**Isaiah 45:18-19**

For thus said Yahweh, creating the heavens, {contrast 43:1,7; 44:2…

God Himself forming the earth and making it. … re: Israel}

He established it not a waste.

He created it to dwell in.

He formed it.

I Yahweh and none besides.

In secrecy I did not speak. {contrast v.15}

In a dark place of *the* earth I did not say

to the seed of Jacob,

'Seek Me *as* vanity.' {contrast v.16, 20, 23}

I Yahweh speaking righteousness,

declaring uprightness.

1. God’s creation 1) Yahweh creating heavens

2a) earth – God Himself forming, making

 a1) established not a waste

 a2) created to dwell in

2b) formed it –

1. I Yahweh and none else
2. God’s word *1)* not speak in secrecy (of heaven?)

*2a)* in a dark place of earth not saying

 *a2)* to seed of Jacob

 *a1)* ‘seek Me as vanity’

*2b)*I Yahweh speaking,

1. declaring

**Parallel 1:** a wasted land is as desirable to men as a vain god (idol) is to God

**Parallel 2:** the earth to dwell in will become the possession of the seed of Jacob {contrast v.14}