



Strength for the weary
赐予疲惫者力量

Isaiah 40:27-31

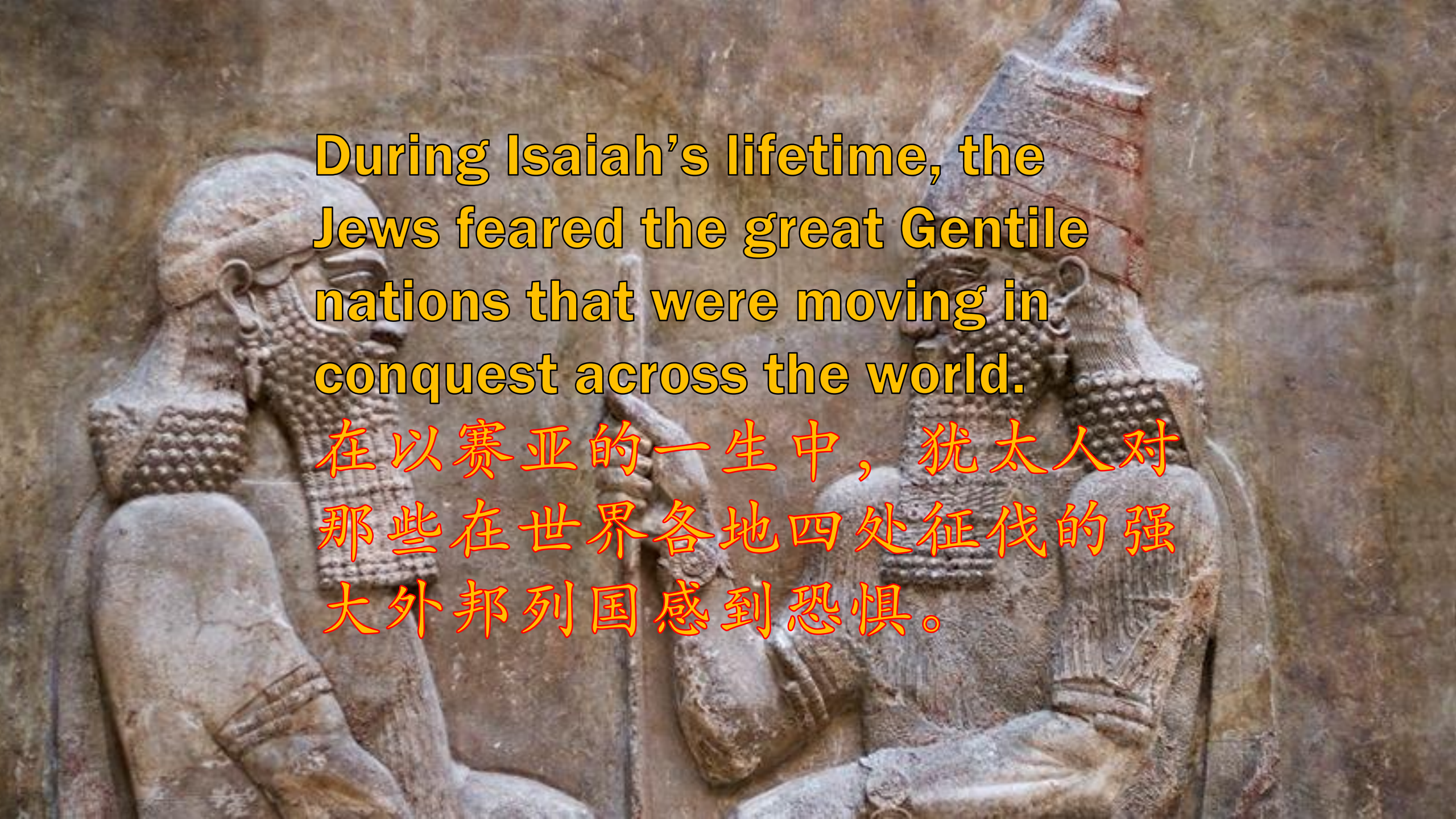
以赛亚书 40:27-31

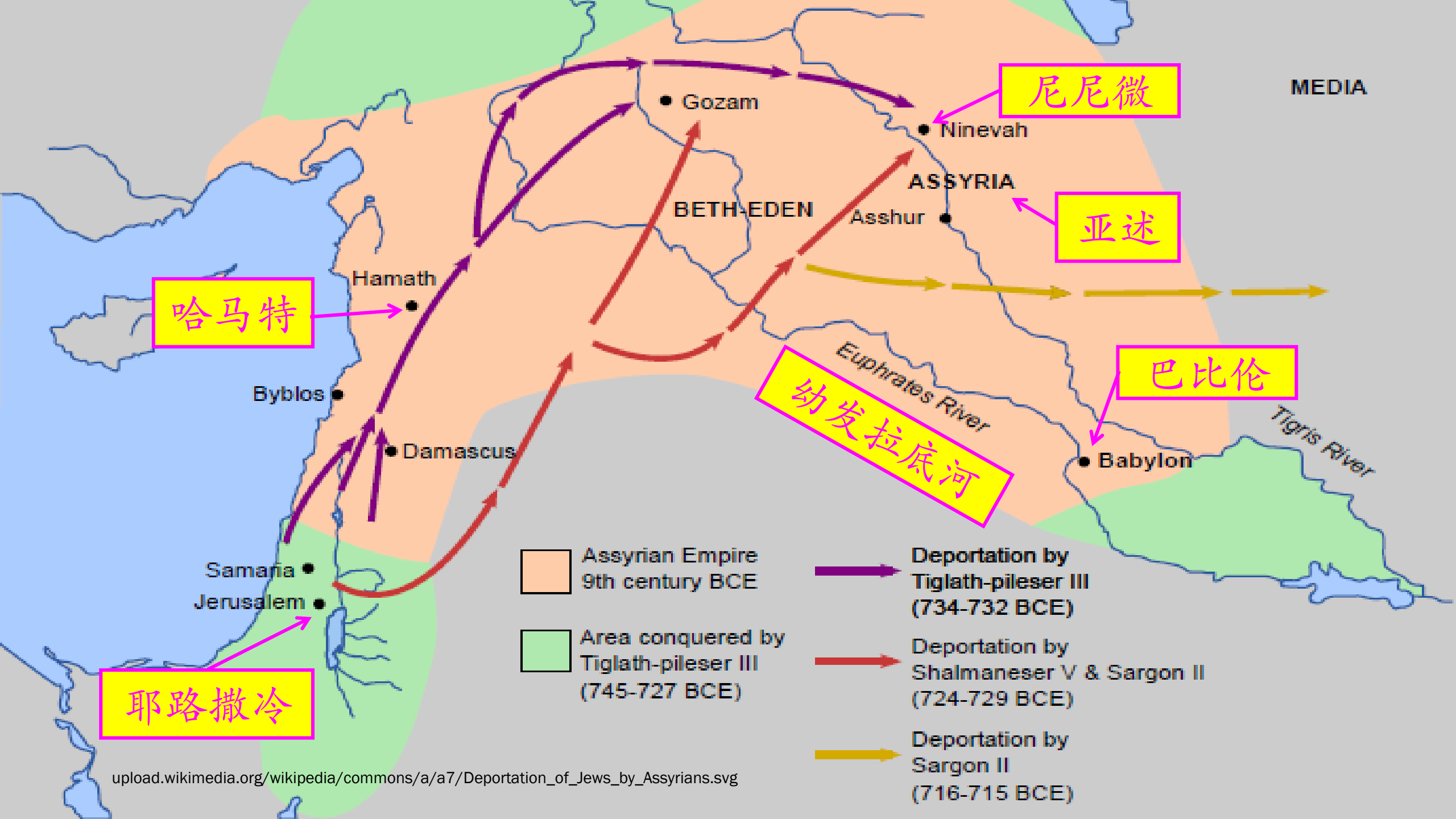
Big Idea
伟大的想法

Isaiah 40 teaches that God **comforts His people, comes to save, reigns supreme**, and **renews the weary.**

