

Lesson 4 | December 27, 2020

Our Great God



Study Text: Isaiah 40:1–31

Central Truth: God's greatness is manifested, not only through His divine attributes, but also in His personal care for His own.

Key Verse: Isaiah 40:31

They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint (KJV).

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 (NIV).

Learning Objectives

- Understand that God's love motivates His use of divine wisdom and power.
- Recognize that as God's people are treasured by God and the recipients of His daily care.
- Study and apply God's written Word in order to draw closer to Him.

Introducing the Lesson

Say: Children who grew up "saying their prayers" may have uttered the words "God is great, God is good" three times a day when thanking Him for their food. Isaiah draws a picture for us of the greatness of God that can help us to trust Him more fully.

Opening Activity—My Weakness/His Strength

Have your class sing the first verse of "Jesus Loves Me" or quote the words, "They are weak, but He is strong." Ask: What situations can you think of where you have been forced to confront your own weakness? How did you receive help in those situations, either directly from God or from other people God used?

Jesus loves me, this I know
For the Bible tells me so

Little ones to Him belong
They are weak, but He is strong

Say: J. B. Phillips wrote a best-selling book titled *Your God Is Too Small*, in which he challenges readers to reexamine their concept of God. **As human beings, we have a limited view of the true greatness of God, yet by walking with Him we can better grasp who He really is and how He guides our lives. His power in our lives is limitless.**(Share your highlights from the following text.)

Isaiah powerfully contrasted the actions of the one true God with false gods. In Isaiah 36:18–20, the Assyrian army threatened to attack Jerusalem during Hezekiah's reign. The Assyrian commander's mention of powerless, false, local gods shows how communities regarded their idols. In Isaiah 37, God intervened against the Assyrians for His people.

Read Isaiah 46:3–7, then contrast God's ongoing actions or His people with the complete inactivity of idols. **A key truth of Isaiah—and throughout Scripture—is that God has entered into covenant relationship with His people and is active in their lives for their good.**

[Isa 46:3-7 KJV] 3 Hearken unto me, O house of Jacob, and all the remnant of the house of Israel, which are borne [by me] from the belly, which are carried from the womb: 4 And [even] to [your] old age I [am] he; and [even] to hoar hairs will I carry [you]: I have made, and I will bear; even I will carry, and will deliver [you]. 5 To whom will ye liken me, and make [me] equal, and compare me, that we may be like? 6 They lavish gold out of the bag, and weigh silver in the balance, [and] hire a goldsmith; and he maketh it a god: they fall down, yea, they worship. 7 They bear him upon the shoulder, they carry him, and set him in his place, and he standeth; from his place shall he not remove: yea, [one] shall cry unto him, yet can he not answer, nor save him out of his trouble.

[Isa 46:3-7 NKJV] 3 "Listen to Me, O house of Jacob, And all the remnant of the house of Israel, Who have been upheld [by Me] from birth, Who have been carried from the womb: 4 Even to [your] old age, I [am] He, And [even] to gray hairs I will carry [you]! I have made, and I will bear; Even I will carry, and will deliver [you]. 5 "To whom will you liken Me, and make [Me] equal And compare Me, that we should be alike? 6 They lavish gold out of the bag, And weigh silver on the scales; They hire a goldsmith, and he makes it a god; They prostrate themselves, yes, they worship. 7 They bear it on the shoulder, they carry it And set it in its place, and it stands; From its place it shall not move. Though [one] cries out to it, yet it cannot answer Nor save him out of his trouble.

Part 1—God's Comforting and Enduring Word God's Promise to His People

Isaiah 40:1–5

[Isa 40:1-5 KJV] 1 Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God. 2 Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned: for she hath received of the LORD'S hand double for all her sins. 3 The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. 4 Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low: and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain: 5 And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see [it] together: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken [it].

Say: God has great love for His people—both then and now. He offered comfort to the people of Judah in spite of the troubles they would endure. They would go into exile as punishment for their rebellion and disobedience, but He would prepare a way for them to come back to their homeland. But the words have even deeper meaning. John the Baptist quoted from these words in announcing the Messiah (John 1:23). (Share your highlights from the following text.)

