

Isaiah 40:27-31 5Epi Sermon 2024

Why do you speak, O Jacob?

O Israel, why do you say,

“My way is hidden from the LORD,
and justice for me is ignored by my God”?

²⁸Do you not know? Have you not heard?

The LORD is the eternal God.

He is the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He will not grow tired, and he will not become weary.

No one can find a limit to his understanding.

²⁹He is the one who gives strength to the weak,
and he increases the strength of those who lack power.

³⁰Young men grow tired and become weary.

Even strong men stumble and fall.

³¹But those who wait for the LORD will receive new strength.

They will lift up their wings and soar like eagles.

They will run and not become weary.

They will walk and not become tired.

Isaiah 40:27-31 5Epi Sermon 2024

**Do you not know? Have you not heard?
Jesus is LORD. Jesus is eternal God.**

Do you not know? Have you not heard?

1339 North Park Ave

Tucson, AZ 85706

Do you not know? Have you not heard? ... maybe you don't know because you haven't heard but oh, the city of Tucson police department knows that address because it has it on file.

1339 North Park Ave

Tucson, AZ 85706

Is the address of my Grandpa & Grandma Wilkinson who are currently in heaven. But in the 1980's there was a police report made because my brothers and I were there.

Do you not know? Have you not heard?

When Grandpa built his house at that address in the 1900's I wonder if "Park Avenue" meant something bigger than I does today? Did grandpa know that his own address would be entered into the city police dept. records. Recorded because some little boys were kicking a little soccer ball in the little front yard.

Do you not know? Have you not heard? And I wouldn't expect anyone from Wisconsin to care about any kind of police records from Tucson AZ from the 1980's. So I'm sure you don't know, and I'm sure you haven't heard about

1339 North Park Ave

Tucson, AZ 85706.... Until today.

Was it an accident, was it the scene of a crime, was it an incident, was it vehicular homicide or was it something more? It all depends on whom you ask those questions. With each question you might expect a different answer about what happened. What do you know and hear when it comes to Jesus?

Do his words ricochet off your heart because you don't believe that what he says matters? Do his actions mean all that less because you've never met him in person? Are you tempted to be like Jacob and Israel who complain and whine? (27) So busy talking to God that we don't listen and hear him.

The first part of this lesson is questions all of them are rhetorical. Jacob should not complain, Israel should not whine that God doesn't know, that God doesn't hear the prayers of his believers, that God doesn't care. God cares for our eternal well-being so much that he gave his only-begotten son. (Jn 3:16) Jacob and Israel wanted to get their way and to have God give them what they wanted. Do we fall into that same kind of temptation? Is Jesus only a Savior from Cancer? Is Jesus only a Savior from debt? Is Jesus only a Savior from relationship problems? Jesus is much, much more than that kind of Savior – he saves us from complaining and whining.

Jesus is God. God is unlimited strength, God is unlimited understanding, God does not grow tired and weary with our complaining and whining. When he could and he should do something about our failing to hear and failing to know, instead God cares.

Jesus is eternal God who knows all. Jesus is eternal God who hears all. Jesus knows and Jesus hears so we can be reassured and comforted that God cares so much to speak words that bear repeating for people who are so quick to forget and quick to lack paying attention. Jesus came to undo the Devil's work of temptation and doubt. Jesus came to cause us to know and listen to his teaching and preaching that brings spiritual comfort and peace.

By the power of God's Word mountains are made and can be moved. Even more powerful is the purpose of God's Word to make and move sinful hearts to believe. By the power of God's Word the weakness we feel here will eventually be turned into total joy in heaven. Jesus came to undo the work of our adversary the Devil who wants us to spiritually fall asleep so we fail to know and fail to listen. One way the Devil wins is to convince us that we need to talk to God more than we need to listen to God. No the more we read the Bible is the more we listen to God. Believers who heard God's Word and know God's Word do pray but we keep a healthy balance of learning and praying, by the grace of God.

