



Word on Wednesday Bible Study
Rev. Quonzeles Byrd
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Never Abandon Hope – Isaiah 40:28-31

The book of Isaiah is like a miniature Bible. The first thirty-nine chapters (like the thirty-nine books of the Old Testament) are filled with judgment upon immoral and idolatrous men. Judah has sinned; the surrounding nations have sinned; the whole earth has sinned. Judgment must come, for God cannot allow such blatant sin to go unpunished forever. But the final twenty-seven chapters (like the twenty-seven books of the New Testament) declare a message of **hope**. The Messiah is coming as a Savior and a Sovereign to bear a cross and to wear a crown.

Isaiah's prophetic ministry, which spanned the reigns of four kings of Judah, lasted at least 40 years. Yesha'yahu, which is shortened to Yeshaiah, means "Yahweh Is Salvation." This name is an excellent summary of the book's contents. The Greek form in the Septuagint is Hesaias, and the Latin form is Esaias or Isaias.

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Isaiah 40:28-31 speaks to the enduring strength and power of God. It is part of a larger passage in which the prophet Isaiah delivers a message of hope and encouragement to the people of Israel who are in captivity in Babylon. This text describes God as the Creator, and that He has the power to sustain what he creates and that He is an ever-present help. There is no god like the God of Israel. He promises that those who hope in Him will have their strength renewed.

In times of overwhelming odds, when things look hopeless, we, the believers, are never to abandon our hope. And that is the message that God had Isaiah deliver then, and it is a message for us today.

Isaiah 40:28-31

28 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.

29 *He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.*

30 *Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall;*

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.*
