TOPIC PRINTABLE

Strength

Strength for endurance — and where Scripture locates it.

PSALM 46:1

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

God is called a refuge and strength — a place to run to and a power to rely on — "a very present help."

ISAIAH 41:10

Don't you be afraid, for I am with you. Don't be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you. Yes, I will help you. Yes, I will uphold you with the right hand of My righteousness.

Do not fear, for I am with you: courage grounded in presence rather than in the absence of danger.

JOSHUA 1:9

Haven't I commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Don't be afraid. Don't be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."

"Be strong and courageous" is spoken to Joshua as he takes up Moses' task of leading Israel — with the reason: God goes with him.

PSALM 27:1

The LORD is my light and my salvation. Whom shall I fear? The LORD is the strength of my life. Of whom shall I be afraid?

If the LORD is light and salvation, the psalmist asks, whom shall I fear?

ISAIAH 40:29–31

He gives power to the weak. He increases the strength of him who has no might. Even the youths faint and get weary, and the young men utterly fall; but those who wait for the LORD will renew their strength. They will mount up with wings like eagles. They will run, and not be weary. They will walk, and not faint.

Strength is given to the weary — even the young stumble, but those who wait on the LORD renew their

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strength.

2 CORINTHIANS 12:9–10

He has said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is made perfect in weakness.” Most gladly therefore I will rather glory in my weaknesses, that the power of Christ may rest on me. Therefore I take pleasure in weaknesses, in injuries, in necessities, in persecutions, and in distresses, for Christ’s sake. For when I am weak, then am I strong.

Paul learns that God’s power is made perfect in weakness. Strength is not the absence of weakness but grace within it.

NEHEMIAH 8:10

Then he said to them, “Go your way. Eat the fat, drink the sweet, and send portions to him for whom nothing is prepared, for today is holy to our Lord. Don’t be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength.”

“The joy of the LORD is your strength” — said to a people weeping as they heard the law read after returning from exile.

EPHESIANS 6:10

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might.

Be strong “in the Lord”: strength drawn from outside oneself, introducing the armor-of-God passage.

PHILIPPIANS 4:13

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

Often quoted for achievement, this verse is about contentment in need and in plenty (read 4:11-13).

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