

power. Now He points back to the fact that He originated all that exists. He asserts that He can never become weary and that His understanding passes all human knowledge.

In the next three verses He promises that some of His endless strength will be imparted to His people. These verses should bring help and comfort to any believer who faces difficulties, but they must have had a very special meaning for the exiles.

Dragged from their homes and forced to live in areas hundreds of miles away, the exiles would think of the great distance between them and the land of Israel and would wonder how they could ever return. The thought of the long trip over difficult terrain would be enough to make even young men grow utterly weary. God promises that He will renew their strength. As they start their journey they will feel as if they are mounting up with wings as eagles. They will tend to run in their haste to get back to their homeland, but will not become as tired as might be expected. The climax is not reached in the sudden spurts, exhilarating as they may be, but in the ability to stick to the task until it is completed. Not only will they run and not grow weary; they will be able to continue the long walk and not become exhausted.

Chapter 40 ends in a way that would seem particularly related to the difficulties of returning from exile, and leads naturally into the succeeding chapters, where some of the immediate problems of the Exile are specifically discussed.