Isaiah 40 opens with a reference to the intimate relationship between God and His people. God called on the prophet to proclaim comfort to “my people,” and emphasized that this command came from “your God” (verse 1). **These two possessive pronouns highlighted the vast difference between God’s people, who enjoyed the care of the one true God and other nations, who sought the help of false gods who could offer no power or concern.**

God wanted His people to remember that His desire was restoration and salvation. Those blessings would come about through a future appearance of the Lord as Savior. Shining the New Testament’s light on Isaiah 40:3, we picture John the Baptist announcing Jesus’ appearance during His earthly ministry (see John 1:23).

[Jhn 1:23 KJV] 23 He said, I [am] the voice of one crying in the wilderness, Make straight the way of the Lord, as said the prophet Esaias.

As God spoke comfort to His people amid their current distress, His divine perspective in Isaiah 40:3–4 encompassed all that He would accomplish throughout history to bring the redeemed of humanity into fellowship with himself. **No lack of resources—wilderness or desert—can frustrate this plan. No obstacles—hills or valleys—can stand in His way. In God’s ultimate enactment of salvation and restoration, all people will see His glory (verse 5).**

Discuss

- ? Why do you think God would offer a reminder of past judgment for sin (Isaiah 40:2)?
? How has God brought comfort to you during difficult times?

God's Word Will Never Fail

Isaiah 40:6–8

[Isa 40:6-8 KJV] 6 The voice said, Cry. And he said, What shall I cry? All flesh [is] grass, and all the goodness thereof [is] as the flower of the field: 7 The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: because the spirit of the LORD bloweth upon it: surely the people [is] grass. 8 The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever.

Say: In our rapidly changing world, many things are “disposable.” Even a “lifetime guarantee” does not mean a product will really last a lifetime. Even if it did, the human lifetime is but a moment in comparison to God and His Word. Jesus reinforced the permanence of God's Word when He said, **“Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away”** (Matthew 24:35, NIV). (Share your highlights from the following text.)

In contrast with God's eternal perspective and power, the frailty of His people is all the more apparent. But human frailty does not impede God's plans. Rather, **frailty should cause people to trust Him all the more. In Isaiah 40:6–8, a voice calls out to the prophet, telling him to announce far and wide the stark limitations of humanity.**

Against the backdrop of God's eternal existence, such a life becomes immeasurably small. Like grass or flowers that grow and then wilt and die, people are born and live and die, often with little or no evidence left behind of their existence (verses 6–7).

God did not leave Isaiah with a partial message focused on human limitation, however. Recall that these verses began with God's emphasis on His relationship with His people. He gave a message of comfort that overarches all the pain and sorrow of human history with a promise of His eventual revealed glory. Such a promise was now buttressed by the guarantee in Isaiah 40:8 that **God's Word endures forever.**

When God's Word is accepted in faith and becomes the framework on which our lives are built, the believer can look forward to everlasting rewards. And so, in verse 8, God was referencing all that He desired to bring about for His people for all time. The Word of the Lord will last forever; may each of us take hold of its truth and allow that truth to spring up and bear fruit in our lives.

Resource Packet Item 1: God's Eternal Word

Distribute the work sheet for students to take home with them. Encourage them to use it in their personal time with God this week. If they find it helpful, they may want to duplicate it for continued use.

Discuss

? Do you believe Isaiah's repeated emphasis on human frailty is pessimistic or intended to cause the hearer or reader to be discouraged? Explain.

? How do you respond when your own frailty as a human being limits you, either in the regular endeavors of life or in your spiritual pursuits?

