



**Dear Crossroads Family,**

As we continue our sermon series, *Seeing God Clearly*, we will be considering the fact that our God is omnipotent (all-powerful) and what that means for our lives. (Sermon notes are provided below.) The text for Sunday's message includes a very unusual acknowledgement by God through the prophet Isaiah.

In Isaiah 44:27-28, God says He is the One, *"who says to the watery deep, 'Be dry, and I will dry up your streams,' 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.'"*

The statement, *"Be dry, and I will dry up your streams,"* is significant. Babylon was considered impregnable because the massive Euphrates River flowed directly through the center of the city, providing a constant water source and a natural barrier. Cyrus realized he couldn't go *over* the walls, so he decided to go *under* them.

Upstream from the city, Persian engineers dug a series of canals and a massive reservoir. On the night of a major Babylonian festival, the Persians diverted the river into these canals. The water level inside the city dropped to about "mid-thigh" depth. The Persian soldiers simply waded down the dry riverbed and entered the city through the river gates. The Persians must have thought they had come up with an ingenious plan, but it was God who said, *"Be dry, and I will dry up your streams,"* and gave them the wisdom to do it.

Then, God says something stunning about Cyrus, the King of Persia: *"He is my shepherd and will accomplish all that I please."* As the conquering king of the Babylonians, Cyrus allowed the Israelites to return from their Babylonian captivity to the Holy Land to rebuild Jerusalem and the Temple and he even provided them with the resources to do it!

Our God is so powerful that He can accomplish amazing things that change the course of history by using pagan kings with their idol-worshipping armies.

Imagine what He can do with you and me when we are submitted to His will!

I look forward to worshipping with you this coming Sunday as we celebrate our awesome God who is omnipotent.

See you Sunday,

Love,

Bro. Doug

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## *He's Got the Whole World in His Hands*

*Isaiah 44:7-9 & 21-28*

Theologians use the word \_\_\_\_\_ to describe God. He is all-knowing. Knowledge of God's omnipotence is something that should bring \_\_\_\_\_ to our souls, \_\_\_\_\_ to our steps, and \_\_\_\_\_ to our lips. Isaiah 44:7-9 highlights one aspect of God's omnipotence: He is \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_—omniscient. He has the power to fully remember every detail of the \_\_\_\_\_ and to see and predict every event yet to happen in the \_\_\_\_\_.

Memory illudes us. But with our all-knowing God, no act of faithfulness is " \_\_\_\_\_ " to time. Your history of faithfulness is never \_\_\_\_\_ by the passage of years.

But what about our \_\_\_\_\_ past; our sins? Doesn't He know and remember these? Here is the good news of the Gospel: God's perfect memory includes remembering His \_\_\_\_\_ of salvation which \_\_\_\_\_ the memory of our sin. He remembers the \_\_\_\_\_ paid by Christ perfectly and remembers your \_\_\_\_\_ no more.

But His power to know extends to the future as well. This means He is the " \_\_\_\_\_ " and His word is the \_\_\_\_\_ upon which we can build a future that will both \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

Isaiah 44:21-28 speaks to another aspect of His omnipotence—His all-powerful \_\_\_\_\_. He is omnibenevolent. His infinite love for those who bear His name means that no other power can stop Him from \_\_\_\_\_ us from a death-dealing world or keep Him from \_\_\_\_\_ a secure future for those who \_\_\_\_\_ for forgiveness and salvation.

Though we may experience many good blessings from God in this life, never forget that the Jerusalem God has promised us is that one that will come, \_\_\_\_\_ in this life but with the \_\_\_\_\_ heaven and the \_\_\_\_\_ earth. In this life we will have trouble. But God is so powerful that nothing, not death or life or anything, can \_\_\_\_\_ you from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus. Remember, the One Who has the whole world in His hands has \_\_\_\_\_ in His mighty hands too.

### **A Few Announcements:**

Don't forget about the Youth Camp Fundraiser: Hamburger or Hot Dog Lunch on Sunday, March 29, after worship service. You can dine in or take out. It is only \$6 for burger or hot dog with chips. Drinks are available for \$1-\$2. Tickets will be on sale Sunday in the foyer.

VBS registration is open at [cbcsa.net/vbs](http://cbcsa.net/vbs).

VBS Kickoff and Training for all volunteers is scheduled for Saturday, March 28, from 9:00 am to noon. Anyone wishing to volunteer to help with VBS is invited to come.

Copies of an Easter Invitation Flyer will be available on Sunday in the foyer. Grab several invitations so you can invite many to our Easter celebrations at Crossroads.