

Waiting upon the Lord for renewed strength (Quality: Good)

Disclaimer: this is an automatically generated machine transcription - there may be small errors or mistranscriptions. Please refer to the original audio if you are in any doubt.

Date: 10 October 1999

Preacher: Pont, Philip

- [0 : 00] Take your attention to the 40th chapter of the prophecy of Isaiah and the last verse, verse 31.
- Prophecy of Isaiah chapter 40 and verse 31. They that wait upon the Lord 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.
- The day that wait upon the Lord 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. I don't suppose there's many days that go by when we have to turn to this word and read it.
- [1 : 10] And remind the Lord of his promise that is in this word. For such is the pathway of the Lord's people.
- There is only one place that they shall be brought to seek and to find and to prove in the coming to the Lord that he shall fulfill this promise.
- As we read through the chapter you will have seen. I'm sure the wondrous words of the dear prophet of old.
- How he was to see the omnipotence of God. All the power and the ways of God were past finding out.
- The questions that he would ask. The questions that he asked us. To whom then will he liken God and what likeness will he compare unto him.
- [2 : 16] And then he brings us to the latter part of the chapter. Concerning the state of Israel.
- Jacob and Israel. My way is hid from the Lord and my judgment is passed over from my God. Words of comfort and encouragement follow.
- Quite remarkable ways in which he teaches us by the spirit the opposite.
- Even the years shall faint and be weary and the young men shall utterly fall. I feel this is a spiritual rather than a natural view of these people.
- But it brings us to the word of his grace. The word that is the text this day. And it speaks of the contrast and the opposite once more.
- [3 : 17] Hast thou not known, hast thou not heard, That the everlasting God, the Lord, the creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, Neither is weary.
- There is no searching of his understanding. That is, there is no one that can possibly come to the conclusion of his understanding. Or to be, shall we say, to exhaust his understanding.
- He giveth power to the faint. To them that have no might, he increaseth strength. But they that wait, who is this?

They. Well it's not generally, is it? It's not some exercise that mankind in general adheres to or seeks after.

But they. There is a people that are brought to wait upon the Lord. And God brings them to wait upon him. But how is their state and what is their condition?

[4 : 24] Are these those who are rich and in need of nothing? Well they wouldn't wait if they was. These are the poor and the needy. These are the weak.

People of God. These are the despised people of God. These are those who by the gracious spirit have been brought to see that their eyes must ever be upon the Lord.

And nowhere else. These are those who in their own strength and foolishness come to nothing. How many times do you?

I tell you how many times I do. Many times I have to say before the Lord. I quote the dear apostles words. And who is sufficient for these things?

Whatever these things are. Your path. Your trials. Your afflictions. Your sins. The place that he puts you in. That the walk and pathway that you are found in.

[5 : 27] Providentially. Spiritually. Who is sufficient for these things? The more than we can manage. They will overwhelm us. Overthrow us. If we were left to ourselves.

And if it was left to Satan. We'd come to nothing. But you know there is a blessed clause in this. The Lord has inserted a clause in the pathway of his dear people.

He's put promises in those. In the pathway he's brought them to. Know his word. And to plead his word. Underneath are the everlasting arms.

We read in Deuteronomy. But they. These people. These needy ones. These poor ones. These wholly dependent ones.

These that have burdens to bear. These that have cross-handed providences to bear. These that have crooks in the lot. These that have hard pathways to walk.

[6 : 27] These that are sinners in themselves. Taunted. Tempted. Distressed. Carts down. Brought low. But they. This is the people. And this is the clause that's in this word.

My friends. And it's written for them. And it is for their comfort. And to their consolation. And to their joy. Lifts them out of self. Takes them from the flesh. Removes them from worldly concerns.

For a moment. And they wait upon the Lord. But they. What a blessed people they are. And what a blessed God they've got. What an all sufficient helper they have.

What a merciful, faithful, high priest they have. But they that wait. Not that waiting. As it were. I don't believe in the first instance.

That it is that waiting as far as time is concerned. It's an expression that is used. Which describes the coming to the Lord.

[7 : 31] For what they need. They wait. Not in the waiting. It may well be so. But not in this instance I feel. It's the looking to the Lord.

It's like the woman in the 15th of Matthew. Then came she and worshipped him. Saying. Lord help me. This is the waiting. Oh.

This is where the eyes of faith are found then. Or they find it. They find no help elsewhere. Not in the best of people. Not in the most gracious of people.

Not in the most firmest of friendships. Not in the most strongest of loves. My friends it is here. Where they shall wait. And shall not wait in they.

But they that wait. Upon the Lord. And they will wait. Because they are brought to wait. They are brought to cast their burden on the Lord.

