

## *God's Word Lasts Forever*

### **Isaiah 40:8**

**The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.**

When things break, the phrase “nothing lasts forever” can be heard. That includes everything here on earth except the Word of God.

Our verse mentions grass and flowers. Green grass and colorful flowers bring cheer and gladness in the spring time. The dullness of winter is finally past and it's time to look forward to the warmth of the summer. Jesus says that the lilies are more beautiful than Solomon in all his glory. (Luke 12:27) Yet when winter comes they will die.

Assyria and Babylon had conquered and enslaved Israel (both North and South) and made their lives very bitter. Now all their power would soon vanish. The plans and purposes of the nations will not prevail. Many mighty powers have vanished since then.

No matter what humans may accomplish, death still stalks every last one of us and will eventually pounce on us all and devour us. We are not to place our hopes and dreams on anything human, no matter how glorious it seems.

Unlike the frailty of created things, God's Word remains for all time. Matthew 24:35 says: “Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.” Finally, when the Lord returns, the earth and all that is within it will be destroyed. The Word of the Lord will survive even that catastrophe. It is permanent and enduring.

The power is the Word of the Lord. Trusting in that Word and using that Word, God's people can confidently face the future, which will bring Israel results that are otherwise humanly impossible.

In the original there is a “but” that precedes the phrase “word of our God stands forever.” This is a defiant “but.” God's Word is indestructible! It is “forever fixed in the heavens” Ps. 119:89). And so, the Gospel promises in Is. 40:1-2 will forever stand!

Prayer: Dear Lord, breathe on me Your life-giving Spirit through the faithful promises in Your Word. Then I will be swayed by Your mercy and bear fruit to Your glory. Amen. (TLSB)