

"But you are my witnesses, O Israel!" says the Lord. "You are my servant. You have been chosen to know me, believe in me, and understand that I alone am God. There is no other God — there never has been, and there never will be. I, yes I, am the Lord, and there is no other Savior." Isaiah 43:10-11 NLT

lectio Isaiah 43:8-13

This is not a declaration of arrogance, it is a proclamation of truth. When Isaiah writes about God, "I alone am God. There is no other, never has been, and there never will be." These are facts, not from the beginning of time or our existence. They are facts that have ALWAYS been true. This span of timelessness is so hard for us to grasp because we are temporal beings on a short-lived planet. It doesn't matter how many zeros you put after a number, it will never equal ETERNITY. So, if the planet is billions or trillions of years old (which is probably isn't) it still exists in a framework of time and space. God has always existed - therefore out of that framework completely. God tells Israel, through Isaiah, "Gather the nations together! Assemble the peoples of the world! Which of their idols has ever foretold such things? Which can predict what will happen tomorrow? Where are the witnesses of such predictions? Who can verify that they spoke the truth?" Go ahead, line up all the fakes and false promises... which ones have ever come through for you? None! And they never will! What a rude wake up call to find out you hitched to a lie your whole life. Promises, promises, promises will yield the BIGGEST bait-n-switch ever. You didn't read the fine print - Satan is a liar and has spun multiple "gods" and philosophies just to keep you hooked.

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Dad,

You are the only truth out there. Of course, you not only created us, you created the whole concept of truth - there is no lie in you... ever. I was so simple and needy as a teen, but now I am an adult and I realize how much you've spared me from the slick sales pitch of false religions, ideologies and philosophies. I believed the moment you made a promise to me - a promise you kept. And you have always been truth, light, life, hope and love to me. I am forever and eternally grateful for your grace!

contemplatio

rest in the presence of God, allowing the words revealed to take root