and I are NOT CRONNING like this waiting for the

If you and I are NOT GROANING like this, waiting for the redemption of our bodies, something is WRONG in us.....that's when thoughts of doubt and unbelief will begin to arise from within us INSTEAD of this "good expectation and groaning", which is what we should all desire and be experiencing in our spirits within!

Groaning by faith, with the hope and expectation of eternal life will keep you from fainting in the chaos of the world!

Our text opens with a question to the people of God in Isaiah's day, and really a rebuke to them because of their faithlessness and unbelief toward God!

Isaiah 40:27: "Why sayest thou, O Jacob, and speakest, O Israel, (saying) my way is hid from the LORD, and my judgment is passed over from my God?"

They SPOKE as if God did not care for them, that He had cast them off, and their words revealed that they had already arrived at their own faulty conclusions about the mind and judgment of God toward them.... But God had not cast them off, instead, THEY HAD disregarded God's promises that were just told them by Isaiah.... Their words revealed the unbelief that was in their hearts toward God!

They had just been given the most wonderful promises from God, from "He that sitteth upon the circle of the earth", but they did not hear them! What a terrible thing when God speaks, but those to whom He speaks do not hear!

If you want to diagnose why you are fainting spiritually, this is it! You're not looking to Christ and listening to His Word! Those wonderful promises DID come to pass, according to God's Word, just as God promised!

Beloved, if you would be strengthened in your faith in Christ if you would not faint or be wearied in your Christian life, YOU NEED to be actively taking hold of God's Word and God's promises by faith, and you must continue to BELIEVE THEM through every trial and affliction in this life.... while you wait with great expectation for the promise and hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie PROMISED before the world began!

Your eternal inheritance is coming, keep that truth before your eyes!

You must not lose hope in God's promises, to do so is to lose hope in God, if that happens, you will faint in the day of adversity!

If you would have the Kingdom of Christ on that day, you must take it with violence and by force today and every day!

If you would not faint in this chaotic and wicked world, you must consistently be feeding on God's Holy Word, (you must eat it up and digest its spiritual nutrients in your souls); you must esteem the Words of God to be your MOST necessary food! For it is by God's Words, that you live!

Why were the people of Israel speaking such words of fainting and unbelief toward God?

Because they simply did not believe God or trust His Word and promises to them. They were too busy, like so many are today, trying to arrogantly handle things themselves, looking to themselves, trusting in themselves, and ignoring God and His Word! Isaiah 40:26, 28-31

In (V31) we see what is to be our daily business and the work of our faith....

"But they that wait upon the LORD (because of what they hope for and anticipate from Him), they 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." Proverbs 24:10

Isaiah 41:10, Psalm 84:1-7, 73:25-26, 27:13-14, Psalm 25:5, 1 Peter 5:10, Hebrews 12:1-3

Beloved, much of our Christian life is defined by believing God's Word, walking by faith, and obedience to God's Word... And by patiently waiting upon God by faith to fulfill His promises to us.