

The tremendous conquests, and who will use him as his instrument to let His people go. And why is He going to do all this for Cyrus and through Cyrus. Verse 4 tells us. "For Jacob my servant's sake, and Israel/~~is~~ my elect." Now Israel is God's elect. He is God's chosen. And of course, people tend to rejoice that they are the people that God has picked for His pets, for His chosen one, for the one He does everything for. He does things for them more than anyone else in the world, but God puts first His servant, rather than His elect. They are called the servants. They are His elect, because God has purposed to work through them. I think that is an important idea for us to have in mind also, in connection with this matter of election. Some people have the idea that election is a matter that God is good to some people and bad to others. That God simply goes over their

P. 7. (Side two.) D. Isaiah 45:4.

Well, here God says to the idols, this is a matter of God's own arbitrary will. He just decides He wants to be good to these, and bad to others, and that's that. Now that is ~~the prototype~~ <sup>a travesty</sup> of Calvinism. That is not what Calvinism teaches, nor what the Bible teaches. It is true that the Bible teaches that God is not obligated to save anybody. We have all sinned. And we all deserve eternal punishment. And it is only the goodness of God that saves any of us. And that goodness is not dependent, that grace of His is not dependent on any goodness of ours. It is not because He foresees that we will be good, that He chooses to save us. It is entirely of His own will, that He does it. But there is no where in the Bible, the suggestion that it is an arbitrary capricious will. That He just happens to pick us out, and therefore we are lucky. And others He doesn't pick out and therefore they are unworthy. Nothing of the kind. God could allow all mankind to perish for their sins, and God would be entirely just in so doing. But God picked out certain ones to save, but He picks them out, not because they deserve it, for none of us deserve it, but He picks them out, because it is His will that He should accomplish His wonderful purposes through them. If we are His elect, we are His servants. For Jacob my servant's sake, and Israel mine elect. He chooses to save us because He intends to use us. He has purposes to work out through us. His purpose of grace is to show forth His goodness., and His glory through what He does in us and through us. And so