

Isaiah

“The Evangelical Prophet”

VI. Isaiah’s Divine *Prophecies* of Consolation for **Israel** (40:1-48:22)

- A. The *Pronouncement* of **Judah’s** time of Comfort (40:1-11)
- B. The *Proclamation* of the Greatness of God (40:12-31)
- C. The *Prophetic Power* of **God** (41:1-29)
- D. The *Presentation* of **God’s Servant—Messiah** (42:1-8)
- E. The *Proclamation* of “**New Things**” (42:9-25)
- F. The *Prophecies* of **Israel’s Restoration** (43:1-44:28)

G. The *Preeminence* of the God of Israel (45:1-48:22)

1. The *Elevation* of King Cyrus (45:1-4)

- a. His “**Anointed**” *Position* (45:1a)
- b. His *Pervasive Power* (45:1b-2)
- c. His *Prosperity from God* (45:3)
- d. His *Purposes* concerning **Israel** (45:4)

45 Thus says the **LORD** to Cyrus His anointed,

Whom **I have taken** by the **right hand**,
to subdue nations before him
and to loose the **loins of kings**;
to open doors before him so that **gates** will **not** be shut:

²“**I will go** before **you** and make the **rough** places *smooth*;
I will shatter the **doors** of **bronze** and **cut through** their **iron bars**.”

³“I will give you the treasures of darkness
and hidden wealth of secret places, so that you may know that **it is I**,
the **LORD**, the **God of Israel**, who *calls you* by **your name**.”

⁴“For the **sake** of **Jacob My servant**, and Israel **My chosen one**,
I have also called you by **your name**;
I have given you a **title** of *honor* though you have **not known Me**.”

2. The *Excellence* of the Sovereign God (45:5-13)

- a. *Who* is the One and only God (45:5-6)
- b. *Who* is the Sovereign Creator (45:7-10)
- c. *Who* has “aroused” Cyrus to accomplish His **Righteousness** (45:11-13)

⁵“**I am the LORD**, and there is no other; besides **Me** there is no God.
I will **gird you**, though you have **not known Me**;

⁶That men may **know** from the **rising** to the **setting** of the **sun**
that there is no one besides Me.
I am the LORD, and there is no other,

⁷The **One forming light** and creating darkness,
causing *well-being* and creating calamity;
I am the **LORD** who **does all these**.

⁸“**Drip down**, O heavens, from **above**,
and let the **clouds** pour down *righteousness*;
Let the **earth** open up and *salvation bear fruit*,
and *righteousness spring up* with it.

I, the LORD, have created it.

⁹“**Woe** to *the one* who quarrels with his **Maker**—
an earthenware vessel among the vessels of **earth**!
Will the clay say to the potter, ‘*What are you doing?*’
Or the thing you are **making** say, ‘*He has no hands?*’”

¹⁰“**Woe** to him who says to a **father**, ‘What are you **begetting?**’
Or to a **woman**, ‘To what are you **giving birth?**’”

¹¹Thus says **the LORD**, the **Holy One of Israel**, and his Maker:

“Ask Me about the **things to come** concerning *My sons*,
and you shall **commit to Me** the *work of My hands*.

¹²“**It is I** who made the earth, and created man upon it.
I stretched out the heavens with *My hands* and I **ordained all their host**.

¹³“I have **aroused him** (*Cyrus*) in *righteousness*
and I will **make** all his ways **smooth**;

He will build My city and will let My exiles go free,
without any payment or reward,” says the **LORD of hosts**.

Message Summary

The *Sovereignty of God*— **5 Key Observations**

A. **God** will *Sovereignly* “anoint” and empower King Cyrus to accomplish **His Purposes**.

1. *Empowering him* to subdue nations and kings (45:1-2)
2. *Endowing him* with treasures and wealth (45:3)
3. *Exalting him* to accomplish **His purposes** in freeing Israel (45:4, 13)

¹³“I have **aroused him** (*Cyrus*) in **righteousness**
and I will make all **his ways smooth**;

He will **build My city** and will **let My exiles go free**,
without any payment or reward,” says the **LORD of hosts** (45:13)

B. **God** is both *Sovereign* and Unique.

⁵“I am **the LORD**, and there is no other;
besides **Me** there is no God...

⁶That **men may know** from the **rising** to the **setting** of the sun
that there is no one besides Me.
I am the LORD, and there is no other, (45:5-6)

C. **God** is our *Sovereign Creator* who creates all things according to *His Purposes*.

1. “**Forming light** and **creating darkness**,” (45:7a)
2. “**Causing well-being** and **creating calamity**,” (45:7b)
3. **Letting** the “**clouds pour down righteousness**,”
Letting the “**earth open up**,” and “**salvation bear fruit**,”
and “**righteousness spring up** with it.” (45:8)

D. **God** is our *Sovereign Creator*, and **those** who quarrel with their *Maker* are likened to→

→ the *clay* that **questions** the **skill** of its **maker**—the potter (45:9)

→ the *child* that **questions** the father who *begat him* (45:10a)

→ the *child* that **questions** the mother who gave *birth* to **him** (45:10b)

E. **God** is the *Sovereign Creator* and **Sustainer of Israel**—

1. *Proclaiming* to be **Israel’s Maker**, and the **work His “hands”** (45:11)
2. *Proclaiming* to be the Creator of man, and all things on *earth* and in

the *heavens* (45:12)

3. **Proclaiming** that it is **He** who has “**aroused**” Cyrus to bring **restoration** to the **exiles of Israel** (45:13)

Closing Quotes on the *Sovereignty* of God

When you go through a **trial**, the ***sovereignty* of God** is the **pillow** upon which you **lay your head**. **Charles Spurgeon**

The ***sovereignty* of God** is the one **impregnable rock** to which the **suffering human heart** must **cling**.

The **circumstances** surrounding our lives are **no accident**: they **may** be the **work of evil**, but that **evil** is **held firmly** within the **mighty hand** of our ***sovereign* God**.

Margaret Clarkson

The ***sovereignty* of God** is the **only foundation** for **worship** in the midst of **tragedy**. **David Platt**

As **leaders**, it all comes down to **trust**.
Do you trust the *sovereignty* of God?
Christine Caine

To **restore morality** we must first **recognize** the **source** from which **all morality springs**. From our earliest **history** in **1776** when we were declared to be the **United States of America**, our **forefathers recognized** the ***sovereignty* of God**.
Roy Moore

“**Cheer up**, Christian! Things are **not left to chance**:
no blind fate rules the world.
God hath purposes, and those **purposes** are **fulfilled**.
God hath plans, and those **plans** are **wise**, and **never** can be
dislocated. **Charles Spurgeon**

This is **God’s universe**, and **God does things *his* way**.
You may have a **better way**, but **you don’t** have a **universe**.
J. Vernon McGee