**Sermon Title: Perseverance: Pressing On in the Power of Christ** **Text: Part 2: The Strength behind Perseverance Isaiah 40:27–31. Key Thought: We don’t endure in our own strength, but in His.**

### **INTRODUCTION**

**Recap from Week 1: The Call to Endure (Hebrews 10:32–39)**
Last week, we learned from Hebrews 10:32–39 that enduring faith is essential for every Christian. The early believers had suffered greatly and were tempted to give up. But the writer urged them not to throw away their confidence, which has a great reward. We were reminded that our endurance is fueled by remembering God’s past faithfulness, holding fast in the present, and looking forward to the future promise. *“We are not of those who shrink back to destruction, but of those who have faith to the preserving of the soul.”*

**Transition to Week 2:**
But that raises a question: *Where do we find the strength to endure?* That’s the focus of this week’s message: **“Perseverance: Pressing On in the Power of Christ.”** Let’s open our Bibles to Isaiah 40:27–31.

### **POINT 1: GOD SEES OUR STRUGGLES (vv. 27–28)**

**Text:** *“Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, ‘My way is hidden from the Lord, and my right is disregarded by my God’?”* (v. 27)

**Explanation:**
The people of Israel were in a season of exile, hardship, and spiritual discouragement. They felt forgotten. They cried out, “God, do you even see me? Do you care about what I’m going through?”

Isaiah confronts their doubt gently but firmly: *“Why do you say that?”* Why speak as if the everlasting God, your covenant-keeping Lord, has lost sight of you?

**Application:**
Have you ever felt like God was absent? Like your prayers hit the ceiling? Like your suffering was hidden from heaven?

**Reflect:**
- When have you felt like your way was hidden from the Lord? - How does knowing that God sees everything in your life give you hope?

**Encouragement:**
Verse 28 reminds us: *“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.”* God sees you. He knows you. He’s not too tired, too distracted, or too confused to care for you.

**Transition:**
Not only does God see your struggles, but He also provides the strength you need.

### **POINT 2: GOD SUPPLIES STRENGTH TO THE WEARY (v. 29)**

**Text:** *“He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might He increases strength.”*

**Explanation:**
This is not just poetic encouragement. This is a promise. God gives strength to those who have none.

**Scriptural Support:**
Paul echoes this truth in 2 Corinthians 12:9, *“My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.”*

**Application:**
Some of you today are emotionally weary. Spiritually exhausted. Physically drained. You don’t need to fake it or tough it out. You need to turn to God and receive His strength.

**Reflect:**
- What areas of your life are you trying to persevere in your own strength? - How can you daily posture your heart to receive strength from God?

**Encouragement:**
You don’t have to power through. You have a Savior who says, *“Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.”* (Matt. 11:28)

**Transition:**
But it gets even better. God not only gives strength for the moment—He empowers you to keep going.

### **POINT 3: GOD SUSTAINS THOSE WHO WAIT ON HIM (vv. 30–31)**

**Text:** *“Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength.”*

**Explanation:**
Even the strongest among us run out of strength. Teenagers, athletes, leaders—everyone has a breaking point. But those who wait on the Lord will find renewed strength.

**Word Study:**
To “wait” doesn’t mean passive waiting. It means to hope, to trust, to expect from the Lord. It’s active dependence.

**Illustration:**
Think of the eagle. It doesn’t flap and strain to fly. It stretches its wings and rides the wind. So too, when you wait on the Lord, His Spirit lifts you.

**Scriptural Echo:**
Exodus 19:4 — *“I bore you on eagles’ wings and brought you to Myself.”*

**Promise:**
- You will **mount up** with wings like eagles: That’s overcoming power. - You will **run** and not grow weary: That’s enduring grace. - You will **walk** and not faint: That’s daily perseverance.

**Application:**
- What does it look like in your life to actively wait on the Lord? - How can you build rhythms of trust into your daily routine?

**Encouragement:**
Don’t run on empty. Don’t try to persevere in your own strength. Wait on the Lord. Rest in Him. He promises to renew you.

### **CONCLUSION**

**Recap:**
- God **sees** your struggles. - God **supplies** strength to the weary. - God **sustains** those who wait on Him.

**Main Idea Restated:**
**We don’t endure in our strength, but in His.**

**Call to Response:**
Where do you need to stop striving and start trusting?
Where do you need to exchange your weakness for His strength?
Will you choose today to wait on the Lord and press on in the power of Christ?