

# God is the Director

Ezra 1

who says of Cyrus, ‘He is my shepherd  
and will accomplish all that I please;  
he will say of Jerusalem, “Let it be rebuilt,”  
and of the temple, “Let its foundations be laid.”  
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**45** “This is what the LORD says to his  
anointed,  
to Cyrus, whose right hand I take hold of  
to subdue nations before him  
and to strip kings of their armor,  
to open doors before him  
so that gates will not be shut:

2 I will go before you  
and will level the mountains;  
I will break down gates of bronze  
and cut through bars of iron.

3 I will give you the treasures of darkness,  
riches stored in secret places,  
so that you may know that I am the LORD,  
the God of Israel, who summons you by name.

4 For the sake of Jacob my servant,  
of Israel my chosen,  
I summon you by name  
and bestow on you a title of honor,  
though you do not acknowledge me.

Isaiah 44:28–25:4

- ▶ God directs events and is faithful to his people.

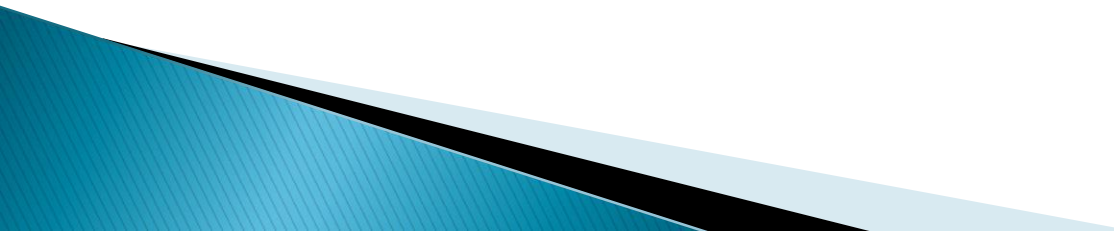
“God’s providence is His constant care for and His absolute rule over all His creation for His own glory and the good of His people.”

– Jerry Bridges



Life must be lived forward; it can only be understood backward.

– Soren Kierkegaard

- ▶ God directs events and is faithful to his people.
  - ▶ God works through people who are faithful and hopeful during difficult, waiting times.
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- ▶ You meant it for evil against me, but God meant it for good. Joseph – Genesis 50:20
  - ▶ All things work together for good for those who love God. – Paul – Romans 8:28
  - ▶ Being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. – Paul – Philippians 1:6
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