Part 2—King, Shepherd, and Omniscient Sage God Is All-Powerful and Loving

Isaiah 40:9–12

- **[Isa 40:9-12 KJV] 9 O Zion, that bringest good tidings, get thee up into the high mountain; O Jerusalem, that bringest good tidings, lift up thy voice with strength; lift [it] up, be not afraid; say unto the cities of Judah, Behold your God! 10 Behold, the Lord GOD will come with strong [hand], and his arm shall rule for him: behold, his reward [is] with him, and his work before him. 11 He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry [them] in his bosom, [and] shall gently lead those that are with young. 12 Who hath measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, and meted out heaven with the span, and comprehended the dust of the earth in a measure, and weighed the mountains in scales, and the hills in a balance?**

Say: God's power is far beyond our understanding. Yet He loves His people with the tender care of a shepherd. The image of being carried in His arms, as a shepherd carries a sheep that needs help, is a beautiful picture of God. His care for us as our Shepherd is found throughout Scripture (Psalm 23; John 10:11; Hebrews 13:20–21). Both His power and His compassion demonstrate that His greatness is far above our ability to comprehend. (Share your highlights from the following text.)

[Psa 23:1-6 KJV] 1 [[A Psalm of David.]] The LORD [is] my shepherd; I shall not want. 2 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. 3 He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. 4

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou [art] with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. 5 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. 6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

[Jhn 10:11 KJV] 11 I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.

[Heb 13:20-21 KJV] 20 Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, 21 Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is wellpleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom [be] glory for ever and ever. Amen.

As Isaiah 40:9 reminds us, the proclamation of God's truth is not to be a secret endeavor. Isaiah was urged to carry the message to a high mountain (a place of great prominence) **and shout it out, and both the location and the action pointed to the need for God's Word to be spread far and wide.**

The prophet's message concerning God included assertions of both God's power and His love. Isaiah 40:10 succinctly states both truths. God is sovereign, completely in charge of His creation, and He is in possession of His reward, the blessings He chooses to bestow through His grace to all who come into relationship with Him.

God's love takes on a more tangible expression through the imagery of a shepherd in Isaiah 40:11, imagery that would have been very familiar to the people of Isaiah's day in a society deeply connected with the care of flocks of sheep.

This deeply compassionate picture of God as loving shepherd sets the stage as the prophet returns to an examination of God's power in Isaiah 40:12. The image of God's care for His people as His chosen flock provides perspective to the next statements about His limitless power. The images in this verse all point to God's position above the created order, but they are presented in tandem with the images of His personal connection to His highest creation, humanity. Throughout His Word, God repeatedly reveals himself as the unique, all-powerful Creator of the universe, while at the same time declaring His divine love for people.

Discuss

? What characteristics of Isaiah might God have been addressing in His commands? What qualities or characteristics within you help to shape the way you proclaim the gospel?

? How might the commands to Isaiah connect with Christ's Great Commission, the mandate to take the gospel to all people throughout the world?

God Is All-Wise and All-Knowing

Isaiah 40:13–17

[Isa 40:13-17 KJV] 13 Who hath directed the Spirit of the LORD, or [being] his counsellor hath taught him? 14 With whom took he counsel, and [who] instructed him, and taught him in the path of judgment, and taught him knowledge, and shewed to him the way of understanding? 15 Behold, the nations [are] as a drop of a bucket, and are counted as the small dust of the balance: behold, he taketh up the isles as a very little thing. 16 And Lebanon [is] not sufficient to burn, nor the beasts thereof sufficient for a burnt offering. 17 All nations before him [are] as nothing; and they are counted to him less than nothing, and vanity.

Say: At times people struggle with the idea that God is all-knowing. Some blame God for evil circumstances in life or in the world at large: “If God were really all-wise, He would never have created a world with war and famine.” **They can also misappropriate the concept of omniscience (God’s all-knowing quality) to contradict the reality of human choice.** “God knows what I am going to do, so why even try to live a certain way?” **We must be careful to recognize the omniscience of God without trying to limit Him to our finite understanding. (Share your highlights from the following text.)**

Human knowledge, so constrained by limited personal experience and the finite capacity of the brain, can never fathom God’s knowledge of all things. God’s Word proclaims the boundless scope of God’s divine knowledge, so we are correct in declaring that God is all-knowing. **But we need to be careful not to misapply the concept of omniscience as a means of blaming God or denying our personal responsibility for our choices.**

Just as God relates to people one-on-one as well as collectively, Isaiah 40:13–17 considers hypothetical human interactions with God both individually and collectively, as a means of illustrating His omniscience. From an individual perspective, there is no person who is so wise that God would ask that person for advice. In a similar vein of thought, there is no nation that can stand up against God’s knowledge. It is important to remember the purpose and larger context of biblical imagery. Describing the nations collectively as “nothing” or “less than nothing” is a way for the prophet to magnify God’s limitless power and wisdom. God is not obliged to respond to human force, nor is He threatened by it. He is supreme.

