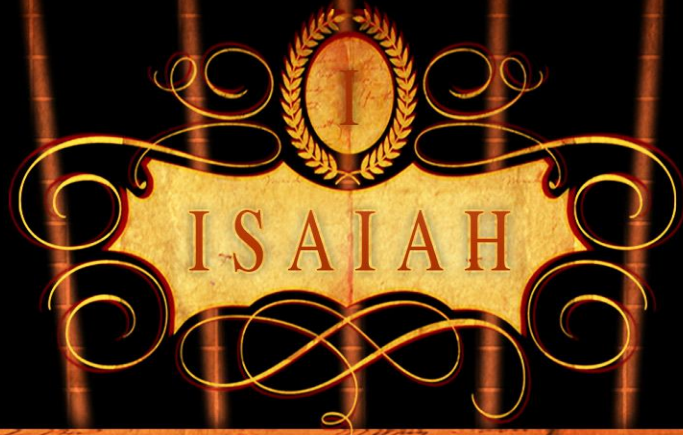




RUINED AND RECONCILED

**Living Passionately for God's Glory  
In the Potter's Hands**



A N S W E R I N G   G O D ' S   C A L L

- A main reason to stay away from idols is God's greatness
- Great plans
- Great works in me
- God has a unique, special, custom-made plan for me and He's working all things together for my good in His purposes
- Will I submit to them?



A N S W E R I N G   G O D ' S   C A L L

## Isaiah 45:1-4

Thus says the LORD to Cyrus His anointed,  
Whom I have taken by the right hand,  
To subdue nations before him and to loose the  
loins of kings; To open doors before him so that  
gates will not be shut: <sup>2</sup> “I will go before you and  
make the rough places smooth; I will shatter the  
doors of bronze and cut through their iron bars.



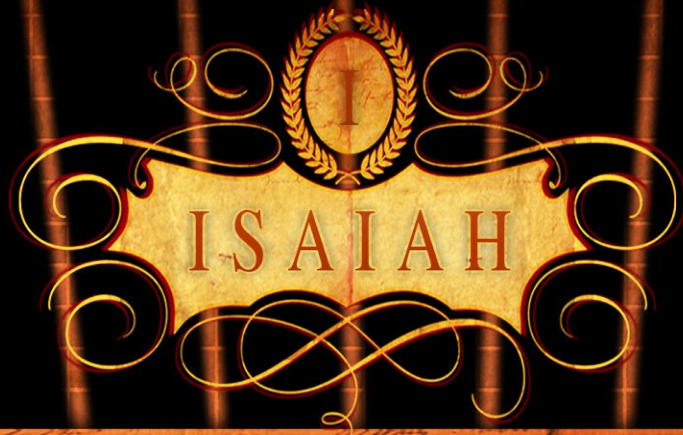
A N S W E R I N G   G O D ' S   C A L L

<sup>3</sup> “I will give you the treasures of darkness and hidden wealth of secret places, so that you may know that it is I, the LORD, the God of Israel, who calls you by your name. <sup>4</sup> “For the sake of Jacob My servant, and Israel My chosen *one*, I have also called you by your name; I have given you a title of honor though you have not known Me.



A N S W E R I N G   G O D ' S   C A L L

- Cyrus wouldn't be king for 200 years
- How's that helping me?
- What about the us of tomorrow?
- Cyrus was a pagan king, anointed by God
- How often does God do this?
- Behind all things, God is refining His Church



A N S W E R I N G   G O D ' S   C A L L

- Treasures in your darkness
- Invaluable things God gives in our darkness
- I can live passionately for God when I see the treasures from the darkness



A N S W E R I N G   G O D ' S   C A L L

## Isaiah 45:5-7

<sup>5</sup> “I am the LORD, and there is no other;  
Besides Me there is no God.

I will gird you, though you have not known Me;

<sup>6</sup> That men may know from the rising to the  
setting of the sun

That there is no one besides Me.

I am the LORD, and there is no other,



A N S W E R I N G   G O D ' S   C A L L

<sup>7</sup> The One forming light and creating darkness,  
Causing well-being and creating calamity;  
I am the LORD who does all these.





A N S W E R I N G   G O D ' S   C A L L

- We're all measuring each other in our well being and calamity
- In their calamity, we see our greatness
- In their well being, we cut them down
- Life is full of burning bushes, igniting my life for His work!
- I can live passionately for God when I see God working in peace and calamity



A N S W E R I N G   G O D ' S   C A L L

## Isaiah 45:9-10

<sup>9</sup> “Woe to *the one* who quarrels with his Maker—  
An earthenware vessel among the vessels of earth!