以赛亚书第40章教导说，**神安慰祂的子民，降临施行拯救，掌权为王，并使疲乏者重获力量。**




During Isaiah's lifetime, the Jews feared the great Gentile nations that were moving in conquest across the world.
在以赛亚的一生中，犹太人对那些在世界各地四处征伐的强大外邦列国感到恐惧。



upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/a/a7/Deportation_of_Jews_by_Assyrians.svg

Isaiah 40:27-31 NIV

27 Why do you complain, Jacob? Why do you say, Israel,
"My way is hidden from the LORD; my cause is disregarded by my God"?
28 Do you not know? Have you not heard?
The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth.
He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom.

以赛亚书 40:27 – 29

27雅各啊，你为何说“我的道路向耶和华隐藏”？ 以色列啊，你为何言“我的冤屈神并不查问”？

28你岂不曾知道吗？ 你岂不曾听见吗？ 永在的神耶和华，创造地极的主， 并不疲乏，也不困倦， 他的智慧无法测度。

30 Even youths grow tired and weary, and young
men stumble and fall;
31 but those who hope in the LORD will renew their
strength.
They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and
not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

29疲乏的，他赐能力； 软弱的，他加力量。
30就是少年人也要疲乏困倦， 强壮的也必全然跌倒；
31但那等候耶和华的，必从新得力。 他们必如鹰展翅上腾， 他们奔跑却不困倦， 行走却不疲乏。

1. God sees our struggles and circumstances.
1. 神看见我们的挣扎与难处。

Why do you complain, Jacob?
Why do you say, Israel,
“My way is hidden from
the LORD;
my cause is disregarded by
my God”?

Isaiah 40:27 NIV

以赛亚书 40:27

- **Context:** Israel in exile felt abandoned by God. Their suffering led them to think God either could not see or did not care.
- “My way is hidden” → perception of divine neglect.
- “My cause” (or “right”) → sense of injustice, as though God had failed to defend them.

Let's look closely at the word "complain" in Isaiah 40:27
"抱怨" 以赛亚书40:27



1. Hebrew Word Study (*dābar*) → "to speak, declare, say."

- It does **not** literally mean "complain" in the narrow sense of grumbling (like the wilderness murmuring in Exodus), but rather **to assert, to voice, to state repeatedly**.

2. Meaning in Context - Israel is articulating a *complaint* that:

- Their **"way"** (*derek* = path, life journey) is hidden from God.
- Their **"right"** (*mishpat* = cause, justice, claim) is disregarded.
- This is not mere whining but a **legal protest**, as though Israel is bringing a charge against God: "God has failed to notice or defend my case."

Israel's perception: God is absent, inattentive.
Isaiah's correction: God is eternal, powerful, and faithful.

2. God <u>never</u> grows tired or gets exhausted.
神从不疲倦，也不会精疲力竭。

Do you not know?
Have you not heard?
The LORD is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.
He will not grow tired or weary,
and his understanding no one can fathom.

Isaiah 40:28 NIV

以赛亚书 40:28

- Rhetorical questions recall truths Israel already knew: God is **everlasting** (beyond time), **Creator** (beyond geography), **unfailing** (doesn't tire), and **all-wise** (His ways surpass human comprehension).
- Unlike humans, God never grows weary. His strength is limitless.
- God specializes in empowering the faint and renewing the exhausted.

Let’s look closely at the word “weary” in Isaiah 40:28

“极度疲倦” 以赛亚书40:28



1. Hebrew Word Study (*yā ʿēp*) → “tired, exhausted, faint from labor or struggle.”

- Used both for **physical weariness** (fatigue, weakness) and **spiritual/emotional weariness** (discouragement, faint-heartedness).

2. Meaning in Context - Unlike humans (v. 30), who reach limits of strength, God is inexhaustible in power and energy.

- Human beings = weak, limited, fading.
- God = eternal, tireless, limitless.

God’s nature: He is not subject to fatigue or depletion. His creative power and sustaining care are constant.

