

GOD ACCOMPLISHES HIS PURPOSE

Isaiah 46:9-11 “. . . I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like me, declaring the end from the beginning and from ancient times things not yet done, saying, ‘My counsel shall stand, and I will accomplish all my purpose,’ . . . I have spoken, and I will bring it to pass; I have purposed, and I will do it.”

The prophet Isaiah prophesied: “Who says of Cyrus, ‘*He is My shepherd, and he shall perform all My pleasure, saying to Jerusalem, You shall be built, and to the temple, your foundation shall be laid*’ (Isaiah 44:28). This is a remarkable prophecy in that it mentions Cyrus by name, a century and a half before he was born, and foretells the remarkable part he was to play in the liberation of the Jews.

Critics of the Bible have offered a number of explanations how Isaiah was able to write over 100 years before Cyrus lived that God was going to use this Persian king to return Judah back to Jerusalem. Those who refuse to acknowledge God as creator God; those who refuse to acknowledge God’s words of prophecy; those who believe man is in charge of his own destiny; try to find every conceivable argument to discredit God’s plans for the world and all who live on this planet.

Isaiah did write about God using Cyrus to restore Judah back to her homeland. What Isaiah prophesied happened as God said it would. God moved Cyrus’ heart to cause him to send back to Jerusalem 50,000 Jews from the tribe of Judah and Benjamin as well as Priests and Levites. He also sent over 5,400 objects that had been taken from the Temple with those he repatriated to their homeland. (Ezra 1:1-10)

The salvation Yahweh said would happen is not hypothetical or conditional. From the time of Adam and Eve He set events in motion that led to His plans being fulfilled. Through the pages of the Old Testament His promises are recorded. His first promise He gave to Adam and Eve of a Savior through whom they would receive forgiveness of their sins was fulfilled. He established a Covenant promise with Abraham. He appointed Prophets through whom He promised to send the Messiah who would take away the sins of the world.

From Genesis through the Book of Revelation what God “purposed” God has caused to happen. It is God’s purpose that all who believe in the Lord Jesus Christ shall not perish but shall receive everlasting life. God keeps all of His promises.

Prayer: Almighty God, You announced Your plans throughout the writings of the Holy Scriptures. Grant me faith to believe what Your holy word says regarding my earthly life, my salvation and my eternal life in heaven through Jesus Christ, Your Son, My Lord and Savior. Amen.

God moves in a mysterious way His wonders to perform;
He plants His footsteps in the sea And rides upon the storm.

Judge not the Lord by feeble sense, But trust Him for His grace;
Behind a frowning providence Faith sees a smiling face.

His purposes will ripen fast, Unfolding ev’ry hour;
The bud may have a bitter taste, But sweet will be the flow’r.

Blind unbelief is sure to err And scan His work in vain;
God is His own interpreter, And He will make it plain.

You fearful saints, fresh courage take; The clouds you so much dread
Are big with mercy and will break In blessings on your head.

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