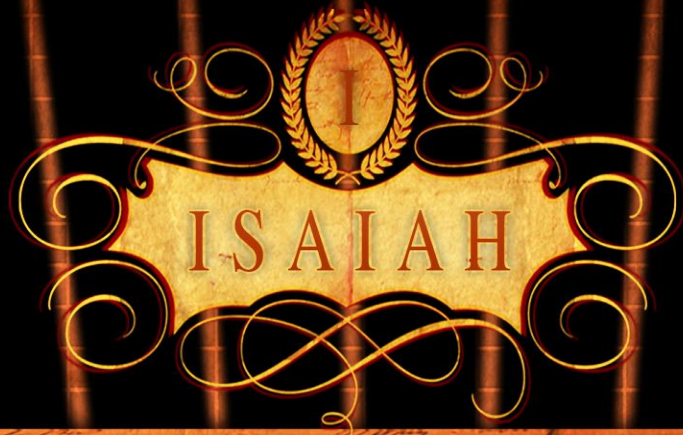
Will the clay say to the potter, “What are you  
doing?” Or the thing you are making *say*, “He has  
no hands”? <sup>10</sup> “Woe to him who says to a father,

“What are you begetting?” Or to a woman, “To  
what are you giving birth?””



A N S W E R I N G   G O D ' S   C A L L

- We often miss what God's doing because we are busy arguing with Him
- God often doesn't change the circumstance because He's working a greater good with it
- It is foolish to argue with God!



A N S W E R I N G   G O D ' S   C A L L

- God has a solemn right to make me what He wants to...
- ...and if something in us hinders that, He mashes it and starts again



A N S W E R I N G   G O D ' S   C A L L

## Jeremiah 18:3-6

<sup>3</sup> Then I went down to the potter's house, and there he was, making something on the wheel.

<sup>4</sup> But the vessel that he was making of clay was spoiled in the hand of the potter; so he remade it into another vessel, as it pleased the potter to make.



A N S W E R I N G   G O D ' S   C A L L

<sup>5</sup> Then the word of the LORD came to me saying,  
<sup>6</sup> “Can I not, O house of Israel, deal with you as  
this potter *does?*” declares the LORD. “Behold, like  
the clay in the potter’s hand, so are you in My  
hand, O house of Israel.



A N S W E R I N G   G O D ' S   C A L L

## Isaiah 45:20-21

<sup>20</sup> “Gather yourselves and come;  
Draw near together, you fugitives of the nations;  
They have no knowledge, Who carry about their  
wooden idol and pray to a god who cannot save.

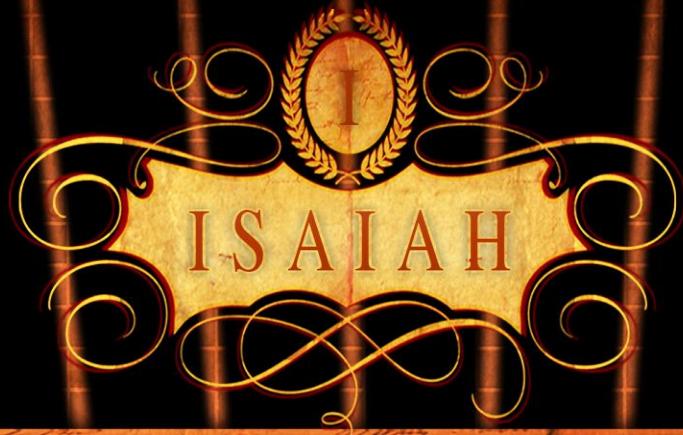
<sup>21</sup> “Declare and set forth *your case*; Indeed, let  
them consult together. Who has announced this  
from of old?



A N S W E R I N G   G O D ' S   C A L L

Who has long since declared it?  
Is it not I, the LORD? And there is no other God  
besides Me, a righteous God and a Savior;  
There is none except Me.





A N S W E R I N G   G O D ' S   C A L L

- We must be careful to not treat God like an idol  
tell God what we want
- The best way to fulfill it
- Be angry and disappointed when it goes another  
way



A N S W E R I N G   G O D ' S   C A L L

## Isaiah 45:22~25

<sup>22</sup> “Turn to Me and be saved, all the ends of the earth; For I am God, and there is no other.

<sup>23</sup> “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*.



A N S W E R I N G   G O D ' S   C A L L

<sup>24</sup> “They will say of Me, ‘Only in the LORD are righteousness and strength.’ Men will come to Him, And all who were angry at Him will be put to shame. <sup>25</sup> “In the LORD all the offspring of Israel will be justified and will glory.”



A N S W E R I N G   G O D ' S   C A L L

- Turn to me/look to me
- There are many things to put my eyes on
- Look at me and be saved!
- Look = Trust, faith, believe



A N S W E R I N G   G O D ' S   C A L L

- What's our hope when life seems out of control?
- Angry at God for what He has/hasn't done
- Trust in the hands of the Potter
- Notice His hands have scars as He shapes you!