Maximising Redemption: Redeeming God

I have revealed and saved and proclaimed — I, and not some foreign god among you.

Isaiah 43:12

The Redeeming God

There are bible passages where we see that God's forgiveness and redemption allows people to reasonably expect to live to a ripe old age in relative safety with children playing safely in the streets e.g. <u>Job 42:12-17</u>, <u>Isaiah 30:18-21</u>, <u>Isaiah 33:17-24</u>, <u>Isaiah 65:17-25</u>; <u>Jeremiah 31:10-40</u>; <u>Ezekiel 17</u>; <u>Zechariah 8</u>. There is other evidence that God is looking for reconciliation beyond the Abrahamic religions e.g. Isaiah <u>14:1-8</u> & <u>65:16-25</u>: <u>Zechariah 3:6-10</u>, <u>Zechariah 8:3-23</u>

... I will bring your children from the east and gather you from the west. I will say to the north, 'Give them up!' and to the south, 'Do not hold them back.' Bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the ends of the earth—everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."... All the nations gather together and the peoples assemble. Which of them foretold this and proclaimed to us the former things?... I have revealed and saved and proclaimed—I, and not some foreign god among you. You are my witnesses," declares the LORD, "that I am God. Yes, and from ancient days I am he. No one can deliver out of my hand. When I act, who can reverse it?" (Isaiah 43:5-13)

We continue to see that God's covenant is unifying and exhorts us to hospitality towards each other e.g. <u>Isaiah 25:6-9</u>, <u>Isaiah 30:8-23</u>, <u>Isaiah 45:18-25</u>, <u>Jeremiah 31:6-36</u>, <u>Jeremiah 50:4-5</u>, <u>Zechariah 8:13-23</u> especially:

"This is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after that time," declares the LORD. "I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. No longer will a man teach his neighbor, or a man his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest," declares the LORD. "For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more." (Jeremiah 31:33-34)

Declare what is to be, present it— let them take counsel together. Who foretold this long ago, who declared it from the distant past? Was it not I, the LORD? And there is no God apart from me, a righteous God and a Savior; there is none but me. "Turn to me and be saved, all you ends of the earth; for I am God, and there is no other. By myself I have sworn, my mouth has uttered in all integrity a word that will not be revoked: Before me every knee will bow; by me every tongue will swear. (Isaiah 45:21-23)

These are the things you are to do: Speak the truth to each other, and render true and sound judgment in your courts; do not plot evil against your neighbor, and do not love to swear falsely. I hate all this," declares the LORD. (Zechariah 8:16-17)