

August 12 2018

“Every Knee Will Bow”

Background Chapters: Isaiah 45 (NIV)

Cross References: Romans 1:18-21; Isaiah 29:13-16; Jeremiah 18:1-12; Romans 9:19-21; John 3:14-21; Acts 3:17-20; 2 Corinthians 3:15-18; Philippians 2:9-11

Lesson Idea: Since God is our Maker and Deliverer, we should bow our knees to His Lordship over our lives.

BIBLE IN A YEAR READING PLAN

Aug 12 Jeremiah 1-3	Aug 13 Jeremiah 4-6
Aug 14 Jeremiah 7-9	Aug 15 Jeremiah 10-13
Aug 16 Jeremiah 14-17	Aug 17 Jeremiah 18-22
Aug 18 Jeremiah 23-25	Aug 19 Jeremiah 26-29

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTHS OF THE PASSAGE:

Key verse to memorize: Isaiah 45:5: 5 I am the Lord, and there is no other; apart from me there is no God...

- **God knows the future and accomplishes His plans.**
- **God’s creative power demonstrates His Lordship over all things.**
- **Since God is our maker, we should accept His Lordship over our lives and not argue with His designs for us.**
- **God is the only deliverer. We must turn to the Lord and be saved.**
- **Every knee will bow before the Lord.**

Isaiah 45:1-8 Acknowledge God as Lord

1 *“This is what the Lord says to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I take hold of to subdue nations before him and to strip kings of their armor, to open doors before him so that gates will not be shut:*

2 *I will go before you*

and will level the mountains;

I will break down gates of bronze and cut through bars of iron.

3 *I will give you hidden treasures, riches stored in secret places,*

so that you may know that I am the Lord, the God of Israel, who summons you by name.

4 *For the sake of Jacob my servant,*

of Israel my chosen, I summon you by name

and bestow on you a title of honor, though you do not acknowledge me.

5 I am the Lord, and there is no other; apart from me there is no God.

I will strengthen you,

though you have not acknowledged me,

6 so that from the rising of the sun to the place of its setting

people may know there is none besides me.

I am the Lord, and there is no other.

7 *I form the light and create darkness,*

I bring prosperity and create disaster;

I, the Lord, do all these things.

8 *“You heavens above, rain down my righteousness; let the clouds shower it down.*

Let the earth open wide,

let salvation spring up,

let righteousness flourish with it;

I, the Lord, have created it.

DISCUSSION:

- v 1-4. These verses continue to speak about Cyrus, who was introduced in the last two verses of Isaiah 44 (last week’s lesson). As a reminder, it’s important to note that Cyrus wasn’t born until 200 years later. God is revealing His power to see into the future and His plan to accomplish His purposes.
- Who do these verses say will help Cyrus accomplish his victories, and why?
- V 5-6. What should all men know about the Lord, even though they do not acknowledge Him?
- V 7-8. What does God do to demonstrate His glory and divine power?
- Read Romans 1:18-21. How do these verses emphasize the same truth as Isaiah 45:5-8?

Romans 1:18-21: 18 *The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of people, who suppress the truth by their wickedness, 19 since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. 20 For since the creation of the world God’s invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse. 21 For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave*

thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened.

Isaiah 45:9-13 Don't Argue with Your Maker

**9 "Woe to those who quarrel with their Maker,
those who are nothing but potsherds
among the potsherds on the ground.**

**Does the clay say to the potter,
'What are you making?'**

**Does your work say,
'The potter has no hands?'**

**10 Woe to the one who says to a father,
'What have you begotten?'**

**or to a mother,
'What have you brought to birth?'**

**11 "This is what the Lord says—
the Holy One of Israel, and its Maker:
Concerning things to come,
do you question me about my children,
or give me orders about the work of my hands?"**

**12 It is I who made the earth
and created mankind on it.**

*My own hands stretched out the heavens;
I marshaled their starry hosts.*

**13 I will raise up Cyrus in my righteousness:
I will make all his ways straight.**

*He will rebuild my city
and set my exiles free,
but not for a price or reward,
says the Lord Almighty."*

DISCUSSION:

- v 9-12. Why should we not argue with God about His plans? When is it hardest for you to trust the Lord? Why is it crucial that you trust Him in the hard times as well as the good times? (for more concerning the relationship between the Potter and the clay, see also Isaiah 29:13-16; Jeremiah 18:1-12; Romans 9:19-21)
- V 13. Cyrus was not a righteous or godly man; so how and why did God use him?
- When Cyrus, as king of the Medes and Persians, issued his decree for Jerusalem to be rebuilt, there was absolutely no advantage for him. How does verse 13 prophesy about even that detail?

Isaiah 45:20-25 Bow Your Knees to God

**20 "Gather together and come;
assemble, you fugitives from the nations.**

**Ignorant are those who carry about idols of wood,
who pray to gods that cannot save.**

**21 Declare what is to be, present it—
let them take counsel together.**

*Who foretold this long ago,
who declared it from the distant past?*

Was it not I, the Lord?

*And there is no God apart from me,
a righteous God and a Savior;
there is none but me.*

**22 "Turn to me and be saved,
all you ends of the earth;
for I am God, and there is no other.**

**23 By myself I have sworn,
my mouth has uttered in all integrity
a word that will not be revoked:**

*Before me every knee will bow;
by me every tongue will swear.*

**24 They will say of me, 'In the Lord alone
are deliverance and strength.'"**

*All who have raged against him
will come to him and be put to shame.*

**25 But all the descendants of Israel
will find deliverance in the Lord
and will make their boast in him.**

DISCUSSION:

- v 20. Why do people pray to gods who cannot save?
- V 21. How does God's foreknowledge reveal His Divine Nature?
- V 22. What does it mean to *turn to the Lord and be saved*? (see John 3:14-21; Acts 3:17-20; 2 Corinthians 3:15-18)
- V 23. What does it mean when God swears an oath? What did God say will surely happen some day? Read Philippians 2:9-11. How do these verses when compared to Isaiah 45:23 demonstrate the deity of Christ Jesus?

Philippians 2:9-11:

**9 Therefore God exalted him to the highest place
and gave him the name that is above every name,
10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
11 and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is
Lord, to the glory of God the Father.**

- Where does our deliverance come from? How does your life reflect that you believe that?

Lesson by Bro Stan