

## #2: The Case For God

*Those who fail to learn from history will miss seeing God at work in the world.*

### Isaiah 41: The Debate

God issues a **CHALLENGE** — vs. 1

God offers into evidence an **HISTORICAL** event — vs. 2-4

- The king from the east: **CYRUS**, king of Persia
- Issued a **DECREE** to allow the Jews to return to Israel — Ezra 1
- The timing: Written **150 YEARS BEFORE** it happened

God at work in foreign kings:

King	Nation	Who	Biblical Reference
Nebuchadnezzar	Babylon	Hananiah, Mishael, Azariah, Daniel	Daniel 1-4
Belshazzar	Babylon	Daniel	Daniel 5
Darius the Mede	Medo-Persian	Daniel	Daniel 6, 9
Cyrus	Persia	Ezra	Isaiah 41, Ezra
Xerxes	Persia	Esther, Mordecai	Esther
Artaxerxes	Persia	Nehemiah	Nehemiah

Response to God’s challenge — vs. 5-7

- **FEAR**
- Making **IDOLS**

God’s reminders for Israel — vs. 8-13

- They are still God’s **CHOSEN PEOPLE** — v. 8-9
- Do not **FEAR** — v. 10-13

God is the God of the **IMPOSSIBLE** — vs. 14-20

- The response to that is **WORSHIP** — v. 16

The **IDOLS** are invited to present their case — vs. 21-24

God’s **CLOSING ARGUMENT** — vs. 25-29

### Application

1. God Is **IN CONTROL**

2. God Is **WORKING** For The **GOOD** Of His **PEOPLE**

**Galatians 4:4-5** *But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship.*

**Romans 8:28**

3. God Is Pursuing A **RELATIONSHIP** With Each Of Us

**Micah 5:2, Luke 24:27**

**1 John 2:2** *He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.*

4. Don’t Just Know **ABOUT** God, **KNOW** GOD

**Revelation 3:20** *Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person, and they with me.*

**Romans 10:9-10** *If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved.*