

Isaiah 45:1-13 **Cyrus, future Persian King – an instrument in Yahweh's hand**

Cyrus, God's Instrument

¹ "Thus says the Lord to His anointed, To Cyrus, whose right hand I have held — To subdue nations before him And loose the armor of kings, To open before him the double doors, So that the gates will not be shut:

² 'I will go before you And make the crooked places straight; I will break in pieces the gates of bronze And cut the bars of iron. ³ I will give you the treasures of darkness And hidden riches of secret places, That you may know that I, the Lord, Who call you by your name, Am the God of Israel.

⁴ For Jacob My servant's sake, And Israel My elect, I have even called you by your name; I have named you, though you have not known Me.

No God beside Yahweh

⁵ I am the Lord, and there is no other; There is no God besides Me. I will gird you, though you have not known Me, ⁶ That they may know from the rising of the sun to its setting That there is none besides Me. I am the Lord, and there is no other;

⁷ I form the light and create darkness, I make peace and create calamity; I, the Lord, do all these things.'

⁸ "Rain down, you heavens, from above, And let the skies pour down righteousness; Let the earth open, let them bring forth salvation, And let righteousness spring up together. I, the Lord, have created it.

⁹ "Woe to him who strives with his Maker! Let the potsherd strive with the potsherds of the earth! Shall the clay say to him who forms it, 'What are you making?' Or shall your handiwork say, 'He has no hands'?

¹⁰ Woe to him who says to his father, 'What are you begetting?' Or to the woman, 'What have you brought forth?'"

¹¹ Thus says the Lord, The Holy One of Israel, and his Maker: "Ask Me of things to come concerning My sons; And concerning the work of My hands, you command Me.

¹² I have made the earth, And created man on it. I — My hands — stretched out the heavens, And all their host I have commanded.

¹³ I have raised him up in righteousness, And I will direct all his ways; He shall build My city And let My exiles go free, Not for price nor reward," Says the Lord of hosts.

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Facts Revealed:

✧ "Thus says Yahweh (the Lord) to His anointed, To Cyrus, whose right hand I have held — To subdue nations before him And loose the armor of kings, To open before him the double doors, So that the gates will not be shut:

'I will go before you And make the crooked places straight; I will break in pieces the gates of bronze And cut the bars of iron. I will give you the treasures of darkness And hidden riches of secret places, That you may know that I, Yahweh (the Lord), Who call you by your name, Am Elohey Yisrael (the God of Israel).

For Jacob My servant's sake, And Israel My elect, I have even called you by your name; I have named you, though you have not known Me. [\[Isaiah 45:1-4\]](#)

✧ About 150 years before Cyrus was born, Yahweh called him by name and stated His purpose for the future Persian king.

✧ All the power of conquest granted to Cyrus over the nations was Yahweh's doing.

✧ The purpose of the divine favor was twofold, to make known to Cyrus that Yahweh Elohey Yisrael (the Lord God of Israel) called him by name, and for the sake of Israel. [\[Isaiah 44:28, 45:4\]](#)

✧ Even after sending Israel into captivity for their unfaithfulness, Yahweh still calls Jacob His servant and Israel His elect.

✧ Yahweh called Cyrus even though Cyrus did not know Yahweh, was of pagan lineage and to be king of the pagan nation of Persia.

✧ Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon was to be used as a tool in the hand of God to punish His people of Judah for their unfaithfulness by carrying them into captivity. [\[Jeremiah 25:8-9\]](#)

✧ Then Cyrus king of Persia will also be used as a tool in the hand of God to send them home from captivity, at least all who choose to do so. [\[2 Chronicles 36:22-23, Ezra 1:1-4\]](#)

No God beside Yahweh

✧ I am Yahweh (the Lord), and there is no other; There is no Elohiym (God) besides Me. I will gird you, though you have not known Me, That they may know from the rising of the sun to its setting That there is none besides Me. I am Yahweh (the Lord), and there is no other; I form the light and create darkness, I make peace and create calamity; I, Yahweh (the Lord), do all these things.' [\[Isaiah 45:5-7\]](#)

✧ Yahweh wants Cyrus and all the world to know that His name is Yahweh, that He is the God of Israel, the creator of everything good and bad.

✧ "Rain down, you heavens, from above, And let the skies pour down righteousness; Let the earth open, let them bring forth salvation, And let righteousness spring up together. I, Yahweh (the Lord), have created it. [\[Isaiah 45:8\]](#)

✧ Righteousness is a Heavenly aspect with which Yahweh desires to fill the earth, and has made the command to make it available for all mankind.

✧ Righteousness and Salvation are inseparable and work very well together.

✧ "Woe to him who strives with his Maker! Let the potsherd strive with the potsherds of the earth! Shall the clay say to him who forms it, 'What are you making?' Or shall your handiwork say, 'He has no hands'?

Woe to him who says to his father, 'What are you begetting?' Or to the woman, 'What have you brought forth?'" [\[Isaiah 45:9-10\]](#)

✧ Total foolishness bringing woe from Yahweh against all who struggle with the creator or show disrespect against his parents.

✧ Thus says Yahweh (the Lord), The Holy One of Israel, and his Maker: "Ask Me of things to come concerning My sons; And concerning the work of My hands, you command Me. [\[Isaiah 45:11\]](#)

✧ Yahweh loves to reveal future events to His people, so He invites anyone to turn to Him for information regarding the future of Israel and the work He intends to do in the future.

✧ Through the Bible Yahweh has revealed His plans for Israel's future and for that of all mankind, both on the present earth and on the Eternal New Earth under the Eternal New Heavens yet to come.

✧ I have made the earth, And created man on it. I — My hands — stretched out the heavens, And all their host I have commanded.

I have raised him up in righteousness, And I will direct all his ways; He shall build My city

And let My exiles go free, Not for price nor reward," Says Yahweh Tsebavta (the Lord of hosts). [\[Isaiah 45:12-13\]](#)

- ✧ Yahweh assured Cyrus that He is the One who created the earth and mankind on it.
- ✧ He also stretched out the Heavens above and commanded their paths and order.
- ✧ With righteous purpose, Yahweh is raising up Cyrus to rebuild His city Jerusalem and the temple, and set the captive Jews free without price or reward.
- ✧ Yahweh also had raised up Pharaoh of Egypt for the purpose of showing Yahweh's great power and judgments to the world. [\[Romans 9:17, Exodus 9:16\]](#)
- ✧ Yahweh had also used Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon for His purpose and called him My servant. [\[Jeremiah 27:5-6\]](#)