- [8 : 30] And they are brought to depend on him. For everything. You know. My friends. The Lord grants us. A real religion. And you'll find it's everything.
- That you'll have to wait on the Lord for. Everything. Every moment. Of every day. Of every mercy that you need. Grace to endure.
- And to the end. Grace for today. Grace for every day. Grace for every day. But there will be this waiting. Because there will always be a need.
- In the people of God. I don't believe. Even in the most blessed seasons. That the people of God come into. When they are supplied. Supported. Upheld. That they'll ever come to a time.
- Where they will be not. Without some need. That they. Blessed people. You and I amongst them. We trust. May the Lord prove that we are. That wait upon the Lord.
- [9 : 30] But. In the provision of this promise. You know. There is this. That we must ever learn. That there is this way.
- Given to the people of God. Upon which they must come. The way. They must trace out. And walk in. As they wait upon the Lord. No boldness in themselves.
- Nothing. One of the things. That he'll teach you. Is that you've got no ground. In self. To stand. No foundation. Don't look at your profession. As the.
- As to stand upon it. Before the Lord. Don't look at your upbringing. Your godly parents. Nothing like that. My friends. There is only one way. You can wait upon the Lord. God. And that's through the blessed.
- Name and person. And finished work. Of the Lord Jesus Christ. How often do you sing. We don't sing it here very often. I don't think.
- [10 : 28] Well we ought to. But the hymn writer says. That I can no denial take. When I plead. For Jesus sake.
- That's the ground. Wait upon the Lord. You know. I learnt when I was a lot younger. Those words. Because I came into the place. And the pathway. If you shall ask.
- Anything. In my name. God has given us a name to plead. And that name. Must be pleaded before him. It's the name the father loves. To hear his people plead.
- And all such pleading. He approves. And blesses them indeed. That you'll need that name to plead. As you wait upon the Lord. And you'll need this too.
- You'll need. All needed grace. The Lord grants us grace. To wait upon the Lord. To come unto him. With all the concerns.
- [11 : 28] The sins of our. Old nature. The burdens of our pathway. The trials and the troubles. That we encounter as we go along. The temptations.
- The Lord. I'm sure of this. I learnt this years ago. And I'm learning it every day. And I'm reminded of it every day. Many many years ago.
- I heard a dear minister say. If God has put you in a path. Which is right in his sight. Which is according to his will and purpose. It will be a path you can't manage.
- And I prove it every day. The Lord doesn't say. Well. Now there it is. It's set before you. It's a straight way. It's a comfortable way. You don't need my help anymore.
- My friends. When he leads you forth by the right way. That you might go to a city of habitation. It will be a way of need. Every day of every moment.
- [12 : 24] It will be to wait upon the Lord. Grace for the day. Upheld. Upheld. Supported by his right arm. Maintained by his grace.
- Led on. Following. In the way. That he will have you be. Dependent on him. Oh how dependent is a poor sinner upon his God. He's absolutely dependent.

There's not a shadow of a doubt you ask them. They'll tell you there's nothing in self. Everything in Christ. And they wait on the Lord. But they that wait upon the Lord.

You will see too that there are four shells in this text. And there is the comfort of God's people. There's no perhaps. There's no maybe.

Oh you'll say but temptation's great. So it will be. Tell the Lord. Your temptations. Show the Lord your temptations. Remind him that it's a pathway of temptation.

[13 : 25] But also remind him of his promise shell. These are God's shells. They're not man's shells. These are the words which comfort the people of God. In times of need.

This is where you can bring. And I say that with as much reverence as I can command. This is where sinners come with their sin. This is how they are brought to confess.

Sin before a gracious God. In and through the person of Christ. Sin before a gracious God. Sin before a gracious God. And they remind the Lord of his shells. But they that wait upon the Lord.

Shall. Wonderful word isn't it. God has said it. It's in the word of God. It's recorded the Holy Spirit. It's influenced the prophet. And it's in his word to remind.

Every. Cast down. Distressed. Burdened soul. It's there for your comfort. And your consolation. It's there to prove to you. That there is a gracious God in glory.

[14 : 26] Upon whom you are brought to wait. They that wait upon the Lord. This people. They'll come because they have to come. He shall call. This army said.

And I will answer. Now what is it that they shall renew? The day that wait upon the Lord. Shall renew their strength.

The day that wait upon the Lord. In the book of Job. We find this word. Will he plead against me?

With his great power? No. That's a wonderful word isn't it. That's a wonderful word. This gracious God in glory. Will he plead against me?

With his great power? No. No. But he will put strength in me. They that wait upon the Lord. Shall renew their strength. The 71st Psalm.

