

## Isaiah 40:31

***But those who wait on 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.***

Don't you just love this verse? We all know it and some even have it on their coffee cup or hanging up in their homes or office at work. It's like a companion verse to:

✠ **Philippians 4:13** *I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.*

I even see posting on social media where some say that satan needs to watch out because they are the storm. Which is totally 100% not scriptural, if it were true, don't you think Job would have said that to satan?

But in today's devotional verse, there is one little four letter word we seem to glance over or almost overlook. Some will say that they claim this verse for themselves "right now", because the Lord will renew my strength "right now". But the verse is not saying that, instead it is saying to "**wait**" and in order to "**wait**", that means it won't happen "right now", this very instance when you tell the Lord it's time for Him to do this for you.

*"But I don't want to wait, I need strength now."* You may be thinking, which is fine, but if that's the case, don't quote this verse, because it clearly says to wait. "***those who wait on the LORD***"

But think back over our life, when things seemed tough, and we felt helpless, and it seemed like whatever we were going through was lasting forever. Didn't the Lord come through and give us the strength at just the right time to make it through?

What if the Lord gave us that strength the moment each and every time we ask Him to, how would the Lord be glorified in that, and how soon would we call it our own strength instead of strength from the Lord?

But the bible says:

✠ **Romans 15:4 (NLT2)** *Such things were written in the Scriptures long ago to teach us. And the Scriptures give us hope and encouragement as we wait patiently for God's promises to be fulfilled. (underlined for emphasis)*

This may not be very encouraging to you if you are not reading it correctly. Sure you can take short cuts and find other (worldly) ways to get strength. But how temporary and unfulfilling is that? We all know that because we have all done it, running to the bank begging for a loan, running to the bar to have alcohol as your strength, running to your worldly friends who give you ungodly counsel... But when you do, then:

**Your strength is renewed like a puff of smoke from a lite cigarette. You mount up like a cell phone with 1% left on the charge. You run up your debt and take a nap to keep from fainting.**

Put that on a coffee cup or frame it for others to hang in their homes and see how many won't buy it.

Oh, that we would truly "*wait on the LORD*"; then we will know His strength!

† *But those who wait on 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.*

† *Romans 15:5-6 Now may the God of patience and comfort grant you to be like-minded toward one another, according to Christ Jesus, that you may with one mind and one mouth glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.*