3. God <u>energizes</u> us in our fragilities.
上帝在我们软弱之时赋予我们力量。

He gives strength to the weary
and increases the power of the weak.

Even youths grow tired and weary,
and young men stumble and fall;

Isaiah 40:29-30 NIV

以赛亚书40:29-30

- God's power is not kept for Himself but **shared** with the weak and weary.
- Even the strongest of humans (youths, athletes, warriors) cannot sustain themselves indefinitely.
- By contrast, God's strength is inexhaustible.

Let's look closely at the word "strength" in Isaiah 40:29

"力量" 以赛亚书 40:29



1. Hebrew Word Study (*kōaḥ*) → "*capacity, ability, power, vigor, might*."

- *Kōaḥ* is not just muscle power, but **the whole capacity for living and enduring**.

2. Meaning in Context - The sense of *strength* is **exchange of weakness for God's strength**.

- It is not merely "rest and recover," but a **divine transfer of power**—God's inexhaustible *kōaḥ* given to the weary – God = eternal, tireless, limitless.

The imagery (eagle soaring, running, walking) shows **progressive empowerment** for every stage of life: **Soaring** in moments of triumph, r**unning** in seasons of challenge and w**alking** in daily endurance.

4. God renews our courageous faith.

上帝更新我们勇敢的信心。

but those who hope in the LORD
will renew their strength.
They will soar on wings like eagles;
they will run and not grow weary,
they will walk and not be faint.

Isaiah 40:31 NIV

以赛亚书 40:31

- "Hope" = (*qavah*) → not passive idleness but active, hopeful trust, like twisting a cord together (strength from intertwining with God).
- "Renew" = literally "exchange" → their weakness is exchanged for God's strength.
- Promise: soaring like eagles, running without weariness, walking without fainting.

Let’s look closely at the word “hope” in Isaiah 40:31

“盼望” 以赛亚书 40:31



1. Hebrew Word Study (*yāʿēp*) → “tired, exhausted, faint from labor or struggle.”

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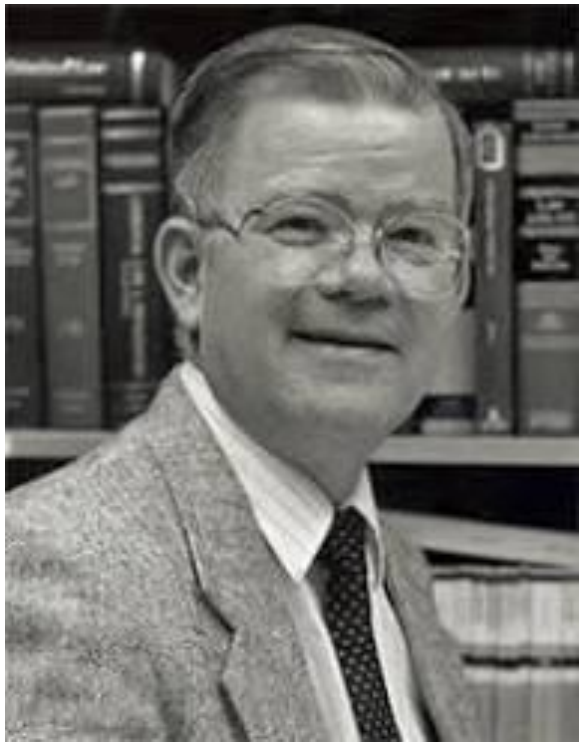

“The main road for each of us is the road God has planned, the one that takes us through the experiences which give meaning to our life. But the meaning as God sees it may not be the meaning as man sees it. Think what the world would have lost if Job had not suffered and we did not have example to learn from. What seems at first to be a pointless detour may be revealed in the end to be the main road home. That has been the case with my stroke. Like Joseph in Egypt or Job in misfortune, I learned in time that my new post (circumstance) was God’s way of helping me toward a greater good.”
Dr. Philip Johnson 1940-2019

Big Application
应用思考

When we feel weary and forgotten, Isaiah 40 reminds us that God never tires, always sees, gives strength to the weak, and renews those who wait on Him.

