

Father, Potter, And The Work Of His Hand

Isaiah 64:8 But now, O Lord, You are our **Father**;

We are the clay, and You our **potter**;

And all we are **the work of** Your hand.

the work of;

a product produced or accomplished through the effort or agency or activity of a person or thing.; Isaiah 29:16 (NKJV)

16 Surely you have things turned around! Shall the potter be esteemed as the clay; For shall the thing made say of him who made it, "He did not make me"? Or shall the thing formed say of him who formed it, "He has no understanding"? context: One of six woes spoken against the end-time remnant of the people of Jerusalem and the people of Judah because of their choice of independence from their Father/Creator

Exodus 4:22 (NKJV)

22 Then you shall say to Pharaoh, 'Thus says the LORD: "Israel is My son, My firstborn.

Deuteronomy 32:5–6 (NKJV)

5 "They have corrupted themselves; They are not His children, Because of their blemish: A perverse and crooked generation.

6 Do you thus deal with the LORD, O foolish and unwise people? Is He not your Father, who bought you? Has He not made you and established you? Context: Moses was at the end of his days when God spoke through him these words. God was revealing what the nation of Israel would do after Moses' death.

By the work of His hand: though Sarah was barren and Abraham was too old to produce seed for them to have children God miraculously caused it to happen. So in this sense God is the father of the nation of Israel.

Galatians 3:26–29 (NKJV)

26 For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus.

27 For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

29 And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

Galatians 4:3–7 (NKJV)

3 Even so we, when we were children, were in bondage under the elements of the world.

4 But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law,

5 to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.

6 And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!"

7 Therefore you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.

Isaiah 44:28–45:2 (NKJV)

28 **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." '

1 "**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:

2 '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.

Cyrus was a foreshadow of the Christ-The Anointed
And Isaiah 45:8 speaks of the

Isaiah 45:9–13 (NKJV)

9 "Woe to him who strives with his Maker! Let the potsherd strive with the potsherds of the earth! Shall the clay say to him who forms it, 'What are you making?' Or shall your handiwork say, 'He has no hands'?

10 Woe to him who says to his father, 'What are you begetting?' Or to the woman, 'What have you brought forth?' "

11 Thus says the LORD, The Holy One of Israel, and his Maker: "Ask Me of things to come concerning My sons; And concerning the work of My hands, you command Me.
12 I have made the earth, And created man on it. I—My hands—stretched out the heavens, And all their host I have commanded.

13 I have raised him up in righteousness, And I will direct all his ways; He shall build My city And let My exiles go free, Not for price nor reward," Says the LORD of hosts.

Isaiah prophesied in the reigns of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, all kings of Judah (1:1). The reigns of these kings (including coregencies) were: Uzziah (790–739), Jotham (750–732), Ahaz (735–715), and Hezekiah (715–686). (See the chart “Kings of Judah and Israel and the Pre Exilic Prophets,” near 1 Kings 12:25–33.)

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In 586 B.C. Nebuchadnezzar and his forces broke through Jerusalem’s walls, burned the houses and the temple, and carried many captives into exile. Cyrus, founder of the Persian Empire, first came to the throne of Anshan in Eastern Elam in 559. In 549 he conquered the Medes and became the ruler of the combined Persian and Median Empire. In 539 he conquered Babylon (Dan. 5:30) and the very next year issued a decree that the Jews could return to Jerusalem and rebuild the temple (2 Chron. 36:22–23; Ezra 1:1–4). In doing this Cyrus was serving God’s purposes as if he were God’s shepherd. Those returnees built the temple, completing it in 515 B.C., and years later (in 444 B.C.) Nehemiah went to Jerusalem to rebuild the city walls (see comments on Neh. 1–2; Dan. 9:25).

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Isaiah 43:1 (NKJV)

1 But now, thus says the LORD, who created you, O Jacob, And He who formed you, O Israel:
“Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by your name; You are Mine.

Isaiah 43:7 (NKJV)

7 Everyone who is called by My name, Whom I have created for My glory; I have formed him, yes, I have made him.”

Isaiah 44:21 (NKJV)

21 “Remember these, O Jacob, And Israel, for you are My servant; I have formed you, you are My servant; O Israel, you will not be forgotten by Me!

Isaiah 44:24 (NKJV)

24 Thus says the LORD, your Redeemer, And He who formed you from the womb: “I am the LORD, who makes all things, Who stretches out the heavens all alone, Who spreads abroad the earth by Myself;

