

## “God is bigger than your problems”      Isaiah 40

3/02/08

What do you do when your world is changing or you are facing a problem and you don't know what to do about it? Is there any way to move forward with hope? Do you feel as though you are all alone? Where is God when life is a puzzle? Today, this passage along with a little history, a little science, and a little theology can help us.

**The “back-story.”** Judah in the 8<sup>th</sup> century B.C. was caught between the super-powers. Assyria is in control but is declining. Egypt is trying to regain her glory. Babylon is the rising power. Judah has been sliding away from God and Isaiah is preaching God's judgment to His wayward people.

Isaiah 38-39—King Hezekiah's illness and recovery. He makes a crucial error in judgment. \_\_\_\_\_ will result.

Isaiah 36-37—Jerusalem is saved from the \_\_\_\_\_, but only so that the \_\_\_\_\_ will serve as God's punishment.

The “good news” of a restoration means that there will be a period of punishment for God's people, but also that He is the one who can \_\_\_\_\_.

### When facing life's trials, remember to trust

G \_\_\_\_\_

and not in m \_\_\_\_\_.

**1. Realize that God has a \_\_\_\_\_ for what he is going to do.**

- Deliverance for his people (1-2)
- Reveal his glory (3-5)
- Establish His Word (6-8)

**2. Consider how \_\_\_\_\_ God is.**

19-11—Mighty ruler and yet gentle shepherd

12—He measures the earth

13-14—His wisdom is above all others

15-17—He is more important than everyone combined

18-20—Idols are foolish comparisons to God's glory

21-24—He is over all rulers

25-26—He is the creator of the universe

**3. Therefore put your \_\_\_\_\_ in God**

27—God has not forgotten you

28—He doesn't run out of strength

29—He gives to those in need of help

30—Trust in our own resources is sure to fail.

31—Hoping in the Lord will bring the strength we need.  
So that we can—Soar, Run, Walk

### Your application—learn to wait/hope/trust.

Don't give in to tiredness and weariness; stumble or fall, vs. 30

Do put your hope in God—vs. 31

Do tap into God's power

Acts 1:8—

Phil. 3:7-10—

Some steps to take when you are in “captivity.”

1. Read, especially the psalms
2. Write about how you feel
3. List your burdens
4. List what is true about God and your relationship to Him
5. Call out to God in prayer
6. Revise your list
7. Find the help of a Christian friend