Something Old, Something New

Scripture Reading — Isaiah 40:21-31

He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. — Isaiah 40:29

For the past several days we have reviewed some of the ways in which sin introduces challenges into
our lives. It is understandable, when faced with these challenges, to wonder where God is. Is God
listening? Does he care?

The prophet Isaiah spoke to a people facing conquest and exile. They constantly faced new
challenges and new fears that could lead them to anxiety and despair. Over time, people grew
hopeless, saying, "My cause is disregarded by my God."

The Bible answers the question of human sin and misery by pointing to the eternal God. In response
to our problems, it reminds us of something we have known from the beginning but often forget in the
midst of our struggles: the eternal faithfulness of God, revealed most fully in Jesus. Our God, the
prophet says, will not forget the world he made. Sin and brokenness may have their moment in our
lives. But these things remain within the control of the Lord.

God exerts his power not in distant and impersonal ways. Instead, he extends the promise of strength
to his people. The Christian faith does not deny the reality of our weariness but offers hope to weary
souls. Our need to trust God never grows old. God's strength remains ever new.

Prayer

Lord, so often we grow weary. Pick us up and renew our strength, we pray, so that we may put our
hope in you, with whom there is no equal. Amen.

Devotion topics: Christianity, Sin, God, God's Plan

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