

Isaiah 40:21-31

Have you not known? Have you not heard?
Has it not been told you from the beginning?
Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

It is God who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers;
who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to live in;
who brings princes to naught, and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.
Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth,
when God blows upon them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble.

“To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal?” says the Holy One.
Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these?
The One who brings out the host and numbers them, calling them all by name.
Because God is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing.

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"? Have you not known? Have you not heard?
The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth.
The Holy One does not faint or grow weary; God's understanding is unsearchable.
God gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless.
Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted;
**but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength,
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,
they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.**

Mark 1:29-39

As soon as they left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James
and John. Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told Jesus about her at
once. **He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she
began to serve them.**

That evening, at sundown, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons.
And the whole city was gathered around the door.

And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and
he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there
he prayed. And Simon and his companions hunted for him.

When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you!"

He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, **so that I may proclaim the message
there also; for that is what I came out to do.**"

And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out
demons.