[15 : 21] A word the Lord made a blessing to me. In years past. Was this. I will go. In the strength of the Lord God. I will make mention of his righteousness.

Even of his only. Now my friends. If you. Are in the way everlasting. That Lord has put you in the way everlasting. Brought you amongst his people.

Gave you what his people are blessed with. Life eternal. Oh the strength that's needed. The strength. Not the natural strength so much.

But it's been proved hasn't it. To those who are weak. Naturally so. Those whose health is needed. To be revived. And so on and so forth.

The Lord is in command. And rules. Over and over rules. All these things. He's able to give strength. According to his day. As it says. You know.

[16 : 17] And. We must ever remind. Be reminded. The Lord should. Does remind us. By his holy word. What he's promised. To his dear people.

As they journey on. Where he speaks. Of that blessing. Of Asher. Let Asher be blessed with children. Let him be acceptable. To his brethren.

Let him dip his foot in oil. Thy shoes shall be iron and brass. And as thy days. So shall thy strength be. The day that wait upon the Lord. Shall renew their strength.

Do you know those days? Do you always. Commence the day. Full of. Spiritual vigour. Full of. Grace.

Full of faith. Do you ever rise from your bed. And look to the Lord. And say Lord. I shall need that strength today. I shall need that grace.

[17 : 12] That is given. God's gift. You know. This is what's so wonderful. About these. Blessings that he promises to do. They that wait upon the Lord. Shall renew their strength. They won't look to.

Anywhere else. They won't gain from. Anywhere else. This grace. And I often felt this. You know. When the Lord speaks these words. There's a purpose in it.

This. This word in the 71st. Psalm. I will go in the strength of the Lord God. Go where? Where you've got to go. Where he will have you to go.

Where he will lead you. Where he will guide you. What he puts before you. To walk in. What is his. Appointed way. For his dear people. For those who fear the Lord.

Oh yes. Providence as well. But grace especially. In the ways of God. Spiritual pathways. My friends. Natural. The natural man. Receiveth not the things. Which be of God.

[18 : 10] It's a foreign language to them. They're not in it. And they never will be in it. Not the natural man. But the spiritual man. And in the spiritual pathway. And in these.

In that. Veil of tears. That they are traveling through. Will not go in their own strength. They will not. They can't. They are unequal to. What is before them.

My friends. But here we have a promise. Shall renew their strength. But they that wait upon the Lord. Shall renew their strength. For what's ever before them.

In life's journey. In the spiritual. Teaching. Appointed ways of God. They shall walk it. But they shall walk it not. In their own strength. Or in their own ability.

Remember the word. It's not left me. I don't think it ever will. Leave me. That was preached here. A couple of years ago. Last year. Who is this.

[19 : 08] That cometh up out of the wilderness. Less. Leaning. There's the strength. Leaning upon their beloved. There's the strength. It's not in them. Oh there are poor lots.

You know the people of God. But they've got a blessed God. They've got a gracious God. They've got a faithful God. They've got an all sufficient God. And it is upon him.

That they shall lean. For this strength. They that wait upon the Lord. Shall renew their strength. And sometimes you know. The Lord's people have to learn.

Some hard lessons. In the commencement of the way. And sometimes. During the way. When the Lord is pleased to come. And speak a word in season.

As it were. To grant them a blessing. In their soul. And the promise is. And if you read. In these Old Testament times. And indeed.

[20 : 07] In the New Testament times. The dear saints of God. When they went forth. In the ways of God. And according to the appointments of God. What he was.

What they had to learn. It just comes to my mind. If I can find it. When the Lord raised. Raised up his servant.

Gideon. Now he raised up Gideon. To overthrow the. Overthrow the host of Midian. Now. The Lord spoke to Gideon.

And he said this. The Lord is with thee. Thou mighty man of valor. And Gideon said. O my Lord. If the Lord be with us. Why then is all this befallen.

And where be all his miracles. Which our fathers told us of. And then again. The Lord looked upon him. And said. Go in this thy might. And thou shalt save Israel.

[21 : 05] From the hand of the Midianites. Have not I sent thee. And he said. O my Lord. Wherewith shall I save Israel. Behold my family is poor in Manasseh.

And I am the least in my father's house. What a humble man. But you know he was looking in the wrong direction. He was looking to his state and condition. As a people.

And the Lord said to him. Surely I will be with thee. And thou shalt smite the Midianites. As one man. And he said. But then. You say. Well Gideon.

You've got enough now to go with. That's all you need. The Lord's promise. Presence. And his help. Came a time. You know. When. He had to say this.

