

God's Shepherds: Cyrus and Jesus

PICTURED BELOW IS CYRUS' CYLINDER, AN ARTIFACT FOUND IN THE RUINS OF ANCIENT BABYLON IN 1879 AND CURRENTLY HOUSED IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM. Written upon it in Akkadian cuneiform script are the accomplishments of Cyrus the Great, King of the Medes and Persians, shortly after his defeat of the Babylonian King Nabonidus, who ruled the known world until 539 BC. The Babylonians were known for uprooting conquered peoples and moving them to other localities, and indeed the Jews had been carried off to Babylon. Once the Babylonians had been defeated by the Medes and Persians, King Cyrus issued a decree which allowed those who had been displaced to return to their original lands and to serve their own gods, and that decree is recorded on this cylinder.



CYRUS' CYLINDER approx. 539 BC

AMAZINGLY, GOD SPOKE OF CYRUS THROUGH HIS PROPHET ISAIAH SOME 130–150 YEARS BEFORE CYRUS WAS BORN, EVEN CALLING HIM BY NAME. The Bible records this prophecy in Isaiah 44:28–45:6, which specifically refers to Cyrus as “my shepherd” and the Lord’s “anointed” and says that Cyrus will perform “all my (God’s) pleasure.” Not only did the Lord God identify Cyrus as the one who would later deliver the people of Israel back to their land, he also prophesied that Cyrus would decree that the destroyed temple in Jerusalem would be rebuilt. Ezra chapter 1 records this decree for Israel to return to their land, and in it Cyrus the Great, the ruler of the known world at that time, acknowledges that the God of Israel **gave** him all of the kingdoms of the earth, and **charged** him to rebuild the temple in Jerusalem.

This artifact corroborates the Biblical record, and its evidence shows that the Bible is indeed accurate and can be trusted. It further shows that the Lord God of Israel rules in the kingdoms of men and places those in power who will suit his purpose.

Though Cyrus the Great died in battle in 530 BC, his decree was valued by his successor King Darius. A search was made for the original record and it was found in Babylon. King Darius resumed the work of rebuilding the temple in Jerusalem and it was completed in 515 BC. The Bible records the search and the work on the temple in Ezra chapters 1–6.

It is most fascinating to follow the story of Cyrus in the Bible, and the Biblical record shows us how much the Lord God works with His people Israel, even today when He has brought them back to the land. Soon Jesus Christ, the Lord’s Shepherd, will return and build the Kingdom of God on earth, and bring those that follow Him into that Kingdom.

**“Thus saith the LORD... of Cyrus, He is my shepherd,
and shall perform all my pleasure.” – Isaiah 44**

The original Cyrus' Cylinder will be on display at the Getty Villa in Malibu from October 2–December 2, 2013.
For more information about Cyrus in the Bible, see the activities listed on the reverse.

Check the schedule below for a Seminar or Bible Class in your area, or call the listed number for the latest information.

FREE Bible Talk: "God's Shepherds: Cyrus and Jesus"

Location:	Topic:	When:	Contact for Details:
Pomona	"God's Shepherds: Cyrus and Jesus"	Sunday, October 6, 2013 at 3:00 pm	800-862-7873
Santa Fe Springs	"God's Shepherds: Cyrus and Jesus"	Wednesday, October 9, 2013 at 7:30 pm	800-862-7873
Simi Valley	"God's Shepherds: Cyrus and Jesus"	Tuesday, October 8, 2013 at 7:30 pm	800-862-7873
Tujunga	"God's Shepherds: Cyrus and Jesus"	Sunday, October 13, 2013 at 1:30 pm	800-862-7873

FREE Bible Seminars Coming Soon Near You!

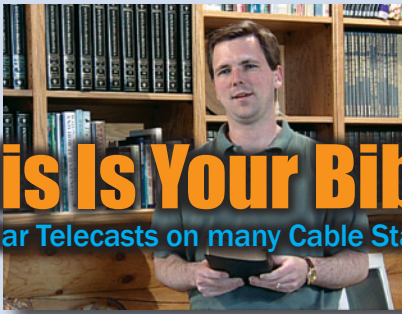
Location:	Seminar Topic:	When:	Contact for Details:
Mission Viejo	"Understanding Bible Prophecy"	Starts September 10, 2013	800-862-7873
Reseda	"Learn to Read the Bible Effectively"	Starts September 9, 2013	800-862-7873
Reseda	"Learn to Read the Bible Effectively"	Starts January 14, 2014	800-862-7873
Reseda	"Learn to Read the Bible Effectively"	Starts April 24, 2014	800-862-7873
Simi Valley	"Learn to Read the Bible Effectively"	Coming November, 2013	www.simibible.com or 800-862-7873
Thousand Oaks	"Learn to Read the Bible Effectively"	Coming Spring, 2014	800-862-7873
Tujunga	"Learn to Read the Bible Effectively"	Coming Fall, 2013	800-862-7873

FREE Bible Study Classes in Your Area

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Lompoc	Weekly Bible Classes	Call for details	800-862-7873
Los Angeles	Estudios bíblicos en español	Llame al	626-303-2222
Los Angeles	Estudios bíblicos en español por correspondencia	Llame al	626-303-2222
Palm Desert	"Learn to Read the Bible Effectively" Study Classes	Friday Mornings, 10:30 am	800-862-7873
Pomona	Weekly Bible Classes	Call for details	800-862-7873
Reseda	Weekly Bible Classes	Call for details	800-862-7873
San Diego County	Weekly Bible Classes and other events	Go to www.sdbible.com or call for details	800-862-7873
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Santa Barbara	Weekly Bible Classes	Thursday Evenings/Sunday Mornings	800-862-7873
Santa Fe Springs	Weekly Bible Classes	Sun. and Tues. Mornings/Wed. Evenings	800-862-7873
Thousand Oaks	Weekly Bible Classes	Call for details	800-862-7873
Tujunga	Weekly Bible Classes	Sunday Mornings	800-862-7873

All Bible Seminars and Classes are free to everyone without obligation. You will never be asked for donations or money to buy materials. For further details on a specific Seminar or to register by telephone please call 800-862-7873 - we would be delighted to answer all of your questions. Providing your name and address will enable us to notify you of future events. We respect your privacy; no one will call or visit you unless requested. We also offer a FREE Bible Reading Planner that is designed to help you to develop the habit of daily Bible reading. Be sure to ask for it when you contact us!

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- BIBLE READING PLANNER "This Remarkable Book Called The Bible" "Who are the Christadelphians?"