

Isaiah 65:1

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

I am sought of them that asked not for me; I am found of them that sought me not: I said, Behold me, behold me, unto a nation that was not called by my name.

Analysis

'I am sought of them that asked not for me; I am found of them that sought me not: I said, Behold me, behold me, unto a nation that was not called by my name.' God responds to chapter 64's prayer by revealing Himself to the Gentiles who weren't seeking! Paul quotes this in Romans 10:20 regarding Gentile inclusion. 'Behold me' repeated emphasizes God's initiative in self-revelation.

Historical Context

This surprising answer to prayer announces Gentile salvation. God isn't silent - He's actively pursuing those outside Israel who will respond.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. How does God finding those not seeking Him demonstrate grace?
2. What does Gentile inclusion teach about the scope of salvation?

Interlinear Text

נִדְּרַ שְׁתִּי I am sought H1875	לֹא me not H3808	שָׁאַ לוֹ of them that asked H7592	נִמְצָ אֲתִי for me I am found H4672	לֹא me not H3808
בְּקִשְׁ נִי of them that sought H1245	אָמַרְתִּי I said H559	הֵינִי נִי H2005	הֵינִי נִי H2005	אֶל H413
גֵּ וִי Behold me behold me H1471	לֹא me not H3808	קָרָא that was not called H7121	בְּשִׁמִּי: by my name H8034	

Additional Cross-References

Romans 10:20 (Parallel theme): But Esaias is very bold, and saith, I was found of them that sought me not; I was made manifest unto them that asked not after me.

1 Peter 2:10 (Parallel theme): Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.

Romans 9:30 (Parallel theme): What shall we say then? That the Gentiles, which followed not after righteousness, have attained to righteousness, even the righteousness which is of faith.

Isaiah 45:22 (Parallel theme): Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else.

Isaiah 43:1 (Parallel theme): But now thus saith the LORD that created thee, O Jacob, and he that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine.

Psalms 22:27 (Parallel theme): All the ends of the world shall remember and turn unto the LORD: and all the kindreds of the nations shall worship before thee.

John 1:29 (Parallel theme): The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.

Hosea 1:10 (Parallel theme): Yet the number of the children of Israel shall be as the sand of the sea, which cannot be measured nor numbered; and it shall come to pass, that in the place where it was said unto them, Ye are not my people, there it shall be said unto them, Ye are the sons of the living God.

Isaiah 63:19 (Parallel theme): We are thine: thou never barest rule over them; they were not called by thy name.

Isaiah 11:10 (Parallel theme): And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an ensign of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek: and his rest shall be glorious.

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