And Gideon said unto God. If thou wilt save Israel. By mine hand. As thou hast said. Behold. I will put a fleece of wool in the floor. And if the dew be on the fleece only.

[22 : 02] And it be dry upon all the earth beside. Then shall I know. That thou wilt save Israel. By mine hand. As thou hast said. And it was so. For he rose up early in the morning.

And thrust the fleece together. And wring the dew out of the fleece. A bowl full of water. And Gideon said unto God. Let not thine anger be hot against me. And I will speak. But this once. Let me prove.

I pray thee. But this once with the fleece. Let it be dry only. Upon the fleece. And upon all the ground. Let there be dew. And God did so that night. For it was dry upon the fleece only.

There was no. And there was dew on all the ground. And well Gideon. You've got enough to go in. Let me remind you of this. This is where the strength comes.

They call together these who will fight with Gideon. And there was 32,000. 32,000. Now there's your strength Gideon.

[23 : 00] Not so. Not so. And it was brought to this. There was 300. By the Lord said unto Gideon.

Not Gideon unto the Lord. And the Lord said unto Gideon. By the 300 men that lapped. Will I save you. And deliver the Midianites into thine hand. And let all the other people.

Go over a man. Unto his place. I. But they that wait upon the Lord. Shall renew their strength. What do we learn my friends. When you read these.

Happenings in the old saints of God. In their pathway. Well what the poet wrote. Thy whole dependence on me fix. For entertain a thought.

Thy worthless schemes. With mine to mix. But venture to be naught. You know when he teaches you. These truths. And lays these sweet promises.

[23 : 54] Upon your spirit. That they that wait upon the Lord. Shall renew their strength. Don't be surprised. If he removes all other props. And all other helps.

And all other strength. You know when the Lord. Puts his people in the way then. And gives them the way to walk. And so on.

Let me just say this too. What he said of those disciples. In the days of Christ. He warned them of the days.

When they shall come before the elders. And before the high priest. And all those. That oppose the grace of God. And they shall stand for their defense.

Before these people. That despise the day of Christ. And his people. What did he say? Well you must put all this together. And you must. Gather all the information you can.

[24 : 49] To plead my cause. My friends know. It shall be given you in that day. What you shall say. There is your strength. There is your strength. Some come before the church.

To cook. To give an account of the Lord's deeds. With their soul. And they sit down. And they wonder how it shall be. And I'll be brought to confusion. Satan says. It shall be given you in that day.

What you shall say. My friends. And here is their strength. What the Lord intends his people to do. And what they will do. Because he brings to pass his intentions with them.

And indeed within them. That they shall wait on the Lord. The day that wait upon the Lord. Shall renew their strength. No help elsewhere.

A minister who puts down headings. And remarks that he's going to make in his sermon. He's not looking to the Lord. I totally abhor it. I don't care who it is.

[25 : 49] Whatever place or standing he has. My friends. If he looks to pieces of paper. And what he writes. Then he's got no strength from the Lord. And he's got no help.

My friends. From the Lord. But in his own ways of doing. The day that wait upon the Lord. Shall renew their strength. And these that wait then.

Shall wait. Because they've no one else to wait. But because their own strength. And their own help is removed. Like which we just read about Gideon.

32,000 was raised up. Who will come to fight for him? Well. They wouldn't look to the Lord then would they? They'd look to these 32,000. Wasn't really enough.

When you look at the. That account in Judges. Judges. Or what chapter there is in Judges. It says this. That the host of the Midianites were. More than can be numbered.

[26 : 45] Well 32,000 wouldn't get too far. But with the Lord on one side. My friends. That is the strength. With his help. If God before us.

Who then can be against us? Oh what a blessed word this is. You know to somebody. To us all. If we are in the way everlasting. It's not said to one person.

But to all the people of God. All that fear the Lord. All that are in the way everlasting. All that have a pathway. Which they've proved as they go on. Their insufficiency. And their emptiness.

And their poverty. And their weakness. You know I said this sometimes. Satan knows your weakness. Satan knows your weakness.

Your weak spots. When David. Hold the stone. At Goliath. The Lord directed that stone. He was a man that would obviously be.

[27 : 40] Covered with armor. The Lord knew the spot. But that stone would strike. There was no good striking at the. Armor that he wore. David was given a suit.

An armoured. A part of armor to wear. But he couldn't wear it. Because he hadn't proved it. And Goliath went forth. With all his. Weaponry. And a man before him. With a shield.

To preserve him from danger. That the Lord knew. Where that stone would fall. And it fell where it was. To be his. Destruction. They that wait upon the Lord.