With a slight shift in imagery in verse 16, Isaiah looked at human worship and gave another illustration, this one of a massive scale. If all of Lebanon's majestic forests were used to fuel a sacrificial fire, and all the nation's cattle became one big burnt offering, this would not provide an adequate sacrifice for God. For the Israelites of Isaiah's day, Lebanon's massive cedars represented the height of their national architecture, creating the framework of Jerusalem's temple and Solomon's palace (see 1 Kings 5:1–6; 7:1–8). They could look back on centuries of flocks and herds sacrificed at their tabernacle and temple, perhaps a parallel to sacrificing all of Lebanon's animals.

Whether comparing the tiny speck of humanity in comparison to God, or describing an inconceivably great act of worship, **Isaiah was pointing the people of God to one truth: God is above all earthly authority and is not obligated by any human ceremony.**

Resource Packet Item 2: The Lord Is My Shepherd

Distribute the work sheet and give students a few minutes to fill it in individually or in small groups, or you may want to have someone read each passage aloud, and identify the shepherd's role(s) as a class.

Discuss

? What are some ways we can misunderstand the infinite scope of God's wisdom and knowledge?

? What do you think Isaiah 40:15–17 tells us about the nations of the world?

Part 3—God's Supreme Reign God Is Greater Than All the Nations

Isaiah 40:18–24

[Isa 40:18-24 KJV] 18 To whom then will ye liken God? or what likeness will ye compare unto him? 19 The workman melteth a graven image, and the goldsmith spreadeth it over with gold, and casteth silver chains. 20 He that [is] so impoverished that he hath no oblation chooseth a tree [that] will not rot; he seeketh unto him a cunning workman to prepare a graven image, [that] shall not be moved. 21 Have ye not known? have ye not heard? hath it not been told you from the beginning? have ye not understood from the foundations of the earth? 22 [It is] he that sitteth upon the circle of the earth, and the inhabitants thereof [are] as grasshoppers; that stretcheth out the heavens as a curtain, and spreadeth them out as a tent to dwell in: 23 That bringeth the princes to nothing; he maketh the judges of the

earth as vanity. 24 Yea, they shall not be planted; yea, they shall not be sown: yea, their stock shall not take root in the earth: and he shall also blow upon them, and they shall wither, and the whirlwind shall take them away as stubble.

Say: The first two of the Ten Commandments focus on serving only God, and not dividing our loyalties. Throughout the Old Testament, the Children of Israel rebelled by serving idols. God is supreme, and He will not share His sovereignty with anyone or anything. He is the Creator and Ruler of all. We cannot rightly serve Him yet allow something else to take His proper place in our lives. (Share your highlights from the following text.)

In continuing this contrast between God and the nations, Isaiah 40:18–20 considers the false gods worshipped by the nations. **God’s existence is above His creation in every way. Yet, people will take tiny samples of His creation (bits of wood, metal, and stone) and form them into an image to worship.** The apostle Paul succinctly denounced this aspect of human behavior, which arose consistently throughout the centuries: **“Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like a mortal human being and birds and animals and reptiles”** (Romans 1:22–23, NIV).

Isaiah 40:21–22 points to evidence of God as the all-powerful Creator who can be seen throughout His creation. **It is important to remember that all specific revelation regarding the means to salvation has only been revealed in God’s written Word. But throughout the Bible, numbers of writers were inspired to direct people’s attention to the grandeur of nature as a means of encouraging praise to the Creator and refuting those who would deny His existence. The believer, who lives in personal relationship with the Heavenly Father through Jesus, can discern a multitude of reasons to offer daily praise while enjoying nature’s beauty.**

Isaiah 40:23–24 can be a source of encouragement to followers of Christ today. **The point is made that no earthly authority is able to stand against God successfully.**

Isaiah’s illustration of princes being blown away like chaff by God’s breath may remind us of the earlier statement about human frailty (see verses 6–8). **The loftiest government figures are no more able to stand against God than any other person.**

Discuss

? What modern examples of idolatry can you name, even in cultures that hold to a basic Judeo-Christian worldview?

