

“God’s Work” **Isaiah 44**

His Chosen V. 1-5

God through Isaiah once again returns to the idea of the remnant, the chosen to reassure the people of His unfailing promises and provision even in the midst of difficulty.

“Hear” V. 1-2 – This is an emphatic command to those right with God and those not, Jacob, Israel, and Jeshurun (upright one, proud, self-sufficient).

“Formed” – God speaks with the authority of the owner and sustainer.

“Spirit” V. 3-5 – In the spiritual desert of pride and distance from God, God will pour out His mercy, grace, and love drawing all men to him through His sacrifice.

Genesis 35:9-15

In that day people will know God and identify themselves as His. **Acts 2:1-4**

Unique V. 6-8

“I Am” – God again declares His preeminence, uniqueness, eternity, and relationship with His chosen people. The language reminds them of Moses and of their role as the witnesses. **Deuteronomy 4:32-40**

Shameful Foolishness V. 9-20

God then contrasts Himself with the folly of idolatry.

“Profit” V. 9-11 – In human terms the reason we worship a god is to gain some profit, redemption, salvation, or at least blessing. What supernatural profit can come from a man made thing. The only thing it will bring is shame!

“Fashion idols” V. 12-20 – God describes the lengthy, laborious process of making an idol but backwards. The ironworker melts, shapes, and pounds the metal over the wooded form to the point of exhaustion. The carpenter sands, chisels, and cuts the block of wood for days to form the image. He selects the tree that has been nourished and planted for this purpose. The same materials and processes are used for menial tasks and functions as well. The wood from the same tree is burnt for warmth and food. What makes one piece fuel and another worthy of worship? **Psalms 115**

“Abomination” – The use of a God created thing in a way that it was not created for.

Deuteronomy 27:15

The Redeemer’s Plans V. 21-28

“I Formed You” V. 21-22 – It is God who fashioned us not us who fashioned Him. He has not forgotten, He has blotted out our sins and has redeemed us.

“Sing” V. 23 – All creation is called on to sing praise to God for who He is and what He has done. **Psalms 69:30-36**

“Frustrates” V. 25 – God frustrates the false prophets and wise men of earth and fulfills the words of the Godly. **Daniel 2:25-30**

“Built” V. 26 – God will rebuild Jerusalem and the temple. **Ezra 3:8-13**

“Cyrus” V. 28 – The pagan King Cyrus will be the one that commands the city and temple to be rebuilt. This was over 100 years before Cyrus was even born.

2 Chronicles 36:17-23

Discussion Questions

In what ways have you been a “witness” of God this week?

What idols do we place before God?

What plans of God have you seen or been reminded of this week?

Homework

Read *Isaiah Ch. 45*

Answer the following questions:

1. What does God’s Word say? List the facts.
2. What does God’s Word mean? Learn the lessons.
3. What does God’s Word mean to me? Listen to His voice.
4. How will I respond to God’s Word today? Live it out.

Write down a situation in your life that needs God’s provision. When God provides for it describe in detail how you saw God work.