## **July 27 Questions**

1)	Conclusion of Isaiah's "Book of Comfort" (Isa 40–48). One of the key themes in this section of Isaiah
	is the of God: "I am the LORD, your Holy One, the of Israel, your King. I
	am the and I am the; besides me there is no god. Is there a God besides me?
	There is no; I know not any" (Isa 43:15; 44:6, 8). Isaiah painted a compelling picture of the
	futility of (Isa 44:6–23). 'Just think,' Isaiah said, 'the man who cuts down a tree uses
	half to make a fire and the other half to make an ' (Isa 44:19). What pathetic self-
	deception! God urged Judah, 'Remember who made you, Israel. I formed you, you are my servant!
	to me, for I have redeemed you!' (Isa 44:21–23). This teaches us that the proper
	response to the knowledge that God is our Creator is! Isaiah concluded by foretelling
	the coming of, king of Persia, some years before he came to power. Babylon
	would be destroyed and Judah would return from its exile. Cyrus would be God's faithful
	. He would rebuild both Jerusalem and the temple (Isa 44:28; 45:13). What should
	Judah learn from all this? "I am the LORD your God"! (Isa 48:17). If they would pay attention to God's
	words and obey His commands, their (shalom) would be like a river and their
	righteousness like the waves of the sea (Isa 48:18). So it is with us—Isaiah calls us to be faithful to
	our Redeemer. How blessed are those whose God is the LORD!