



## **'MESSAGE WAITING'**

**Isaiah 40:27-31**

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The age in which we live has been infected by a seemingly unquenchable desire for the next great thrill. It is almost as if little holds our attention or affections for very long. Invariably, someone will introduce another method for achieving the safety and security we all seek, and many will clamor for this newest thrill. Succumbing to this desire has its consequences. In the physical realm, it can lead to the counterfeiting of the Holy Spirit. Emotionally, it lends itself to the destruction of our morals and values. More importantly, this desire can hinder or destroy our relationship with God.

This was Israel's situation. Despite the blessings God had bestowed on them in the past, God's people continued to be drawn in by the 'next great thrill.' Ignoring God's instruction to trust Him in the whole of life, in order to avoid captivity, Israel formed alliances with foreign and ungodly powers for protection and peace. They began to put their hope in things made by human hands rather than trusting in God. Yet, the very situation they sought to avoid became their reality. After hearing Isaiah's messages of judgment, Israel felt abandoned by God. They wondered if the Lord even cared.

Today, there are those who have exchanged faith in God with trust in 'things made by human hands,' such as finances, positions or even the rituals and ceremonies of the Church. Putting our trust in anyone or anything other than God Almighty can lead us also into captivity and leave us feeling abandoned.

Yes, Isaiah delivered a message of judgment to God's people for their disobedience. However, it was not the last word. God always has another message—a message of hope and restoration.

Have you strayed? Have other things taken precedence over God in your life, leaving you feeling exiled, dispirited and despondent? There is another message waiting, just for you. What is the message?

*God, who stepped out on nothing; called order out of chaos; fashioned humanity in His image, whose strength knows no boundaries; who empowers the faint and powerless will Revive, Renew and Restore you—if you trust Him. Those who wait on God shall fly.*

*Reverend Kathi Chavous*