### Isaiah

## Chapter 45

1This is what God is saying to Cyrus  
 ([The one whom He] will anoint…  
 The one to whose hand He will grab,  
 And who’ll cause the nations to listen):  
  
 ‘[For you], I will rip strength from kings,  
 And no doors or gates will be closed before you!  
 2I will travel before you,  
 And before you, I’ll level the mountains!  
 Doors of brass, I will break,  
 And their iron bars will be shattered.  
  
 3‘I’ll give you treasures unfathomed  
 And open to you what’s concealed and unseen,  
 So you’ll know that I am Jehovah, The God…  
 The God of IsraEl, who called you by name.  
  
 4‘Because of My servant Jacob…  
 Yes, because of IsraEl, My chosen,  
 I’ve accepted you and called you by name,  
 Although you have never known Me.  
  
 5‘I am Jehovah, The God…  
 And there are no gods other than Me!  
  
 ‘I’m the One who gave you your power  
 Before you knew who I was,  
 6So that those from the sun in the east  
 And those from where it sets in the west  
 Will know that there are no others beside Me.  
  
 ‘I am Jehovah, The God,  
 And other than Me, there are none!  
 7I’m the One who prepared both the light and the darkness…  
 I’m the One who created peace and hard times.  
  
 ‘I’m Jehovah, The God who accomplished it all;  
 8So be glad you heavens above,  
 And let the clouds sprinkle justice…  
 Let the ground arise and grow mercy,  
 And together, let justice burst forth!  
  
 ‘I’m the Lord who made all there is,  
 9And what excellent things I did make,  
 As though it was done with the clay of a potter.  
  
 ‘Will those who plow land, plow in one day,  
 And will the [thing made of] clay ask the potter:  
  
 ‘What is it that you’ve really accomplished?  
 For, you don’t do any work,  
 And you don’t really have any hands!’  
  
 10‘Woe to those who would ask of their fathers:  
  
 ‘Why did you sire me?  
 And those who would ask of their mothers,  
 Why did you give me birth?’  
  
11Thus says IsraEl’s Most Holy Lord…  
 The One who created it all:  
  
 ‘Ask Me concerning My sons  
 And about the works of My hands…  
 Yes, just go on and ask Me!  
  
 12‘I made the earth and put man upon it,  
 And I established the skies with My hands.  
 I’m the One who instructed the stars,  
 13And the One who raised a just king.  
  
 ‘I’m the One who made his ways straight  
 So that he would rebuild My city  
 And allow the return of My people…   
 But, not for a ransom or gifts,’  
  
So says Jehovah of Armies!  
  
14Thus says Jehovah of Armies:  
  
 ‘I’ll wear out Egypt before you,  
 And Ethiopians and Sabean traders…  
 You’ll pass over men who were proud before you,  
 And they will then be your servants.  
  
 ‘Thereafter, they’ll follow behind you,  
 Shackled and walking in chains.  
 I will hand them over to you,  
 And before you, they must then bow.  
  
 ‘To you, they will pray [as though] you’re a god,  
 And to them, there won’t be any other.  
 15Yet, [I am] a God whom you’ve never known…  
 IsraEl’s God and your Savior.  
  
 16‘So your enemies will be shamed and remorseful  
 Before they’re led off in dishonor.  
  
 ‘O islands, dedicate yourselves to My [cause],  
 17For IsraEl will be freed by Jehovah  
 And [remain that way] throughout the age…  
 Throughout the ages, they’ll not feel shame or regret.’  
  
18Yes, this was what was said by Jehovah,  
 (The One who created the heavens…  
 Who [formed] the earth and made it distinct…  
 Who did not leave it empty or void,  
 But shaped it as a dwelling [for man]):  
  
 ‘I alone am Jehovah…  
 And other than Me, there are none.  
 19I’ve never spoken in secret,  
 Nor explained things in earth’s darkest places.  
 And I never told Jacob’s offspring  
 That they should seek what is foolish!  
  
 ‘I’m Jehovah, the One who speaks what is just,  
 And the One who announces the truth.  
 20So, all should gather and come here…  
 Yes, come here and let’s meet together,  
 O you who’ve been rescued from the nations!  
  
 ‘Yet, they still do not understand…  
 Those who [cut] wood and shape it,  
 Then pray to gods which can’t save them.  
  
 21‘Let all the announcers approach  
 So the whole congregation may know  
 Who it was that accomplished these things.  
  
 ‘From ancient times, it has been announced  
 That I am [Jehovah], The God!  
 There are none others that are truly righteous,  
 And there are none others that can save them…  
 Yes, other than Me, there are none!  
  
 22‘So, turn to Me and I’ll rescue  
 All those who’ve been scattered to the ends of the earth…  
 Yes, I’m the only God, and there aren’t any others!  
  
 23‘Now I’ve sworn an oath by Myself  
 That what comes from My mouth will be righteous…  
 None of My words will be twisted.  
  
 24‘So to Me, every knee shall bend low,  
 And by Me, every tongue shall swear oaths.  
 25Justice and glory shall be offered before Me,  
 And those leaving Jehovah shall feel shame.  
 26For, IsraEl’s offspring must be righteous  
 And [speak] gloriously of their [most holy] God.’