Shall renew their strength. My friends. What a blessed promise. For the weak. And for the cast down. For the distressed. For those who feel their poverty.

And then. So. Also remind you too. Of. Spiritual strength. You know. We sometimes sing. And. Concerning the.

[28 : 39] Spiritual experiences. Of the Lord's people. Wrestling. Prayer. Can wonders do. Bring relief. In deepest straits. Prayer can break. Make a passage through.

Iron. Bars and brazen gates. Well. You pray for wrestling. Praying and say. Well. The Lord so teach you.

That. It is indeed. Sometimes. According to his purposes. That he will. Put a spirit of prayer. In you. That you are able to spread your matter.

Like hezekiah did before the Lord. In his house. That you might. As it were. Be enabled by the gracious spirit. To pray.

To lay the matter. The Lord gives you that spirit of prayer. Prayer. It isn't always so. Dear friends. It isn't always. Because.

- [29 : 33] Another poet says. The upward glancing of an eye. When none but God is near. Oh. I wouldn't despise the spirit of prayer. The Lord grants it to us each.
- But sometimes. My friends. It's like the woman we spoke of. That's recorded in the 15th of Matthew. Lord. Help me. Well. She's not got a spirit of prayer. You'd say.
- Well. Just a few. Three words. Three words. That's all. It entered into the ear of the Lord. God who obeyeth. Didn't it? And he appeared for her. And he delivered her.
- And took her burden away. My friends. Sometimes. It's like that. There is the strength. It's not in volume. It is not in. A mass of words.
- It is not. A great oration. You know. Pharisees pray. Great oration. It is. Men used to stand and listen to them. The way they used to go on. In their prayers.
- [30 : 31] Their public prayers. In. Marketplaces. In the corners of the streets. They were known for it. Volume of words. They that wait upon the Lord.
- Shall renew their strength. You won't lean on your prayers. Can't lean on your prayers. My friends. Can't lean on anything. But what the Lord has given his people is this.
- The faith to look. And the faith to beg. And that is where they shall come. They that wait upon the Lord. Shall renew their strength. Oh it's not in volume.
- Not in volume. It's not in that mass of ability to. Speak in prayer before the Lord. To utter words which. But words indeed.
- Words indeed. Gifts. Men. Some men have a gift for speaking. Some have them. My friends. But you will find this. That if God is in it.
- [31 : 32] And the gracious spirit is teaching. Though it may not be out of. Gifts or ability. The Lord will renew their strength. They that wait upon the Lord. Shall renew their strength.
- I thought. Sir during the week. Those words. And sometimes we come down to this. Don't we. Oh Lord. Thou knowest.
- That's all. You don't have to. I know. I would be very careful. I'm not telling you what you're to do. But it isn't necessary in the Lord's.
- Work and ways. In your soul. In your pathway. The Lord does know. Before they call I will answer. The Lord does know. And the Lord knows this too.
- That sometimes it's a closing of the mouth. It's just. The look by faith to the. Crucified one. Wonderful word my friends.
- [32 : 30] When the Lord puts prayer in your heart. Wonderful faith. When he puts that into your heart. And you look to the Lord. When you come to that need and time. When the Lord renews.
- The Lord revives. But they that wait upon the Lord. Shall renew their strength. Let me also remind you. Of another way. Before we close.
- Of how the Lord renews their strength. In the. Psalm of confession of the. Psalmist David. In the 51st Psalm. To find him.
- In a contrite. With a contrite spirit. The spirit of repentance. And confession before his God. And what he wanted was reviving. What he wanted.
- What he wanted was renewing. What he wanted. Was those. Sins to be put away. Those iniquities pardon. Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity. And cleanse me from my sin.
- [33 : 29] For I acknowledge my transgression. My sin is ever before me. Against thee. The only. If I sin. And I'm this evil in thy sight. That thou mightest be justified. When thou speak. Is to be clear.
- When thou judge. Is. But it was this. Restore unto me. The joy of. Thy salvation. And uphold me with thy free spirit.

[34 : 25]

[35 : 24]

[36 : 18]

[39 : 10]

Ways And Quality On Solms ridiculed The End The End

The End The End The End The End The End The End The End The End The End The End The
End The End The End The End The End our eternal shalls Lord in the way that is before
us as a people and individually and personally let there be a proving of it Lord and then
there will be rejoicing oh that which saps our strength sin and Satan unbelief Lord all these
things sap the strength Lord but grant us the grace to heed the word plead the promise
and prove it as we go on forgive everything that's been spoken amiss gather us together
later be with us then Lord and that to bless by the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the
love of God the Father the fellowship and communion of the Holy Spirit abide with us both
now and forever

Amen Amen Amen