

# The Supremacy of the Lord God vs. The Folly of Idolatry

*"...Is there any God besides Me...?"*

May 29, 2016

Isaiah 44

Dave Jeffries

Memory Verse (May 2016): Isaiah 53:9 *"His grave was assigned with the wicked men, yet He was with a rich man in His death, because He had done no violence, nor was there any deceit in His mouth."*

## Outline of Isaiah

The Book of Judgment: Chapters 1 to 39

The Book of Salvation: Chapters 40 to 66

- **Deliverance of the LORD's People**      **40-48**
- Restoration by the Suffering Servant      49-57
- Restoration Realized and Completed      58-66

Theme Statement: The uniqueness of God is contrasted with the folly of idol worship. In revealing His uniqueness, God provides Israel, His chosen remnant, every reason not to fear, to fully trust in Him, to hope in His promises, and to worship Him alone.

## God's Undeserved Blessing Upon Israel (1-5)

**(1a)** Assurance that though they had sinned (43:23-28) God would have mercy upon His people - "\_\_\_\_\_..."

**(1b)** Israel remains God's \_\_\_\_\_ people – "...whom I have chosen;"

**(2a)** The Lord is their \_\_\_\_\_ – "...the Lord Who made you..."

**(2b)** They have nothing to \_\_\_\_\_ – "...Do not fear..."

**(3-5)** God will pour out His \_\_\_\_\_ on their offspring, His \_\_\_\_\_ on their descendants, they will \_\_\_\_\_, and will experience a general \_\_\_\_\_ to the LORD

## The Lord's Uniqueness & Supremacy as the Only God (6-8)

**(6)** A solemn assertion by Jehovah Himself, that there is \_\_\_\_\_ like Him. He \_\_\_\_\_ is the true God

**(7)** The Lord argues for His uniqueness by \_\_\_\_\_ anyone to tell Him the exact details and the order of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ events

**(8)** Israel has no reason to \_\_\_\_\_ or be \_\_\_\_\_ because they belong to the true God Whose knowledge of the future proves His uniqueness (A striking contrast to the deluded idol-worshiper who trembles in verse 11b)

## The Folly of Idolatry (9-20) [Addressed primarily to pagan Gentiles]

**(9-11)** Idol worship is \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and puts the idol worshippers to \_\_\_\_\_ (the craftsmen are mere men)

**(12)** There would be no \_\_\_\_\_ if the would-be worshipper had not \_\_\_\_\_ it himself!

**(13)** False worship trades the incomparable \_\_\_\_\_ for a man-made idol fashioned like a man, the \_\_\_\_\_

**(14-17a)** The incomparable \_\_\_\_\_ of the one true God versus the foolish use of and worship of \_\_\_\_\_, every day materials

- (17b) The idolater \_\_\_\_\_ down and worships a lifeless, powerless, uncaring piece of \_\_\_\_\_ and asks it to 'Deliver me, for you (wood) are my \_\_\_\_\_. ' (how utterly foolish!)
- (18) Because of the sin of idolatry, God has \_\_\_\_\_ over their eyes so they \_\_\_\_\_ see
- (19) "An \_\_\_\_\_" is the label God assigns to their idolatrous practices
- (20) The idolater's \_\_\_\_\_ heart has turned him aside, and he cannot deliver himself

### God Forgives, Redeems, Delivers, and Restores (21-28)

#### **A Call to Remember These Things---**

- (21a) Israel is God's \_\_\_\_\_ (sovereign election)
- (21b) God will never \_\_\_\_\_ them (eternal security)
- (22a) God has \_\_\_\_\_ their transgressions (complete forgiveness)

#### **A Call to Return to the Lord God---**

- (22b) Jehovah has \_\_\_\_\_ them (redemption)

#### **A Call to Rejoice**

- (23) Calling upon the heavens & earth to \_\_\_\_\_ because God has \_\_\_\_\_ Jacob, and in Israel He shows forth His \_\_\_\_\_
- (24) God made all things by \_\_\_\_\_ without the aid of anyone "by Myself"
- (25) God makes \_\_\_\_\_ out of diviners, and \_\_\_\_\_ the plans of the so-called wise

Through the prophets, His messengers, God predicts what will come to pass: (26-28)

- (26a) He said to Jerusalem, "She shall be \_\_\_\_\_!"
- (26b) The cities of Judah, "They shall be \_\_\_\_\_" and "...will \_\_\_\_\_ up her ruins again."
- (27a) The depth of the sea will, "Be \_\_\_\_\_ up!"
- (28a) And God says of Cyrus, "He is My shepherd! \_\_\_\_\_ all My desire."

### Implications

1. When we see the many gracious uses of the word "But" in the bible, we should count our many blessings that we serve a merciful, forgiving God! 1 Corinthians 6:9-11  
Ephesians 2:1-4 Titus 3:3-5
2. Rest & find comfort in our great God Who knows all things, & perfectly orchestrates every aspect of our lives. Psalm 115
3. Be in awe of our incomparable God Whose uniqueness also gives us every reason not to be afraid, to fully trust in Him, to hope in His promises, and to worship Him alone.
4. Be careful to keep yourselves from idols – anything that attempts to pull your heart away from Christ, our Savior. 1 John 5:21 1 Corinthians 10: 1-14
5. Be a faithful witness to Jesus Christ, the faithful and true God, foretold of in the book of Isaiah!