

SECRET GARBLE

Isaiah 45

INTRODUCTION:

News Reports are often given in a garbled account. A select part is given -- a part that will serve a purpose. The part selected may be unfair or used to mislead in judgment. Democratic CONVENTION { Both candidates charged the Press - Played up Police - Demonstrations -

There is an indication in Isaiah 45 that some had charged the living God with not being clear on the issues. In. Verse 19 God says "I have not spoken in secret".

He tells what Cyrus will do and concludes the chapter with a clear bold explanation of salvation.

OUTLINE:

- I. Success of Cyrus V. 1-8.
- II. Striving With God. V. 9-19.
- III. Salvation In A Look. V. 20-25.

I. SUCCESS OF CYRUS - V. 1-8.

Verse 1 - Mission of Cyrus. Spoken of in extrordinary way. Called a Shepherd. 44:28. Predicting the future in advance of 150 to 200 years.

Historians - When Cyrus discovered that he was fulfilling this prophecy, his ambition to do so increased. Jer. II. Chron. 36:22-23. History Says
Great thing God would do through him to release his people.

Note the title - Anointed - Design and service a type of Messiah. Dignity. Significant as deliver of Israel from Babylon.

Shadow - Type of great deliverer.

More rightly - set apart as King - Special service.

Right Hand - Strengthened - Subdue Nations - Feeble man - more than 17 nations were subdued - His Empire extended from Egypt and the Mediterreanean to the Indian Ocean, and from Ethiopia to the Euxine Sea.

Loose the Loins of Kings. Kings fall before him - made weak - not able to resist.

5:5-6 - 17 thousand loads - Hand Writing -
Ill. Dan. 5:6 - Joints of Belshazzar's loins were loosed during the siege by Cyrus, at the sight of the mysterious handwriting on the palace walls.

Two Leaved Gates - Cities and forts as Assyrian Gateways - Large doors or gates. Way into city.

Verse 2 - Crooked Place. Smooth the way - all opposition things and persons.
Long marches will be easy.

Gates of Brass - Babylon - 100 solid bronze gates - no hinderance!

Verse 3 - Treasures - Those locked up - Hidden, great security (with out windows - dark places).

Fell in hands of Cyrus. Riches of many nations brought to Babylon.

Estimated - 126 millions sterling. Value.

Mayest Know-Not that he was just the God of Israel but the true God.

Verse 4 - Why the Lord will do this? For Cyrus? For the glory of God. For the elect's sake - Jacob - My church.

Verse 5 - God is doing this - giving Cyrus success - Clear.

"I girded Thee" - Loosed loin of Kings. But give strength to Cyrus. One God who does this.

Verse 6 - Sovereignty of the great Jehovah - none besides - counterfeits.

Rising and setting of sun - whole habitable world.

Verse 7 - In control - light and darkness. Morning and evening.

Verse 8 - Gives Blessings.

Drop down - like rain.

Pour righteousness - dew.

Open Earth - Figurative mens hearts.

Spring Up - Grow - bear fruit.

Let God's law be poured out and men receive it into their hearts and bear righteousness.

Take root in the heart - as a plant.

II. STRIVING WITH GOD - V. 9-19.

Verse 9 - God has a plan. Prophet warns about resistance. Man rises in resentment.

Suppose the clay objected the man fashioning it into a form - find fault.

Jew object to captivity, and to Cyrus (Not a Jew) releasing them.

Pot shurd - piece of earth ware - Potter works with - faulty place - it won't yield - what is the man to do? He cast aside as useless. *Rom 7:24 "O Wretched MAN that I AM! Who shall deliver me from the body of this death" - Paul: Early PART of life Rebellious AGAINST God.*

F. B. Myers tells of helping a boy through school. At 18 years old boy went bad. Helped him 2nd time, 3rd, and 4th. I have put money in you, I must give you up. I'll forgive, but can't waste time and strength on.

Christ comes to hopeless, helpless, I will save you. Devil trying to ruin you.

Woe unto him that striveth with his Maker.

Ex. 10: 27-29 Plagues - frogs, lice, darkness, blood, boils, hail -

Pharaoh/did - hardened his heart - woeful condition. Man may question God's wisdom.

Verse 10 - Woe - A child upbraid parents for unfavorable circumstances.

Angry with God for saving the Gentiles.

Verse 11 - Ask Me - Compare, striving - invitation to request - learn of my design.

Mark 11:24.

Most people are ignorant of God's design. Question, dictate to God.

Reasonable way is pray - Know His leading. Complaints will not produce the answer.

Verse 12 - Absolute control of this earth and the events. Perfect order of the physical world. This is why you should pray instead of striving.

Power to grant your request!

Made Heavens - stretched out the earth.

Verse 13 - What God will do for his people!

Liberty - raise up Cyrus. Carry out my purpose - righteous purpose.

I will direct - make straight. Let go captives - not for price - Neh. 6:8.

