

GOD'S ABSOLUTES
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Isaiah 45:18-25

1. In writing to Timothy the Apostle Paul wrote the following words found in 1 Tim 1:3-7.

As I urged you upon my departure for Macedonia, remain on at Ephesus so that you may instruct certain men not to teach strange doctrines, 4 nor to pay attention to myths and endless genealogies, which give rise to mere speculation rather than furthering the administration of God which is by faith. **5 But the goal of our instruction is love from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith. 6 For some men, straying from these things, have turned aside to fruitless discussion, 7 wanting to be teachers of the Law, even though they do not understand either what they are saying or the matters about which they make confident assertions.**

2. Notice that he wrote about those who teach strange doctrines which give rise to mere speculations and about others who turned aside to fruitless discussions, understanding either what they are saying or the matters about which they make confident assertions.
3. It has always interested me how absolutely people talk about things that they know absolutely nothing about.
4. For instance most people make confident assertions about matters related to life after death.
 - a. Someone who has been very ill dies and people say things like, "He or she is better off."
 - b. Another popular confident assertion is, "I don't believe a loving God would send anyone to Hell."
 - c. One confident assertion many are holding on to is, "There are many ways to God."
 - d. I even heard of a family that believes that their departed loved one is on a perpetual picnic and sitting around with formerly departed friends drinking beer.
5. How sad that people are willing to embrace the concept of life after death while doing little or nothing about preparing for their departure from this life.
6. This morning I want to talk about some absolute statements God has communicated to us through His prophet Isaiah.
7. They were absolutely true when they were recorded over 2700 years ago, and they are still absolutely true today.
8. Isaiah's ministry was a long one that lasted from 739-681 BC.
 - a. During his ministry the Northern Kingdom of Israel was conquered by the Assyrians in 722 BC.
 - b. The passage we are looking at today was included in a prophetic portion of Scripture having to do with Cyrus, king of Persia, who would not even be born for another 175 years or so.
 - c. He would be God's instrument related to the return of the Jews to Jerusalem from Babylon after the Medes and the Persians brought an end to the Babylonian Empire.
 - d. God knows the end before the beginning, and that is why we can have total confidence in the Bible and all it has to say about every subject it addresses.

I. I am the Lord, and there is none else. 18-19

- A. The people of Judah and Israel had turned to idolatry.
 - B. Notice how many times God states that He alone is God in this one chapter.
 - 1. Isa 45:5-7

"I am the LORD, and there is no other; Besides Me there is no God.
I will gird you (Cyrus), though you have not known Me; 6 **That men may know from the rising to the setting of the sun That there is no one besides Me.** 7
The One forming light and creating darkness, Causing well-being and creating calamity; I am the LORD who does all these.
 - 2. Isa 45:18

"I am the LORD, and there is none else.
 - 3. Isa 45:21

There is no other God besides Me,
 - 4. Isa 45:22

For I am God, and there is no other.
 - C. In Isaiah 45:20 God spoke of those who have no knowledge and who carry about their wooden idol and pray to a god who cannot save.
 - D. Many people today, even those who see themselves as Christians, have adopted views of God that amount to idolatry.
 - E. Numerous people pay lip service to God, but the god they actually believe in has little or no resemblance to the God who is.
- NOTE: Your concept of God may serve you well in this life, but one day you will meet the God who is and your concept, if it is false, will do you no good on that awful day.

II. I am the one and only righteous God and Savior. 21

- A. Many are offended by the exclusive claims made by authentic Christianity, but we cannot deny those claims without declaring God to be a liar.
- B. Jesus declared that He, and He alone, was the Way to the Father. John 14:6
Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; **no one comes to the Father but through Me.**"
- C. Speaking of Jesus Peter boldly declared to the Jewish leaders, "And **there is salvation in no one else;** for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must be saved." Acts 4:12

III. If you would be saved than turn to Me and be saved. 22

- A. Notice that the invitation is extended to "all the ends of the earth."
- B. Paul stated this truth clearly in Rom 10:8-13
But what does it say? "THE WORD IS NEAR YOU, IN YOUR MOUTH AND IN YOUR HEART" — that is, the word of faith which we are preaching, 9 that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; 10 for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation. 11 **For the Scripture says, "WHOEVER BELIEVES IN HIM WILL NOT BE DISAPPOINTED."** 12 **For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, abounding in riches for all who call on Him; 13 for "WHOEVER WILL CALL ON THE NAME OF THE LORD WILL BE SAVED."**

- C. God is not reluctant to save.
- D. Note the simplicity of the invitation.
 - 1. Turn to Me—REPENT.
 - 2. Turn to Me and be saved. Embrace Jesus Christ, My Anointed Savior as your Savior and Lord.

IV. You will either bow now or you will bow later. 23-24

A. Notice the strong oath that God has sworn to Himself, “That to Me every knee will bow, every tongue will swear allegiance, and acknowledge that only in the Lord are righteousness and strength.”

B. We know this oath has to do with Jesus Christ because of the clear teaching in the New Testament. Phil 2:5-11

Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, 6 who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, 7 but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men. 8 Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. 9 For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, 10 **so that at the name of Jesus EVERY KNEE WILL BOW, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.**

C. All who die will one day bow. Ps 22:28-29

For the kingdom is the LORD'S And He rules over the nations. 29 All the prosperous of the earth will eat and worship, All those who go down to the dust will bow before Him, **Even he who cannot keep his soul alive.**

APPLICATION

1. It seems to me that getting this matter settled should be a priority while we still have the opportunity.
2. After all, “It is appointed for men to die once and after this comes judgment.” Hebrews 9:27
3. Those who have turned from sin to Christ need not fear judgment because, “Christ also, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time for salvation without reference to sin, to those who eagerly await Him.” Hebrews 9:28
4. Is God even now speaking to your heart, “Turn to Me and be saved!”
5. Let me ask two straightforward questions in closing.
 - a. What person or entity is supreme in your life?
 - b. What or who is your ultimate passion?