

Lesson 19: Isaiah 44-45

Questions

1. What does the Lord do for Israel his servant (44:1-4)?
2. How do the faithful remnant of the Lord's people describe themselves (44:5)?
3. What does the Lord do to show that there is no other God besides him (44:6-8)?
4. How are the idol-makers of Isaiah's day described (44:9-11)?
5. What does the blacksmith and the carpenter do to make idols (44:12-14)?
6. What does the idolater do with the wood that he brings from the forest (44:15-17)?
7. What is the problem with the heart of the idolater (44:18-20)?
8. What does the Lord do for Israel his servant (44:21-23)?
9. What does the Lord do concerning his creation, the liars, and his messengers (44:24-26)?
10. What does the Lord say concerning Jerusalem, the deep, and Cyrus (44:26-28)?
11. What does the Lord do for Cyrus (45:1-3)?

12. What does the Lord use Cyrus to do for the Lord's benefit (45:4-7)?
13. What does the Lord call upon the sky and the earth to do (45:8)?
14. What two woes does Isaiah pronounce against those who would question the Lord (45:9-10)?
15. What does the Lord remind his people of concerning himself and Cyrus (45:11-13)?
16. What do the Egyptians, Ethiopians, and Sabeans do with regard to Israel and the Lord (45:14)?
17. What happens to idol-makers and what happens to Israel (45:15-17)?
18. Why does the Lord create the earth and what does the Lord declare (45:18-19)?
19. What do idols not do and what does the Lord do for all who come to him (45:20-25)?

Digging Deeper

1. Where in the NT is God described as "the first and the last" (44:6)?
2. Where in the OT is the record of Cyrus' proclamation for the temple to be rebuilt in Jerusalem (44:28; 45:13)? When did Isaiah make this prophecy concerning Cyrus and when did Cyrus fulfill this prophecy?

Applications for Today

1. The Lord is the first and the last (44:6; Rev. 1:8).
2. The Lord is the only true God (44:6-8; Eph. 4:6).
3. We need to guard ourselves from idols – the creation of our own hands (44:9-17; 1 Jn. 5:21).
4. People who worship idols lack understanding and are deceived. They need the truth of God's word (44:18-20; 1 Cor. 8:1-7; 12:1-2).
5. Only the Lord can declare something to happen in detail before it happens (44:28 – 45:1; Rev. 1:1,19; 22:6).
6. The Lord uses world leaders to accomplish his purposes: Tiglath-pelesar is “the rod of mine anger” (Isa. 10:5), Nebuchadnezzar is “my servant” (Jer. 43:10), and Cyrus is “my shepherd” (Isa. 44:28), “his anointed” (Isa. 45:1), and “my counsel” (46:11; Prov. 21:1).
7. We must be careful to never question the Lord's wisdom or plans (45:9-10; Rom. 9:14-24; 11:33-36).
8. The Lord saves, but idols do not save (45:15-17, 20-25; Lk. 1:47).