

Questions

1. What are potential problems when people say they believe in God but define Him only as a higher power or a spiritual force? What do we know about the God of the Bible that make such labels inadequate, if not very wrong?
2. Isaiah 43:7 says we are created for God's glory. What does that mean?
3. What does God mean in Isaiah 45:7 when He says, "I make well-being and create calamity"? Consider Gen 50:20; Job 2:10 and Amos 3:6; James 1:13; and 1 John 1:5.
4. What are things that only the Lord can do with calamity? Consider, for example, Isaiah 41:10; 44:2; 45:8
5. When did God call Cyrus to be the human instrument of His deliverance of the exiles in Babylon?
6. On what basis did Yahweh call Israel to be His (43:1)? Read Isaiah 42:18-25. Was it on the basis of Israel's goodness? How does God's calling of sinners magnify His glory?
7. How is man called to respond to these truths about the Lord?

*After each service, if you need prayer,
someone will be available up front to pray with or for you.*

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I Am the Lord

Isaiah 42:18 – 45:25

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With a series of statements marked by the phrase “*I, Yahweh,*” God discloses Himself to be the only Creator, the only sovereign over history, and the only One who calls and chooses His people. It is a powerful message of God's exclusive claims about His own identity.

There is only one transcendent God over all of creation; one being who is the ultimate reality, who cannot be controlled or manipulated. One who is worthy of glory.

The Lord declares His own identity for the sake of His glory through:

1. Creation (40:25-28; 43:7; 45:12, 18)

3. Calling (45:4; 43:1-7)

2. Calamity (45:7, Job 2:10; Amos 3:6, Gen 50:20)
"I make success and create disaster" (CSB)
God ordains shalom (that which is good and healthy) *and*
its opposite.

Responding to these truths:

Do not argue back (45:9)

Come to Him, turn, and believe (45:20-22)