

“You Gotta Have Hope”
Isa 40:31 (NIV)

Isa 40:31 (NIV) *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.*

Dr. Harold Wolfe said, “When a man has hope he’s capable of bearing incredible burdens and cruel punishment. But when hope is gone, people fall apart - emotionally, physically and spiritually.”

Pearl Buck said, “To eat bread without hope is to slowly starve.”

The New Testament word for ‘hope’ means confident expectation.

There are three things about hope that I need to consider.

I. The reasons for losing hope.

A. The demands of survival.

Job 14:1 *Man who is born of woman is of few days and full of trouble*

Job 5:7 *Yet man is born to trouble, As the sparks fly upward.*

B. The disruption of sadness.

C. The duties of service.

Isa 40:3 *Even the youths shall faint and be weary, And the young men shall utterly fall*

D. The destruction of sin.

E. The designs of Satan.

II. The restoration of lost hope.

Ps 23:3 *He restores my soul*

The word ‘restore’ means to renew.

Isa 40:31 *But those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength*

The Hebrew word for ‘renew’ means new growth after pruning.

John 15:2 *... every branch that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit.*

Isa 35:1 *The desert shall ... blossom as a rose*

III. The revelations of lost hope.

There are three truths about the Lord that will help renew my hope.

A. His presence is watching over me.

Jehovah Shammah means “The God who is always there.”

Ps 139:7-8 (NIV) *Where can I go from your spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? If I go up to the Heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there*

Ps 23:4 (CEV) *Even though I walk through a valley as dark as death I will not be afraid because You, Lord, are with me*

Heb 13:5 *I will never leave you or forsake you*

Matt 28:20 ... *Lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age*

B. His power is working for me.

Isa 40:28-31 *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. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; 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*

Isa 40:12 (NIV) *who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand ...*

Isa 40:15 *Surely the nations are as a drop in a bucket*

Isa 40:23 (NIV) *He brings princes to naught and reduces the rulers of this world to nothing*

Isa. 40:26 (NIV) *Lift your eyes and look to the Heavens: who created all of these? He who brings out the starry host one by one, and calls them each by name ...*

Isa 40:11 (NIV) *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*

C. His promise is witnessing to me.

Isa 40:31 *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*

1. He promises soaring power.

Isa 40:31 ... *They will soar on wings like eagles ...*

2. He promises surging power.

Isa 40:31 ... *they shall run and not grow weary ...*

II Cor 4:16 ... *the outward man is perishing but the inward man is renewed day by day*

3. He promises staying power.

Isa 40:31 (NIV) ... *they will walk and not faint*

IV. The response to lost hope.

Rom 15:13 *Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.*

Faith is the mother of hope.

Hope is the child of faith.

It is God and God alone who can restore my hope.