

Thursday Evening Bible Study
Series: The Book of Isaiah

Teaching Summary for Week 80

Isaiah Chapter 45:14-25

The LORD wants Israel to realize that His ultimate goal, with all His acts in human history, is to save both Israel and many people from the foreign nations.

In the future, Israel will be saved and will never again be put to shame.
But anyone who persists in worshipping idols will be put to shame and disgraced.

In the end, every knee will bow before the LORD.

The overarching theme of this section is that the LORD God of Israel is the only God and the only Savior (v. 21 b).

This section consists of two paragraphs.

Each paragraph begins with “Thus says the LORD” ((vv.14, 18), and each one ends with the triumph of Israel (vv. 17, 25).

Here is a high-level outline of this section.

Paragraph 1	Isaiah 45:14-17	Everlasting salvation for Israel: <i>“Israel has been saved by the LORD with an everlasting salvation (verse 17)”.</i>
Paragraph 2	Isaiah 45:18-25	The LORD will provide salvation for all the nations, who will worship and praise Him: <i>“Turn to Me and be saved, all the ends of the earth. For I am God, and there is no other (verse 22).”</i>

Verse-by-verse

Verse 14: The Gentile nations will humbly submit to the nation of Israel. Contrast this with the arrogance of the nations in chapters 13-23.

Verses 14c-15: The nations will praise the God of Israel. See **Zechariah 8:20-23**. God’s ways are hidden until He reveals them. See **Romans 11:33; 1 Timothy 6:16**.

Verse 16: The idols will be seen as complete failures, worthy of shame and humiliation. This wraps up the Isaiah's material in prior chapters contrasting the LORD and the idols. See Seven absolute contrasts between the LORD and idols on page 5 for more information.

Verse 17: The eternal salvation of the nation of Israel. See also **Isaiah 9:6-7**.

Verse 18: God had a purpose and a plan for the redemption of the human race going all the way back to the creation of the heavens and the earth. See **Genesis 1:1, 26-31**. God did not create the earth to be empty and worthless (the Hebrew word is *tohu*); He created it to be inhabited by the man and the woman.

Verse 19: The LORD speaks to Israel with words of righteousness.

Verse 20a: The LORD invites all the people of the Gentile nations to come to Him.

Verse 20b: Their idols are useless. They are empty and worthless. They know nothing and cannot save. See Seven absolute contrasts between the LORD and idols on page 5 for more information.

Verses 21-22: The LORD is the Savior of the whole world. This has been God's objective from the time He formed Israel in the womb. See **Genesis 12:3**. He invites all of the Gentiles to turn to Him and be saved. See **Psalms 22:27** and **1 Thessalonians 1:8-10**.

At the end of the age, all opposition to God will be wiped out, and all the righteous, in Israel and in the nations, will praise God together. See **Psalms 110** and **1 Corinthians 15:20-28**.

God's plans cannot fail, **Isaiah 55:10-11**. His plan is to establish a worldwide kingdom populated by the righteous whom He has saved out of every nation. See also **Isaiah 2:1-4; 11:10; 14:1-3; 19:15-25; 60:1-4**.

In particular, God calls His Servant (the Lord Jesus Christ) to accomplish this. See **Isaiah 42:1, 6, 10-13**.

Verse 23: When the LORD is installed on His throne, all the people, both the righteous and the wicked, will worship Him and praise Him. See **Daniel 7:13-14, Romans 14:11; and Philipians 2:9-11**.

Verses 24-25: Those who call upon the name of the LORD will be saved. Those who do not (refusing in their anger) will be put to shame.

"All the offspring of Israel" verse 25 refers to Israel's descendants according to the promise, not the flesh. See **Romans 2:28-29 and 9:6-8**.

God in His word presents the contrasting destinies of the righteous and the wicked. See **Isaiah 48:22; Psalm 1; Psalm 37; Matthew 25:31-33, 34, 41, 46; John 3:18, 36; 5:28-29**.

Seven absolute contrasts between the LORD and idols

1. The LORD God carries His people, Isaiah 41:10, 13; 46:4.
 - a. The idols are carried by their people, Isaiah 45:20.
2. The LORD speaks to His people, Isaiah 45:19, 23.
 - a. The idols cannot speak. They are made of wood. Isaiah 41:21-29 (note the word *tohu*).
3. The LORD predicts the future and fulfills His word. He is all-powerful and all-knowing, Isaiah 42:9; 43:12; 44:6-8, 21.
 - a. The idols have no knowledge, Isaiah 41:21-29; 45:20.
4. The LORD creates, forms, and establishes: the heavens, the earth, and His people. Isaiah 43:7; 45:12, 18.
 - a. The mute idols are created, formed, and established by mere men, Isaiah 44:9-20.
5. The LORD is the only Savior, Isaiah 45:17, 21-22.
 - a. The gods of idols cannot save, Isaiah 45:20.
6. The LORD gives His people new strength, Isaiah 40:29-31; 41:10.
 - a. The idol brings his worshippers to shame, Isaiah 41:17; 45:16, 24.
7. The LORD acts to deliver His people, Isaiah 41:17-21; 43:1-7.
 - a. The idol can only totter on a shelf, Isaiah 41:7.