



## EXPLORE THE BIBLE.

*Isaiah Sermon Series*

*Supports Session 9: God Acts*

*Sermon Title: "There is No Other God" (Isaiah 44:24-45)*

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### **Connection to Isaiah 46**

The text of Isaiah 46:9-10 contains a shocking pronouncement. God alone is God and declares the end from the beginning. God is unequivocal, His purpose will stand. God speaks of how He is going to use the Persian ruler Cyrus to allow His people to go back and rebuild Jerusalem. Isaiah is writing about God's use of a pagan king over 150 years in advance of the actual fulfillment of the prophecy. This prophecy demonstrates that God alone is God and that His council will stand.

### **Introduction/Opening**

How do we know that Isaiah is telling the truth? How do you know if any prophet is telling the truth? It is not as hard as we might think. Is the one that is speaking for God telling the truth? Truth is the clincher; fulfilled prophecy is one the unique aspects of the Bible. God is not afraid to disclose His intentions even when they do not make sense in the present. Throughout the Book of Isaiah, God has been interacting with the nations and in particular Assyria. Isaiah has introduced the Babylonians to the people, but Isaiah goes even beyond Babylon and he comes to the Persian Empire. God graciously discloses His plans so that the people can be assured of His ultimate purpose for them, even when this plan involves exile and judgment.

### **Outline**

1. God is great (44:24–45:8).
  - a) God rules the world.
    - i. God speaks for God.
    - ii. What did God say?
  - b) God raised up Cyrus (44:28–45:6)
    - i. Cyrus will be used by God.
    - ii. Cyrus a pagan pragmatic king
2. God's greatness is challenged (45:9-13).
  - a) Challenges from the clay
  - b) Challenges from the child

3. God's greatness will be affirmed (45:14-25).
  - a) God's unlikely salvation
  - b) God will save the responsive.
  - c) God's ultimatum
    - i. Turn and be saved
    - ii. Rebel and be shamed
    - iii. God will not be ignored

## **Conclusion**

God is sovereign over the nations. God demonstrates this by the reality of fulfilled prophecy. God does not just ask us to believe vague generalities, God asks us to believe specific prophecies. Many of these prophecies that God calls us to believe can be historically verified. This was not only the case of Cyrus as God's anointed, but this is also true of God's anointed Messiah. The nations did rage against God's anointed. They raged to the degree that they even crucified the "Anointed One." The rage of nations did not overthrow God's plan; they fulfilled God's plan (Acts 4:25-29). Because of the death and resurrection of the "Anointed One," God has given Jesus the name that is above every name, and every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord. Neutrality is not an option! Jesus will be bowed to now by choice or later by force.

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