God's Word in the Bible is given for people who do not know, for people who do not hear, for people who do not believe. God's Word speaks faith and forgiveness to all who read and wait for the LORD. Believers who wait for the LORD are found with an open Bible. Believers who wait are found to be forgiven for failing to have a regular, healthy, pattern of church attendance. Are we weak, worn down, heavy laden and need rest? Isaiah 40 has just what you need. These words from God point us to the fact that God does best what God does best. Jesus came to preach as a primary work and through his preaching souls are saved. Souls who hear and know the WORD of the LORD Jesus are given healing, strength, and rest spiritual.

In verse 29 God giving double strength comes from himself and nothing and nowhere else. God cares about his care for those who are weak and weary. God cares that the Adversary tempts and troubles God's people. Jesus will eventually turn all of the bad to turn out for eventual good as we know and hear the Gospel good news of deliverance from God himself.

The Word of God delivers from spiritual weakness, tiredness and misunderstanding. The Word of God comes to fill us with knowing, and cause our ears to be hearing these miracle words that change dead hearts into ones that believe and are made alive in Christ. That is why Jesus has come to preach the gospel.

When Jesus answers John the Baptists' question if he is the Son of God/the Savior of the World his answer is similar to Isaiah 40. **“Jesus answered them, “Go, report to John what you hear and see: ⁵The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cured, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the gospel is preached to the poor.”** (Mt 11:4) Jesus saves the most important for last – preaching the Gospel -is his main focus in saving the whole world.

How can we be those who **“wait for the LORD”** ? Believers wait for the LORD through hearing the message that makes us know the LORD Jesus is eternal God. Faith comes from hearing the message.

Jesus came to seek and to save the lost. Jesus came to bring hope to the weak, he came to give spiritual sight to the blind. Jesus came to give knowledge to those who feel that God doesn't know. Jesus came to give teaching to those who need to hear that their sins are forgiven by him. When we hear and know the LORD we need not fear him or fear our sins. He is tireless in his love, he is generous in his grace, he is constant in his searching for all the spiritually wounded to bring heavenly healing by his almighty and powerful WORD.

That same WORD of God created the heavens and the earth. That same WORD of God brings you generous grace and spiritual strength. The WORD of God is Jesus who we need to hear and know how we endure by grace through faith, as we wait during this time, to be after this time is done to be lifted up from being weary and tired to our place in heaven without limit.

There is no limit to God's goodness that he gives. There is no expiration date on his unlimited Gospel. There is no missing the 'new strength' given by God when it comes to marking, reading, and studying the Holy Bible.

What we say and speak matters most when we share what we hear and know about Jesus the Lord who is eternal God. He came to save us from our sins and by his death and resurrection – he did it.

It is not enough for Jesus to only bring physical healing, strength and rescue – he brings so much more spiritual healing, strength and rescue by his mighty and powerful WORD of the LORD. Jesus comes to bring his words that are ever-present, ever-powerful, ever-wonderful enough that cause us to hear and know that he wants to take us to heaven.

Do you not know? Now you know that Jesus is God.

Have you not heard? Now you get to hear that God does not keep a record of our sins because our sins were recorded against Jesus on the cross.

Jesus rose from the dead to teach us to hear and gives the Holy Spirit who causes us to know that tired and weary will be left behind in this life when Jesus takes us to be with him in heaven. Jesus is your eternal and loving God.

What happened at 1339 North Park Avenue might still be recorded on police records. But God does not hold what happened at 1339 North Park Avenue – because Jesus went on record at the cross for all who were involved.

Do you not know? Have you not heard? Jesus the LORD is your eternal God. Amen.

Children's message

Rubber-band ball.
It bounces, right!

But that is not what this thing is meant to do. It's job is to take one rubber band off at a time and be used for rubber band type of things. Sometimes it is easy to confuse the purpose of people and things.

Jesus had a purpose that people may have confused. Jesus did not come to only feed, only heal, only cast out demons – he came to preach and teach even more. God's Word does more than feed, heal and help – God's Word produces faith in our hearts. That is the kind of work that Jesus came to do to undo the devil's work. Faith undoes doubt, faith brings forgiveness for having fallen into temptation. Faith is what God does that brings the work of Jesus' cross to our sick, weary and weakened hearts.

Jesus was meant to save the world and that is his message – more than physical saving Jesus came to spiritually save. What matters most to us is not who Jesus is but what Jesus does. Without Jesus we would be lost for all eternity – that is the message that Jesus came to share.