

## Is. 45:20-25 “There Is No Other”

**For the Children:** In the OT, people from the nations around Israel could see that God was real from the way He kept saving Israel from their enemies. Think of how He set them free from Egypt! No other nation could find any such evidence for the existence of their false gods. Today, the Lord Jesus frees us from our enemies too: from Satan, sin and death. He is the only Saviour. There is no other. Of course, we can't see that in the way the Egyptians could see and feel the plagues. But when we leave this life, we will see it. For now, we believe it because God says it is so in His Word. The God who wrote this Word is the same One who delivered His people in very visible ways in the OT. **Questions:** How do we know that the other religions of the world are false? How do we know that God always intended to bring Gentiles into His Kingdom? Since God is the only true God, how should we respond to Him?

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### **Introduction:**

#### **First Point: The Call to the Nations to Hear**

- 1) A Call to Fugitives: The term “fugitives” is debated. It could mean the survivors of various temporal judgements, such as in the campaigns of King Cyrus. It definitely refers to Gentiles – an indication that the Lord was intending to include them in His Kingdom.
- 2) The Impotence of Their Idols: The message to these nations is that their idols are useless and impotent. They cannot save anyone from Cyrus or other crises. Even if the nations consult together, they will not be able to produce any evidence to the contrary.
- 3) Contrast with the Living God: By way of contrast, Yahweh has all knowledge, power and righteousness. He can therefore foretell the future with Cyrus and other rulers and events concerning His people. He always keeps His Word, so His prophecies always come true. He would use Cyrus to deliver His people.. For He is the Saviour-God. There is no other. See the refrain of vss. 5,6,14,21 and 22.

#### **Second Point: The Call to the Nations to Repent**

- 1) A Universal Call to Repentance: The call to repentance here is universal in the sense that it applies to all the nations. For “every knee will bow” (v. 23), not just Jewish knees. People from all nations will bow before the Lord in the New Creation.
- 2) A Covenant Promise: God has sworn this on oath – it is a covenant promise – therefore it must take place, since He knows the future, always keeps His Word and cannot be thwarted. This promise cannot be turned back.
- 3) Two Outcomes: All must submit to God's will. For some, those who are angry at Him, this means they will be put to eternal shame. The other outcome is that some will confess that righteousness and strength are only in the Lord. They will apply this to Christ, seeing the truth of Jn. 14:6. They will confess that He is the only Saviour. These are the “offspring of Israel,” both Jew and Gentile, who will repent of their sin, turn to the Lord Jesus, be justified and glory in Him.

### **Conclusion:**