Let Jews go free. Rom. 3:24.

Give order for Jerusalem to be rebuilt. Ezra 1

Verse 14 - Enemies of Israel confess their dependence upon her - Egypt, Ethiopia, and Seba will be given to Cyrus, as a ransom in lieu of Israel paying.

They were poor unable to bear expense themselves of the return trip. Not go empty from Babylon.

They did not go empty from Egypt.

Gentiles were to come over and become obedient. I Cor. 14:24-25.

Verse 15 - Trust God when you can't see him.

Mysterious - God concealed himself when they were going in captivity and coming out. Rom. 11:33.

The God who hides.

*Many yrs ago (Washington Gladstone) - servant of the Lord distressed
New England - criticized - sense of failure climbed to steeple room of
church - Not suicide - But pour out prayer, then wrote
"O Master, let me walk with Thee,
in lowly paths of service true"*

Verse 16 - Disappointed in their expectation of help from the idols.

Ashamed - confusion - secret garble of idols!

*Tell me thy secret,
Help me Bear.
Thy strain of toil,
The fret of care,*

Verse 17 - Israel shall be saved - contrast idols. Everlasting - age after age.

Trust in God and you will never be made to be ashamed of Him. More than temporal deliverance.

Messiah - rescue the soul to everlasting salvation without end.

Verse 18 - God did not create the world in vain but to be inhabited. Resurrection for Israel from Babylon.

Put order in the world. Gen. 1:1-2. Dwelling place for man. Rom. 8:20.

Never distrust God - He made the world.

Verse 19 - God not work or speak in secret garble! Laws not given like a smooth sayer in a dark cave.

✓ Sinai - openly - by the mouth of his prophet. Taught in the Synagogue.

Works of God give Revelation - not speak as Pagan deities. His law given and written for the multitudes.

Invites them to seek him - not vain - I am not hiding in the wilderness.

God gives truth in a straight line - Prov. 8:6.

God did not create this earth and speak aimlessly and whisper the glad tidings as a secret garble.

III. SALVATION IN A LOOK - V. 20-25.

Verse 20 - Those that are left of the nations. Praying to a God that cannot save.

Have any of the gods been able to do what God has done? Able to predict Cyrus?

Pray to a God that can save!

Verse 21 - Summon to bring gods out.

He is able to rule. He is able to save. Keeps his promises.

Every deliverance is inferior - Egypt, Babylon - Real victory coming.

Verse 22 - One way to look - turn your face to me. Look ye ends of the earth.

John 3:14-15. Num. 21:9⁶⁻⁹ Brass Serpent. Acts 16:30-31 Eye of Faith.

Psa. 22:27.

Rather (Turn) - Implies that all can turn and look to be saved. Matt. 28:19.

Simple Direction - Trust - Easy - Admit God. Pray to Him.

Certain Assurance - Be saved. From Sin. Pardon - Renewal of heart.

All People - Ends of earth - His Command.

What is the best time to look?

✓ Text - Charles Spurgeon was converted. He said "I owe my deliverance from despair to this text. And unlettered, lay preacher made a direct appeal to me - young man, you are miserable, and you will never be happy unless you obey this message. Look! Look!

I did look and in that instant lost my crushing load of guilt. It was all clear to me. Jesus had taken my sins. I felt liberty of the soul. A look saved me. Looking unto Jesus has been my motto.

Many like Heinrich Heine looked to a stone statue in an art palace of Paris, called Venus of Milo. The statue was without arms.

It is true - they can not help.

Verse 23 - Strong words - Rom. 14:11 "As I Live".

Num. 14:21.

Word Gone Forth - Not return - revoked - retract. Never speaks in vain.

Strictly truth - right. Knee Bow - Rom. 14:10-11, 12

Gen. 22:17 - Confirms.

Universal subjection implied - Knee is bowed allegiance - service - submission.

Result of this submission - Knee bowed and tongue confess! Phil. 2:11.

Verse 24 - Set self up against God must come in penitence. Source of righteousness.

All that are set against him - fixed - shall be ashamed. Angry against God.

Lost cause to oppose Him.

Verse 25 - Subjects - Seed of Israel - Promise.

Justification - Joseph and David were in due time cleared of sins.

All believers. *I conducted the funeral service for a young woman this Afternoon - she had one son in Viet Nam. Also, left behind a 7yr. old child. Last days of her life were more profitable than the first. Nurse - witnessed to her and she trusted Jesus. "Look unto me"*

"Just as if I had never sinned". *Nurse - witnessed to her and she trusted Jesus. "Look unto me"*

Not a secret - nor is it a garbled report. This is plain - there is a plan for every man's life.

Purpose every soul - life plan.

Don't try to copy someone else's life, or blame your hardships saying I could not do anything.

Turn and look to Jesus, he has the design in harmony with his character - You have a conscience as an interpreter of His will.

Go to God, ask him.

Glory - I Cor. 1:31 - Glory in your Lord.