

Who is like the Lord?

Isaiah 40

Context

Isaiah 40 is the first chapter in the exile to give us a turning point for Israel. It is the first chapter in a collection of works to promote hope and a way out for Israel. Not only does it speak of the coming Messiah, but it calls Israel to be reminded of who God is. The way that they know God thus far: Creator. Chapter 40 is highly descriptive. We can picture everything that is spoken of in this form of prophesy/poetry.

Israel had seen a long time in exile. They were separated from their homeland and under the ruling of various kings and empires.

Things in America are pretty dark. You may be feeling like the world is very chaotic, and asking “God where are you?” This is a similar question that the Israelites had.

Isaiah doesn’t hold back the truth about how fragile life is he says, “All people are like grass...” (Verse 6). But the answer to weakness is seen in verse 8 “the word of our God endures forever.” Isaiah presents the promise of Jesus. He gives them attributes of God, to show them how mighty and powerful He is, that He will indeed save them from exile. When Israel keeps their eyes on who God is, it gives them hope for the future.

The Lord is still mighty, and awe inspiring. We live on the other side of the promise presented in Isaiah 40, we have the Holy Spirit as our counselor through Jesus’s death on the cross. God is not far off, but very near. Sometimes we do not “feel” Him. Can I say that there is hope for us? Scripture says to love the Lord with all of our “heart, soul, mind, and strength” (Mark 12:30). Even when our feelings aren’t connecting the way we think the ought to, we can still love the Lord with our logic, reasoning, and physical body. God is big enough to show up, even if we aren’t prepared to feel Him.

And, most of all we have “hope in the Lord” (Verse 31). When we focus on what the Lord is doing, we can have the right perspective for whatever darkness or chaos may present itself. He brings the light, He is life, and He is big enough to do works that we cannot comprehend or understand. He does not grow tired or wear of us, but promises to “renew our strength.” He is faithful, and unlike any other god in history or future.

Louie Giglio preached an extensive sermon inspired by the wonder of God and science. [Here is a link to a part of that sermon.](#)

<i>Questions</i>	• What are some areas that you are struggling to see God in right now? • God does not always act in the ways we expect. He acts in the ways that are for our good (Jeremiah 29:11) and for His glory. Do we need to give up some expectations of God, so that we can see what He is doing, and who He is instead of who we make Him to be? • What is one thing that fills you with wonder and awe of Creator God?
<i>Prayer</i>	God, you know the roadblocks that keep us from seeing you correctly. Forgive us for making you into our likeness, rather than the other way around. You know the answers to our struggles. We are listening for your truth about our family. (Take a few minutes to really listen for the Lord). Creator, would you fill us with wonder again? Please help us to know the Joy of Salvation again. Write your truth on our hearts, souls, minds, and physical bodies. Your joy and your perspective will be a shield from the enemy for us. Amen.
<i>Activity</i>	As you go through the world today, pick up something that reminds you of the wonder of our God (ex. a leaf, rock, flowers, etc). Keep it with you to remind you that no one is like our God, He made the whole earth, and you for His Glory.
<i>Resources</i>	I used biblestudytools.com, biblegateway.com, and Bible Project for the majority of this study. Each of these sites is full of great resources for you and your family regardless of learning style.
<i>Scripture references</i>	Isaiah 40, Mark 12:30, Jeremiah 29:11, Psalm 113
<i>Deeper Prayer</i>	We may have stumbled this week, we may be tired this week, but that does not mean that we have failed. Each new battle is a chance for more victory in Christ, an opportunity to surrender more of our lives to His leading. Ask the Lord to search your heart, and surrender the specific words that He gives you. Ask the Lord to fill those areas with Himself and His likeness so that you can be made more complete.