

Lord, We Come Before Thee Now; Isaiah 45:20-23

- I. He Is God
 - a. How do we view God?
 - i. Is He the southern sheriff waiting to smack us with the heavenly ticket?
 - ii. Is He the vending machine where we just put our request in and out pops what we want?
 - iii. Is He the aloof, far away, not involved creator who just spun the world like a top and is waiting until it stops?
 - b. "Lord, we come before Thee now. At Thy feet we humbly bow"
 - c. Who are we coming before, who are we bowing to? Whom are we seeking?
- II. The Creator
 - a. Isaiah 45:18–19 (ESV) ¹⁸ For thus says the LORD, who created the heavens (he is God!), who formed the earth and made it (he established it; he did not create it empty, he formed it to be inhabited!): "I am the LORD, and there is no other. ¹⁹ I did not speak in secret, in a land of darkness; I did not say to the offspring of Jacob, 'Seek me in vain.' I the LORD speak the truth; I declare what is right.
 - b. God created the world to be inhabited!
 - i. Genesis 1:28 (ESV) ²⁸ And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth."
 - ii. God walked with Adam and Eve in the cool of the garden (Genesis 3:8)
 - iii. This is a good foreshadow of Jesus
 - iv. John 1:14 (ESV) ¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.
 - v. The first couple of chapters in Genesis explain creation and sin, the rest of the Bible is God making Himself known to humanity, offering salvation
 - vi. Sin caused a separation from God
 - vii. This separation caused humanity to seek Him (or to seek something to replace Him)
 - viii. Our soul, created in the likeness of God is seeking to be reunited with its creator
 - ix. "O do not our suit disdain; shall we seek thee, Lord, in vain?"
 - c. God is plainly visible to us (and not just in the person of Jesus)
 - i. Psalm 19:1 (ESV) ¹ The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.
 - ii. Romans 1:19–20 (ESV) ¹⁹ For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. ²⁰ For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly

perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse.

- iii. Yet, we try to replace God with everything under the sun!
- iv. Romans 1:22–25 (ESV) ²² Claiming to be wise, they became fools, ²³ and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things. ²⁴ Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the dishonoring of their bodies among themselves, ²⁵ because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen.
- v. The further you dive into biology (the study of living things) the more clear it becomes that all living things are not an accident of nature
- vi. Biology encompasses diverse fields, including botany, conservation, ecology, genetics, marine biology, medicine, microbiology, molecular biology, physiology, and zoology.
- vii. Isaiah 45:20 (ESV) ²⁰ “Assemble yourselves and come; draw near together, you survivors of the nations! They have no knowledge who carry about their wooden idols, and keep on praying to a god that cannot save.
- viii. You should read Isaiah 44:9-20; he establishes the futility of worshiping an Idol
- ix. Isaiah 44:16–17 (ESV) ¹⁶ Half of it he burns in the fire. Over the half he eats meat; he roasts it and is satisfied. Also he warms himself and says, “Aha, I am warm, I have seen the fire!” ¹⁷ And the rest of it he makes into a god, his idol, and falls down to it and worships it. He prays to it and says, “Deliver me, for you are my god!”

d. “Shall we seek Thee, Lord, in vain?”

III. The Savior

- a. Isaiah 45:21–23 (ESV) ²¹ Declare and present your case; let them take counsel together! Who told this long ago? Who declared it of old? Was it not I, the LORD? And there is no other god besides me, a righteous God and a Savior; there is none besides me. ²² “Turn to me and be saved, all the ends of the earth! For I am God, and there is no other. ²³ By myself I have sworn; from my mouth has gone out in righteousness a word that shall not return: ‘To me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear allegiance.’
- b. “Lord, on Thee our souls depend: in compassion now descend”
- c. There is nothing on this earth that can deliver us!
 - i. There is no amount of money, no position of power, no perfect golf swing, no perfect baseball pitch, or football catch that will give us eternal life
 - ii. There is only one way to be delivered, “turn to me and be saved, all the ends of the earth! For I am God, and there is no other.”

- iii. Matthew 11:28 (ESV) ²⁸ Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.
- iv. What a beautiful verse for those of us who have tried (unsuccessfully) all the other things
- v. We are tired of addiction, we are tired of the endless search for release from the pain of broken humanity
- vi. We must turn to Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith!
- vii. Hebrews 12:2 (NASB95) ² fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.
- viii. John 14:6 (ESV) ⁶ Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.
- ix. Jesus, God, is our savior (Thomas, "my Savior and my God")
- d. "Heal the sick, the captive free; let us all rejoice in Thee"

IV. Before Thee

- a. "Lord, we come before Thee now. At Thy feet we humbly bow"
- b. We bow before the Great I AM
- c. We serve a loving and compassionate God and Savior
- d. The only one who can save our souls!