

M *y name and My glory will not be compromised. Isaiah Ch.45*
There is no other God besides me, a righteous God and a Savior; there is none besides me. Turn to me and be saved, all the ends of the earth; for I am God, and there is no other. I have sworn by Myself, the word has gone forth from my mouth in righteousness and will not turn back, that to Me every knee will bow, every tongue will swear (allegiance.) Is. 45:21:b-23

- A little history
 - Significant dates.
 - ✓ 587 BC: Jerusalem captured by Babylon
 - ✓ 539 BC: Babylon conquered by Persia
 - ✓ 538 BC: Beginning of return to Jerusalem
 - Who was Cyrus? _____
 - The Persian Empire: _____
 - The decree to reconstruct Jerusalem and the Temple. _____
 - Darius: _____
 - Biblical figures:
 - Daniel: _____
 - Ezra and Nehemiah: _____
 - Haggai and Zechariah: _____
 - The Persian Contribution
 - The first “code” of human rights: _____
 - Religion
 - Zoroaster: _____
 - Dualism: _____
 - Ahura-Mazda: _____
 - Ahrim: _____
- The text
 - 44:28-45:4. The choice of an outsider, Cyrus: _____
 - 45:6-7, 18-19, 21-25. The reason: _____
 - 45:8-13. God’s absolute sovereignty: _____
 - 45:14-17, 20. The chosen: _____
 - The Big picture: _____

The confusion of gods.

- Many gods many names. _____
- The influence of other religions.
 - Syncretism: _____
 - Dualism: _____
 - Deism vs. Theism: _____
 - The Persian influence
 - Dualistic theology: _____
 - The deification of Satan: _____

You must have me confused with someone else.

- Failure to know God
 - “I think God . . .”: _____
 - “How could a loving God . . .”: _____
 - Using God as a genie: _____
 - Thinking for God: _____
- Failure to know Jesus
 - *‘The stone which the builders rejected, this became the chief corner stone?’*
Everyone who falls on that stone will be broken to pieces, but on whoever it falls, it will scatter him like dust. Luke 20:17-18

 - *‘Many will say to Me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?’ And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; DEPART FROM ME, YOU WHO PRACTICE LAWLESSNESS.’* Matt. 7-22-23
 (Psalm 6:8) _____
- Is the Christian message failing in this regard today?

We know that if there does exist an absolute goodness it must hate most of what we do. This is the terrible fix we are in. If the universe is not governed by an absolute goodness, then all our efforts are in the long run hopeless. God is the only comfort. He is also the supreme terror; the thing we most need and the thing we most want to hide from.
C.S. Lewis, Mere Christianity