? When have you found yourself praising God in response to a display of nature’s beauty?

God Strengthens His People

Isaiah 40:27–31

[Isa 40:25-31 KJV] 25 To whom then will ye liken me, or shall I be equal? saith the Holy One. 26 Lift up your eyes on high, and behold who hath created these [things], that bringeth out their host by number: he calleth them all by names by the greatness of his might, for that [he is] strong in power; not one faileth. 27 Why sayest thou, O Jacob, and speakest, O Israel, My way is hid from the LORD, and my judgment is passed over from my God? 28 Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, [that] the everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? [there is] no searching of his understanding. 29 He giveth power to the faint; and to [them that have] no might he increaseth strength. 30 Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall: 31 But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew [their] strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; [and] they shall walk, and not faint.

Say: Sometimes, when life isn't going as we had hoped, it's easy to feel abandoned and perhaps wonder if God is hearing our prayers. Apparently, the people of Judah were struggling with such feelings, but **Isaiah reminded God's people that God will provide strength to face the trials of life.**(Share your highlights from the following text.)

Isaiah 40:27 reminds us that God relates to us intimately, fully aware of our emotions and our range of responses to life's difficulties. **When we face sorrow and pain, we cry out to God. That cry is often quite simple: "Help me, Lord!" Sometimes, we might even be inclined to ask "Why?"** questions, just as we see in the Book of Psalms (see Psalms 10:1; 44:23; 88:14).

God does not shy away from our questions, but invites us to seek Him for answers, then apply those answers to our needs. **God's first answer in Isaiah 40:28 was to redirect His people's attention to His power. He then promised in verse 29 that His power is put into action to provide His strength in place of our human weakness. This, again, is a clear presentation of God as both powerful and loving.**

Isaiah 40:30–31 reminds us that God's strength is fully capable of carrying us through every stage of life. The most energetic young person grows weary, so reliance on human strength and ability is by nature limited. In contrast, those who are faithful to God find themselves renewed regardless of age or personal strength. **The clear invitation is to take hold of God's extended helping hand, recognize both His care for us and His desire to hold the central**

place in our lives, and then embrace those callings that reflect His desire for our lives (see 1 Peter 5:7; Ephesians 2:10).

[1Pe 5:7 KJV] 7 Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.

[Eph 2:10 KJV] 10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

Resource Packet Item 3: Hard Questions

Distribute the work sheet. Explain that students can write in hard questions they are grappling with, then use the questions after each one to help them find answers. They might also take the sheet home to use in their personal time with God.

Discuss

? Describe a time when you called out to God amid great difficulty. In what ways did He help you? What did you learn from the experience?

? What are some ways we see God's power at work today?

What Is God Saying to Us?

Say: In order to renew our strength amid life's challenges, we need to deepen our relationship with God. To "wait" on the Lord is to live each day expectantly, with the goal of shaping every thought and word in light of that relationship. Such thoughts, words and actions should align with God's character as we prioritize studying God's Word, seek Him in prayer, and connect with other Christians. Let's evaluate if we have neglected one or more of these areas, and pray for new opportunities this coming week to strengthen any weaknesses we identify.

Living It Out

Ministry in Action

- Take time to tell someone about the greatness of God.
- Do something tangible to be the hand of God extended to someone in need.
- Pray for someone you know who is going through a time of illness or discouragement. Call them or send them a note to let them know you are praying for them..

