

Isaiah 46:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me,

Analysis

The command 'remember the former things of old' calls Israel to rehearse redemptive history (Exodus, wilderness, conquest) as basis for future hope. The declaration 'I am God, and there is none else' emphasizes absolute monotheism and covenant exclusivity. Remembering God's past faithfulness is not nostalgia but theological foundation for present faith and future hope (Deuteronomy 8:2).

Historical Context

For exiles who had forgotten Jerusalem (Psalm 137), remembering ancient covenant promises seemed impossible. Yet Isaiah insists that God's nature ('I am God') transcends immediate circumstances and guarantees restoration.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Study Questions

1. How does rehearsing God's past faithfulness in your life strengthen present faith?

2. What 'former things' has God done that anchor your hope in His future promises?

Interlinear Text

זָכֹר וְ	רֵאשֵׁנִי וְ	מֵעוֹלָם	כִּי	אֵינֶנִּי	אֵל	אֲנִי
Remember	the former things	of old	H3588	H595	for I am God	H369
H2142	H7223	H5769			H410	
וְ	אֵלֹהִים	אֵינֶנִּי	כִּי	אֵינֶנִּי	כִּימוֹנִי:	
H5750	and there is none else I am God	and there is none			like	
	H430	H657			H3644	

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 42:9 (Parallel theme): Behold, the former things are come to pass, and new things do I declare: before they spring forth I tell you of them.

Psalms 111:4 (Parallel theme): He hath made his wonderful works to be remembered: the LORD is gracious and full of compassion.

Isaiah 46:5 (Parallel theme): To whom will ye liken me, and make me equal, and compare me, that we may be like?

Deuteronomy 32:7 (Parallel theme): Remember the days of old, consider the years of many generations: ask thy father, and he will shew thee; thy elders, and they will tell thee.

Deuteronomy 33:26 (References God): There is none like unto the God of Jeshurun, who rideth upon the heaven in thy help, and in his excellency on the sky.

Isaiah 45:18 (References God): For thus saith the LORD that created the heavens; God himself that formed the earth and made it; he hath established it, he created it not in vain, he formed it to be inhabited: I am the LORD; and there is none else.

Isaiah 65:17 (Parallel theme): For, behold, I create new heavens and a new earth: and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind.

Isaiah 45:14 (References God): Thus saith the LORD, The labour of Egypt, and merchandise of Ethiopia and of the Sabeans, men of stature, shall come over unto thee, and they shall be thine: they shall come after thee; in chains they shall come over, and they shall fall down unto thee, they shall make supplication unto thee, saying, Surely God is in thee; and there is none else, there is no God.

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