

God Alone is the Savior of Mankind

Isa 43:11-15 I, even I, am the Lord, and besides Me there is no savior. I have declared and saved, I have proclaimed, and there was no foreign god among you; therefore thus says the Lord, "you are My witnesses, that I am God". Indeed before the day was, I am He; and there is no one who can deliver out of My hand; I work, and who will reverse it?" Thus says the Lord, your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel: "For your sake I will send to Babylon, and bring them all down as fugitives — the Chaldeans, who rejoice in their ships. I am the Lord, your Holy One, the Creator of Israel, your King."

We shall learn of God's purpose in His revelation to the church. How often do we want to know God's will for our life? We may ask the following questions; What job should I take? Who should I marry? Should I move out of state? On such matters we have to wait on God's providence. Oh, there may be some conditions that we must consider. Is the person I desire to marry, godly. Or will this job require me to do things I cannot in good conscience do? Will there be any dishonesty involved? Will it require me to work on Sunday keeping me from worship? Or we may ask, if I move to this area will there be a sound church for me and my family? Therefore in our day to day life it may not always be easy to know God's will in our life.

But we shall learn from this passage that it is quite clear that it is God's will that we have an absolute confidence and full assurance in our God and in His written word. There is a reason why God has again and again proclaimed, I am God there is no other. God wants His church to be strong in their faith. To be filled with courage in every conflict and to have confidence in every trial. A passage such as this instructs us to be strong in the Lord, and trust in His sovereign rule over all things. We shall hear Paul's instruction to the church at Corinth, "*watch, stand fast in the faith, be brave, be courageous.*" (1 Cor 16:13)

It is important that we as His church have a full understanding that the Bible is not written to be a bunch of stories. It is a history of real incidents that took place in time and space. The Scriptures were written to give faith and to inform. It is in God's Word that God assures us that He alone is our God.

- A. God is assuring us that He alone is the true God, and He is our God - *I, even I, am the Lord, and besides Me there is no savior. I have declared and saved, I have proclaimed, and there was no foreign god among you; therefore thus says the Lord, "you are My witnesses that I am God"*.
 1. Here, the double use of the pronoun I, makes it emphatic
 - a. I, even I am Yaweh – the eternal self-existing One
 - b. Here we are made to understand that this is the very one that revealed Himself to Moses at the burning bush as "I Am Who I Am".- Ex. 3:14
 - c. This is our Lord Jesus Christ who reveals Himself as "Before Abraham was, I AM" – Jn 8:58
 - d. God here reveals to His church that His existence is a continuing and unchanging existence.
 - e. The God we serve is the God "Who Is and Who Was and Who Is To Come, the Almighty." – Rev 1:8
 - f. Jesus Christ is the same, Yesterday, Today and Forever
 2. The God of Scripture is the only one we can trust in as our Savior - *besides Me there is no savior*
 - a. He alone has declared the past and the future
 - b. There has been no foreign god among them that could do the same
 3. He, the God that created all things, is our God - *Indeed before the day was, I am He; and there is no one who can deliver out of My hand; I work, and who will reverse it?"*
 - a. Before time existed, from eternity God proclaims "I am He"
 - b. No one can deliver out of His hand
 - (1) Nebuchadnezzar – when he asked, "and who is the god who will deliver you from my hands?" Dan 3:15
 - (2) Nebuchadnezzar – "there is no other God who can deliver like this." Dan 3:29
 4. These events from history were written that we might know that He is God, and He alone
 - a. God here is simply telling us, His church, that we can fully trust Him

- (1) He can deliver his people always, no matter what are their circumstances.
 - (2) He will accomplish all his plans; whether it be to save his people, or to destroy his foes.
 - (3) That no one, men or angels or Satan himself can hinder him.
 - (4) The feeble arm of a creature cannot resist God?
- b. All opposition against Him is as fruitless as it is wicked.
 - c. If people wish for happiness, they must fall in with his plans, and aid in the furtherance of his designs.
5. This is the witness of the true church – you are My witnesses
- a. It is to us the oracles of God have been given
 - b. Any time men in the church question the authority of the Word
 - c. Any time men in the church question the Word as it is written
 - d. Any time men in the church question the accuracy of the written Word
 - e. Any time men question the written Word in any manner – they have left off their responsibility as witnesses of God
 - f. Any time we, you or I, question any of the above, we have, in a very real sense, shamed our Lord

B. The Assurance God gives His church

Thus says the Lord, your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel: "For your sake I will send to Babylon, and bring them all down as fugitives — the Chaldeans, who rejoice in their ships. I am the Lord, your Holy One, the Creator of Israel, your King."

1. Take note of who is speaking - *Thus says the Lord, your Redeemer.*
 - a. The written Word is God Himself speaking to mankind
 - b. All Scripture, every chapter, every verse, every line is God inspired, God breathed - *All Scripture is given by inspiration of God – 2 Tim 3:16*
2. He alone is our Redeemer, there is no other means of salvation
3. This too is the witness of the church - *Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved." Acts 4:12*
 - a. This remains true in our pluralistic society
 - b. Understand that when we proclaim, that outside of faith in Jesus Christ one cannot be saved, the world will call us narrow minded and bigots
 - c. But be assured, God will call you a faithful witness
4. All this is true for He is *"the Holy One of Israel"*
 - a. Outside of the imputed righteousness of Christ one cannot stand in the presence of this Holy God
 - b. Without ones sins being covered by the blood of Christ, one cannot stand in the presence of this Holy God

Conclusion: Again we must be mindful that Isaiah is warning the remnant that a chastening from God is coming upon the land

"For your sake I will send to Babylon, and bring them all down as fugitives — the Chaldeans, who rejoice in their ships. I am the Lord, your Holy One, the Creator of Israel, your King."

The earthly kingdom of David is coming to an end

Babylon will destroy the city and the temple

But in time Babylon too will be brought down by King Darius, King of the Medes and Persians

And then another king, by the name of Cyrus, will restore a remnant back to the land, through whom One will be born who is the Christ, the King

And the throne of David will once again be established as a throne eternal in the heavens,

and *God the Lord, the Holy One, the Creator of Israel, your King* will reign forever and ever, and we as God's people will forever be with the Lord for none can stay His hand.