Daily Bible Readings

Monday:

God Provides a Sacrifice.
Genesis 22:7–14

[Gen 22:7-14 KJV] 7 And Isaac spake unto Abraham his father, and said, My father: and he said, Here [am] I, my son. And he said, Behold the fire and the wood: but where [is] the lamb for a burnt offering? 8 And Abraham said, My son, God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering: so they went both of them

together. 9 And they came to the place which God had told him of; and Abraham built an altar there, and laid the wood in order, and bound Isaac his son, and laid him on the altar upon the wood. 10 And Abraham stretched forth his hand, and took the knife to slay his son. 11 And the angel of the LORD called unto him out of heaven, and said, Abraham, Abraham: and he said, Here [am] I. 12 And he said, Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou any thing unto him: for now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only [son] from me. 13 And Abraham lifted up his eyes, and looked, and behold behind [him] a ram caught in a thicket by his horns: and Abraham went and took the ram, and offered him up for a burnt offering in the stead of his son. 14 And Abraham called the name of that place Jehovahjireh: as it is said [to] this day, In the mount of the LORD it shall be seen.

Tuesday:

God's Provision in the Wilderness.

Deuteronomy 8:1–10

[Deu 8:1-10 KJV] 1 All the commandments which I command thee this day shall ye observe to do, that ye may live, and multiply, and go in and possess the land which the LORD swore unto your fathers. 2 And thou shalt remember all the way which the LORD thy God led thee these forty years in the wilderness, to humble thee, [and] to prove thee, to know what [was] in thine heart, whether thou wouldest keep his commandments, or no. 3 And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every [word] that proceedeth out of the mouth of the LORD doth man live. 4 Thy raiment waxed not old upon thee, neither did thy foot swell, these forty years. 5 Thou shalt also consider in thine heart, that, as a man chasteneth his son, [so] the LORD thy God chasteneth thee. 6 Therefore thou shalt keep the commandments of the LORD thy God, to walk in his ways, and to fear him. 7 For the LORD thy God bringeth thee into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and depths that spring out of valleys and hills; 8 A land of wheat, and barley, and vines, and fig trees, and pomegranates; a land of oil olive, and honey; 9 A land wherein thou shalt eat bread without scarceness, thou shalt not lack any [thing] in it; a land whose stones [are] iron, and out of whose hills thou mayest dig brass. 10 When thou hast eaten and art full, then thou shalt bless the LORD thy God for the good land which he hath given thee.

Wednesday:

God Provides for Elijah.

1 Kings 17:1–7

[1Ki 17:1-7 KJV] 1 And Elijah the Tishbite, [who was] of the inhabitants of Gilead, said unto Ahab, [As] the LORD God of Israel liveth, before whom I stand,

there shall not be dew nor rain these years, but according to my word. 2 And the word of the LORD came unto him, saying, 3 Get thee hence, and turn thee eastward, and hide thyself by the brook Cherith, that [is] before Jordan. 4 And it shall be, [that] thou shalt drink of the brook; and I have commanded the ravens to feed thee there. 5 So he went and did according unto the word of the LORD: for he went and dwelt by the brook Cherith, that [is] before Jordan. 6 And the ravens brought him bread and flesh in the morning, and bread and flesh in the evening; and he drank of the brook. 7 And it came to pass after a while, that the brook dried up, because there had been no rain in the land.

Thursday:

God Provides Food and Clothing.
Matthew 6:25–34

[Mat 6:25-34 KJV] 25 Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment? 26 Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they? 27 Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature? 28 And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: 29 And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. 30 Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, [shall he] not much more [clothe] you, O ye of little faith? 31 Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? 32 (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. 33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. 34 Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day [is] the evil thereof.

Friday:

Paul Is Promised Protection.
Acts 27:21–26

[Act 27:21-26 KJV] 21 But after long abstinence Paul stood forth in the midst of them, and said, Sirs, ye should have hearkened unto me, and not have loosed from Crete, and to have gained this harm and loss. 22 And now I exhort you to be of good cheer: for there shall be no loss of [any man's] life among you, but of the ship. 23 For there stood by me this night the angel of God, whose I am, and whom I serve, 24 Saying, Fear not, Paul; thou must be brought before Caesar: and, lo, God hath given thee all them that sail with thee. 25 Wherefore, sirs, be of good cheer: for I believe God, that it shall be even as it was told me. 26 Howbeit we must be cast upon a certain island.

Saturday:

Jesus Christ, Our Shepherd.
Revelation 7:13–17

[Rev 7:13-17 KJV] 13 And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they? 14 And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. 15 Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them. 16 They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat. 17 For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.