

The Heart of Revival

Ezra 1:1–3

Now in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, that the word of the Lord by the mouth of Jeremiah might be fulfilled, the Lord stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, so that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom, and also *put it* in writing, saying,

Ezra 1:1–3

NKJV

Thus says Cyrus king of Persia: All the kingdoms of the earth the Lord God of heaven has given me. And He has commanded me to build Him a house at Jerusalem which *is* in Judah.

Who *is* among you of all His people? May his God be with him, and let him go up to Jerusalem which *is* in Judah, and build the house of the Lord God of Israel (He *is* God), which *is* in Jerusalem.

Who confirms the word of His servant,
And performs the counsel of His
messengers; Who says to Jerusalem,
'You shall be inhabited,' To the cities
of Judah, 'You shall be built,' And I will
raise up her waste places;

Isaiah 44:26–28

NKJV

Who says to the deep, 'Be dry! And I
will dry up your rivers';

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."'*

But when they told him all the words which Joseph had said to them, and when he saw the carts which Joseph had sent to carry him, the spirit of Jacob their father revived.

Genesis 45:27

NKJV

I. Revival must come from God.

A. Stirred up

B. The Heart

**"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:**

Isaiah 45:1–7

NKJV

'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, the
Lord, Who call *you* by your name, *Am*
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.

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,

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;

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

II. God is not limited to us.

A. God used someone with ability.

B. God used the willing.

But be doers of the
word, and not hearers
only, deceiving
yourselves.

James 1:22

NKJV

III. We cannot place God in a box.

- A. God may work where we cannot.**
- B. God may work where we have not.**
- C. God may work where we will not.**