

In God We Trust?

Isaiah 44

God, not idols, can only give spiritual life.

A. The Characteristics Of The People of God

(Isaiah 44:1-5)

- 1. Chosen by God (44:1)**
- 2. Created by God (44:2)**
- 3. Consecrated by God (44:3-4)**
- 4. Committed to God (44:5)**

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B. The Constants Of The Person of God (Isaiah 44:6-9)

1. Unique (44:6)

Isaiah 40:25

2 Unmatched by idols ... (44:7-9)

a. That are not all-knowing (v 7)

b. That are not all-powerful (v 8)

c. That are not worth anything (v 9)

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C. The Calamity Of The People of Idolatry

(Isaiah 44:10-20)

- 1. Their idols are not profitable (44:10)**
- 2. Their idols are not protecting (44:11)**
- 3. Their idols sap their strength and resources (44:12-13)**
- 4. Their idols are misuse of God's resources (44:14)**
- 5. Their idols blind them to God's provision (44:15-17)**
- 6. Their idols are dead (44:18)**
- 7. Their idols blind them from the knowledge of the true God (44:19-20)**

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D. The Conditions For Reconciliation (Isaiah 44:21-28)

1. Remember God (44:21)

2. Repent (44:22)

3. Rejoice (44:23)

4. Rest (44:24-28)

a. On God's creation power (v 24)

b. On God's conquering wisdom (v 25)

c. On God's confirmed word (vv26-28)

1). His prophecy of the restoration of Jerusalem (v 26)

2). His pattern of the restoration of Jerusalem (v 27)

3). His person of the restoration of Jerusalem (v 28)

An Instrument of God

Isaiah 45

God can work through unlikely sources or people

I. God's Person - Cyrus (Isaiah 45:1-5)

A. Chosen by God (45:1)

Isaiah 45:1

Thus saith the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have holden, to subdue nations before him; and I will loose the loins of kings, to open before him the two leaved gates; and the gates shall not be shut;

1. Anointed by God

2. Upheld (sustained) by God

3. Purposed by God

Proverbs 21:1

The king's heart is in the hand of the LORD, as the rivers of water: he turneth it whithersoever he will.

I. God's Person - Cyrus (Isaiah 45:1-5)

B. Led by God (45:2)

Isaiah 45:2

**I will go before thee, and make the crooked places straight:
I will break in pieces the gates of brass, and cut in sunder
the bars of iron:**

Deuteronomy 1:33

**Who went in the way before you, to search you out a place
to pitch your tents in, in fire by night, to shew you by what
way ye should go, and in a cloud by day.**

I. God's Person - Cyrus (Isaiah 45:1-5)

C. Rewarded by God (45:3)

Isaiah 45:3

And I will give thee the treasures of darkness, and hidden riches of secret places, that thou mayest know that I, the LORD, which call thee by thy name, am the God of Israel.

I. God's Person - Cyrus (Isaiah 45:1-5)

D. Promised redeemer for Israel (45:4-5)

Isaiah 45:4-5

4 For Jacob my servant's sake, and Israel mine elect, I have even called thee by thy name: I have surnamed thee, though thou hast not known me.

5 I am the LORD, and there is none else, there is no God beside me: I girded thee, though thou hast not known me:

Jeremiah 1:5

Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations.

II. God's Power - Creation (Isaiah 45:6-13)

A. No one else is God (45:6)

Isaiah 45:6

That they may know from the rising of the sun, and from the west, that there is none beside me. I am the LORD, and there is none else.

II. God's Power - Creation (Isaiah 45:6-13)

B. God alone is Creator (45:7-8)

Isaiah 45:7-8

7 I form the light, and create darkness: I make peace, and create evil: I the LORD do all these things.

8 Drop down, ye heavens, from above, and let the skies pour down righteousness: let the earth open, and let them bring forth salvation, and let righteousness spring up together; I the LORD have created it.

II. God's Power - Creation (Isaiah 45:6-13)

C. Don't argue with God's plan (45:9-10)

Isaiah 45:9-10

9 Woe unto him that striveth with his Maker! Let the potsherd strive with the potsherds of the earth. Shall the clay say to him that fashioneth it, What makest thou? or thy work, He hath no hands?

10 Woe unto him that saith unto his father, What begettest thou? or to the woman, What hast thou brought forth?

II. God's Power - Creation (Isaiah 45:6-13)

D. Accept God's deliverance (45:11-13)

Isaiah 45:11-13

11 Thus saith the LORD, the Holy One of Israel, and his Maker, Ask me of things to come concerning my sons, and concerning the work of my hands command ye me.

12 I have made the earth, and created man upon it: I, even my hands, have stretched out the heavens, and all their host have I commanded.

13 I have raised him up in righteousness, and I will direct all his ways: he shall build my city, and he shall let go my captives, not for price nor reward, saith the LORD of hosts.

III. God's Plan - Continuation of Israel

(Isaiah 45:14-25)

A. For His Glory (45:14-16)

Isaiah 45:14-16

14 Thus saith the LORD, The labour of Egypt, and merchandise of Ethiopia and of the Sabeans, men of stature, shall come over unto thee, and they shall be thine: they shall come after thee; in chains they shall come over, and they shall fall down unto thee, they shall make supplication unto thee, saying, Surely God is in thee; and there is none else, there is no God.

15 Verily thou art a God that hidest thyself, O God of Israel, the Saviour.

16 They shall be ashamed, and also confounded, all of them: they shall go to confusion together that are makers of idols.

There is only one God

III. God's Plan - Continuation of Israel

(Isaiah 45:14-25)

B. For His Promise (45:17-19)

Isaiah 45:17-19

17 But Israel shall be saved in the LORD with an everlasting salvation: ye shall not be ashamed nor confounded world without end.

18 For thus saith the LORD that created the heavens; God himself that formed the earth and made it; he hath established it, he created it not in vain, he formed it to be inhabited: I am the LORD; and there is none else.

19 I have not spoken in secret, in a dark place of the earth: I said not unto the seed of Jacob, Seek ye me in vain: I the LORD speak righteousness, I declare things that are right.

God does not work in vain

III. God's Plan - Continuation of Israel

(Isaiah 45:14-25)

C. By His Redeemer (45:20-25)

1. A challenge to find another Savior (vv 20-21)

Isaiah 45:20-21

20 Assemble yourselves and come; draw near together, ye that are escaped of the nations: they have no knowledge that set up the wood of their graven image, and pray unto a god that cannot save.

21 Tell ye, and bring them near; yea, let them take counsel together: who hath declared this from ancient time? who hath told it from that time? have not I the LORD? and there is no God else beside me; a just God and a Saviour; there is none beside me.

III. God's Plan - Continuation of Israel

(Isaiah 45:14-25)

C. By His Redeemer (45:20-25) - continued

2. Salvation can only come from God (v 22)

Isaiah 45:22

**Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth:
for I am God, and there is none else.**

III. God's Plan - Continuation of Israel

(Isaiah 45:14-25)

C. By His Redeemer (45:20-25) - continued

3. Salvation is only found in Christ (vv 23-25)

Isaiah 45:23-25

23 I have sworn by myself, the word is gone out of my mouth in righteousness, and shall not return, That unto me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear.

24 Surely, shall one say, in the LORD have I righteousness and strength: even to him shall men come; and all that are incensed against him shall be ashamed.

25 In the LORD shall all the seed of Israel be justified, and shall glory.

Is God Using Us?