

...There is no God else beside Me; a just God and a Saviour: there is none beside Me. Look unto Me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else. (Isaiah 45:21,22)

## There is no God else beside Me

The God of heaven declared these words many centuries ago to a minority people in a language that only a few understand today. However, it is truth that applies to us all and should be translated into every tongue, and perpetually reiterated in every country and to every generation across the face of the earth. This is not a battle of words as is common amongst men, who seek to uplift themselves against their rivals in bold and brash statements in order to gain loyalty. The plain and obvious truth is as stated; that there is no other God apart from Him; they are non-existent. Other gods are simply the products of men's vain imaginations. In contrast, to deny His existence altogether is equally as foolish.

Aside from the difficulties that exist in the dissemination of divinely inspired truth revealed in the Bible due to language barriers and oppression, there is a united voice sounding out across the globe which none can ignore and constantly declares aspects of God's wisdom, faithfulness and glory. It is the voice of creation which speaks directly to all people of every nation and tongue, being a witness to awaken them to seek after this true and living God. The psalmist could write "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth His handywork ... There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard" (Psalm 19:1,3). But as intimated, many choose to ignore this visible testimony to the one true God altogether: "For the invisible things of Him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse: ... Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools" (Romans 1:20,22).

## A just God and a Saviour

Refocusing on the witness of the Bible, God's written Word to man, here are two characteristics of this living God that He continually declares of Himself. Firstly, all His works are undertaken in a just and righteous manner: He declares things that are right. He is incapable of doing otherwise. Certainly He has overthrown kings and nations, and destroyed the world by a flood in Noah's day as He has inevitably had to judge man's sin. Yet we can be certain that such measures were necessary to constrain sins effects. We can only confess our own deserving of like punishment, such is our guilt.

Yet secondly as a Saviour God, He is the preserver of all men in that He provides those physical requirements for daily life: air, water, light and heat from the sun etc. and despite mankind's folly, ensures a measure of restraint in the world to prevent men from totally destroying themselves. God controls the universe, not man!

## Look unto Me, and be ye saved...

However, the greatest aspect of His Saviour hood is in respect to mankind's eternal welfare: He would "*have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth*" (1Timothy 2:4). By the incoming of His eternal Son into the world, God has now spoken in a manner that has brought the greatest revelation possible to the human race of His great heart and desire for mankind; "*No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, He hath declared Him*" (John 1:18). The Lord Jesus has revealed the Father to us in a way that could not be otherwise possible. Take an honest and reverential look at the Person of Christ, His words and works as recorded in the Bible, and you will see what God is truly like. It takes deity to reveal deity!

He especially manifested the extent of God's love as was evidenced in the giving up of Himself upon the cross of Calvary as a sacrifice for sin. It is through Christ's selfless giving and His subsequent resurrection from the dead that God is now able to justly save repentant sinners per the Spirit inspired words of the apostle Paul, "To declare, I say, at this time His righteousness: that He might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus" (Romans 3:26).

In this Gospel era, God more specifically declares to us today "Look unto My Son, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth..."

## For I am God, and there is none else

For the third time in these two verses this declaration is made, such is its import that we must take heed to what God has spoken. There is only ONE true God and only ONE means of access to God, a truth that is reiterated again and again in the New Testament, in the recorded words of the Lord Jesus in the Gospel records and later by His eye witnesses – that salvation is found in Christ alone.

This is why the Lord Jesus commanded firstly His own disciples to go into all the world to preach the Gospel to every creature. They began on the Day of Pentecost when many miraculously heard in their own language the glorious Gospel truth and believed (Acts 2). Today, this same Gospel is still being heralded in many languages.

It is imperative not to ignore the witness that God has given of Himself or of His Son because of one further revelation regarding the future: "For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness;" (Romans 1:18). God will not overlook man's sin.