

I am writing this article prior to knowing the results of the 2020 presidential election. There is a chance that even by the time of its publication in the CB North Central newsletter, that the results of the election will still be unclear. As we hear daily reports of cities bracing for potential unrest as a result of the election, and as both sides raise questions as to whether or not they will accept defeat, it is easy to be anxious. It is easy to worry. It is easy to wonder. In times like these, Isaiah 40 is a passage of great comfort to me. In it, we get a glimpse of God's perspective into our world. We read in Isaiah 40,



“¹²Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand and marked off the heavens with a span, enclosed the dust of the earth in a measure and weighed the mountains in scales and the hills in a balance? ¹³Who has measured the Spirit of the Lord, or what man shows him his counsel? ¹⁴Whom did he consult, and who made him understand? Who taught him the path of justice, and taught him knowledge, and showed him the way of understanding? ¹⁵Behold, the nations are like a drop from a bucket, and are accounted as the dust on the scales; behold, he takes up the coastlands like fine dust. ¹⁶Lebanon would not suffice for fuel, nor are its beasts enough for a burnt offering. ¹⁷All the nations are as nothing before him, they are accounted by him as less than nothing and emptiness...²¹Do you not know? Do you not hear? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? ²²It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to dwell in; ²³who brings princes to nothing, and makes the rulers of the earth as emptiness.” Isaiah 40: 12-17, 21-23 ESV

Now if you find those few verses to be of any encouragement, then I would encourage you to read all of that glorious chapter. It is such a comfort to me to know how big our God is. It is such a comfort to know that I am a grasshopper, and that everyone else I see on the television is as well.

Whatever happens in the rest of this memorable year of two thousand and twenty, we can be certain that God is greater than all of it. We can be certain that none of it is a surprise to God. We can be certain that God is at work in all of it. We can be certain that despite our condition as grasshoppers, God will be with us through all of it. We can be certain that God will strengthen us in it. We can be certain of this because that is what this great chapter ends by telling us so powerfully.

“²⁸Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. ²⁹He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. ³⁰Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; ³¹but they who wait for 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.” Isaiah 40:28-31 ESV

Do your best with whatever trials and unique challenges you are facing in your corner of the world today, and trust our great and sovereign God with the rest.

Sincerely,

A Plaid Pastor

-by Pastor Josh Emmel, Faith Baptist Church, Kenmare, ND