

Isaiah 44:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Fear ye not, neither be afraid: have not I told thee from that time, and have declared it? ye are even my witnesses. Is there a God beside me? yea, there is no God; I know not any.

Analysis

God commands Israel not to fear or be afraid ('al-tirau' and 'al-tirhau'), then appeals to their own experience: 'have not I told thee from that time?' Israel themselves are God's witnesses ('edim'). The rhetorical question 'Is there a God beside me?' expects a resounding 'No!' The metaphor of God as 'rock' (tsur) emphasizes stability, protection, and unchanging faithfulness.

Historical Context

Israel's corporate memory of God's faithfulness through centuries of covenant relationship serves as testimony against false gods. Their existence as a people despite exile proves God's promises.

Related Passages

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How does your personal history with God serve as witness to His faithfulness?

2. In what ways is God your 'rock' providing stability in uncertain circumstances?

Interlinear Text

אֵל	אֵל	תְּרֵה	כָּל	מִזְמֹרְתָּה
H408	Fear	H408	ye not neither be afraid	H3808
H6342		H7297		H227
הָשְׁמָעָת יְבָרֵךְ	וְהַגְּדָה	אַתֶּם	עָד	כִּי
have not I told	and have declared	H859	it ye are even my witnesses	Is there
H8085		H5046	H5707	H3426
אֵל וְ	מִבְלָעֵד	כִּי	בְּלִי	יְדַעַתִּי
a God	beside	H369	me yea there is no God	I know
H433		H1107	H6697	H3045

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 43:10 (Witness): Ye are my witnesses, saith the LORD, and my servant whom I have chosen: that ye may know and believe me, and understand that I am he: before me there was no God formed, neither shall there be after me.

1 Samuel 2:2 (References God): There is none holy as the LORD: for there is none beside thee: neither is there any rock like our God.

Deuteronomy 4:35 (References God): Unto thee it was shewed, that thou mightest know that the LORD he is God; there is none else beside him.

Deuteronomy 4:39 (References God): Know therefore this day, and consider it in thine heart, that the LORD he is God in heaven above, and upon the earth beneath: there is none else.

John 10:30 (Parallel theme): I and my Father are one.

Psalms 18:31 (References God): For who is God save the LORD? or who is a rock save our God?

2 Samuel 22:32 (References God): For who is God, save the LORD? and who is a rock, save our God?

Isaiah 44:6 (References God): Thus saith the LORD the King of Israel, and his redeemer the LORD of hosts; I am the first, and I am the last; and beside me there is no God.

John 1:1 (References God): In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

Deuteronomy 32:39 (References God): See now that I, even I, am he, and there is no god with me: I kill, and I make alive; I wound, and I heal: neither is there any that can deliver out of my hand.

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