



Introduction

God shows his power over the nations by preserving his people.



Questions

1. What does the LORD say to Israel?
2. How does God challenge all of the gathered nations?
3. What does God say is the result of Israel not calling on him?



Summary Points

- **v 1 to 7** Having chosen Israel as his people, the LORD assures them that, although they may be scattered among other nations, he will bring them back
- **v 8 to 13** The people of Israel are God's witnesses (see theme). They demonstrate what God has done to preserve the nation in the past and will do in the future
- **v 14 to 21** The LORD controls the nations and looks after his chosen people
- **v 22 to 28** The LORD reprimands his people for ignoring him and his laws and pleads with them to change

Timeline 850 BC (see below)



Theme

The Jews are God's witnesses

The Jews were chosen by God because of his promises to their ancestors Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

Their continuing existence is witness to God and his purpose:

Isaiah 43 verses 10 to 12

Their selection was confirmed at Sinai and involved the nation's obedience to God's laws:

Exodus 19 verses 5 and 6

As a kingdom of priests, their role as God's witnesses should have been to show to other nations the benefit of keeping God's laws:

Deuteronomy 4 verses 6 to 8

Moses warned the people that they would be scattered if they disobeyed God:

Deuteronomy 28 verse 64

Their witness to God would be seen in their punishment and also in their continued existence

despite being scattered among all nations:

Jeremiah 30 verses 10 and 11

Their punishment and subsequent blessing is a continuing witness to God at work in the world:

Ezekiel 36 verse 23 and 36



Answers to questions

Verses which answer the questions:

Q 1: v 1 and 2, Q 2: v 9 and 10, Q 3: v 22 to 24

Bible timeline

