

Jerusalem to Be Inhabited - Isaiah 44:24-45:25

Topics: Anger, Creation, Darkness, Earth, Foolishness, Hiding, Honor, Ignorance, Integrity, Name, Power, Prophecy, Quarrels, Questions, Redemption, Repentance, Restoration, Righteousness, Salvation, Secret, Shame, Sovereignty, Strength, Swearing, Wealth, Wisdom, Words, Work, Worship

Open It

1. What are some of the ways that political rulers demonstrate their power and influence?
- * 2. When was the last time you were unexpectedly able to provide a surprising solution to a problem?

Explore It

- * 3. How did God describe Himself with regard to the smallest and largest things? (44:24)
- 4. How does God reveal truth and falsehood through people? (44:25-26)
- 5. How does Isaiah illustrate God's sovereignty over nature and humankind? (44:27-28)
- 6. Whom did God "anoint" to subdue nations? (45:1)
- 7. How does Isaiah's prophecy portray the power that God would give to Cyrus? (45:2)
- * 8. For whose sake did God choose to honor a pagan king who didn't honor Him? (45:4)
- 9. How would the supremacy of Cyrus ultimately give glory to God? (45:5-7)
- 10. What imagery is used to communicate the generosity of God's righteousness and salvation? (45:8)
- 11. To what does Isaiah liken the foolishness of questioning God? (45:9-10)
- 12. How did God make it clear that Cyrus was merely a tool in His hands? (45:11-13)
- 13. What of the might and wealth of nations in Isaiah's time would revert to Cyrus of Persia? (45:14)
- * 14. How did God's purposes exceed even what Israel was praying for? (45:15-17)
- 15. Why did God create the earth and tell people to seek Him? (45:18-19)
- 16. In Isaiah's day, to what gods did people pray? (45:20-21)
- 17. How will the future be different for people who turn to Him versus people who rage against Him? (45:22-25)

Get It

- 18. What is surprising to you about the way God was going to use the pagan king, Cyrus of Persia?
- * 19. What do some of the illustrations in this passage reveal about the scope of God's power?
- 20. What is amazing to you about the fact that, in the end, all of the people of the earth will recognize the sovereignty of God?
- 21. Why do you think one of God's central messages to us is that He is the only source of salvation?
- 22. How does God go about exposing people who falsely claim to speak for Him?
- 23. Through what different sources was God able both to bless and discipline His people?
- 24. Why do you think human beings are sometimes tempted to argue with God?
- 25. Why do you find it hard or easy to remember that God is Lord of all circumstances?
- * 26. What does it mean to you to be found righteous in the Lord?

Apply It

- * 27. Knowing that the powers of this earth are at God's disposal, how can you pray specifically for one of the troubled spots in the world today?
- 28. What prayer can you commit to pray each day for the next two weeks for someone you know who is angry at God?