

## Great powers

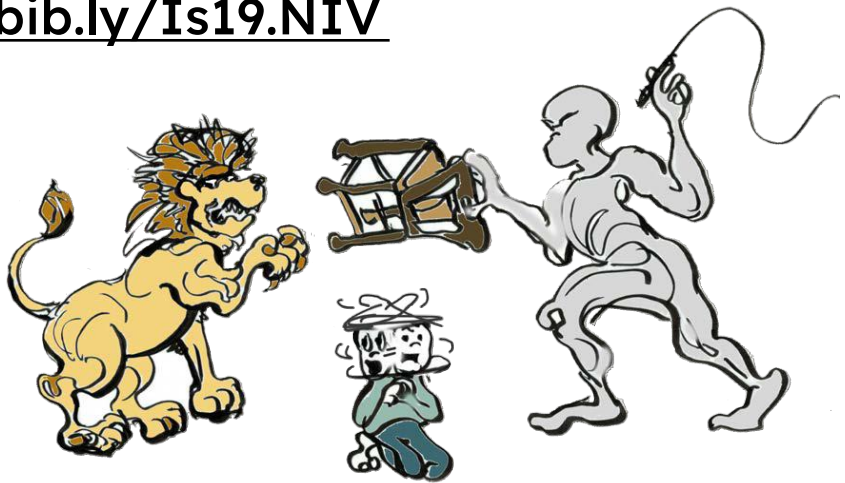
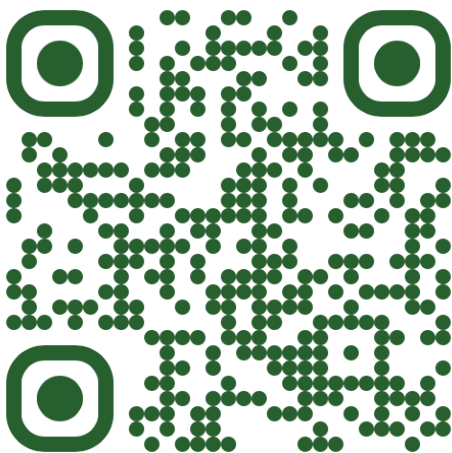
- Who or what makes people afraid?
- Who or what do people sometimes trust in rather than trusting in God?
- How about you?

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## Astounding Greatness

Isaiah 19:16-25

[bib.ly/Is19.NIV](https://bib.ly/Is19.NIV)



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## Isaiah

13-23: Prophecies against the nations

- 13-14: Babylon (greatest city in Assyria)
- 19-20: Prophecy against Egypt
- 22: Prophecy against Judah

6

**6 times here**      **Isaiah 19:16-17**      **5 times here**

<sup>16</sup> **In that day** the Egyptians will become weaklings. They **will shudder with fear** at the uplifted hand that the **Lord Almighty** raises against them. <sup>17</sup> And the land of Judah will bring **terror to the Egyptians**; everyone to whom Judah is mentioned will be terrified, because of what the Lord Almighty is planning against them.

**Great reversal: Egyptians shudder with fear  
before Israel's God**

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### **Isaiah 19:18-20a**

<sup>18</sup> **In that day** five cities in Egypt will speak the language of Canaan and swear allegiance to the **Lord Almighty**. One of them will be called **the City of the Sun**.

<sup>19</sup> **In that day** there will be **an altar to the Lord** in the heart of Egypt, and **a monument to the Lord** at its border. <sup>20</sup> It will be a sign and witness to the **Lord Almighty** in the land of Egypt.

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## Egyptians Isaiah 19:20b-22

When they cry out to the Lord because of their oppressors, he will send them a savior and defender, and he will rescue them. <sup>21</sup> So the Lord will make himself known to the Egyptians, and **in that day** they will acknowledge the Lord. They will worship with sacrifices and grain offerings; they will make vows to the Lord and keep them. <sup>22</sup> The Lord will strike Egypt with a plague; he will strike them and heal them. They will turn to the Lord, and he will respond to their pleas and heal them.

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## Alexandria (in Egypt): One of the great centers of the church for 6 centuries



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<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=100182575>

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## Isaiah 19:23-25

<sup>23</sup> **In that day** there will be a highway from Egypt to Assyria. The Assyrians will go to Egypt and the Egyptians to Assyria. **The Egyptians and Assyrians will worship together.** <sup>24</sup> **In that day** Israel will be the third, along with Egypt and Assyria, **a blessing on the earth.** <sup>25</sup> The **Lord Almighty** will bless them, saying, “Blessed be Egypt my people, Assyria my handiwork, and Israel my inheritance.”

**An astounding reversal in Assyria & Egypt!!**

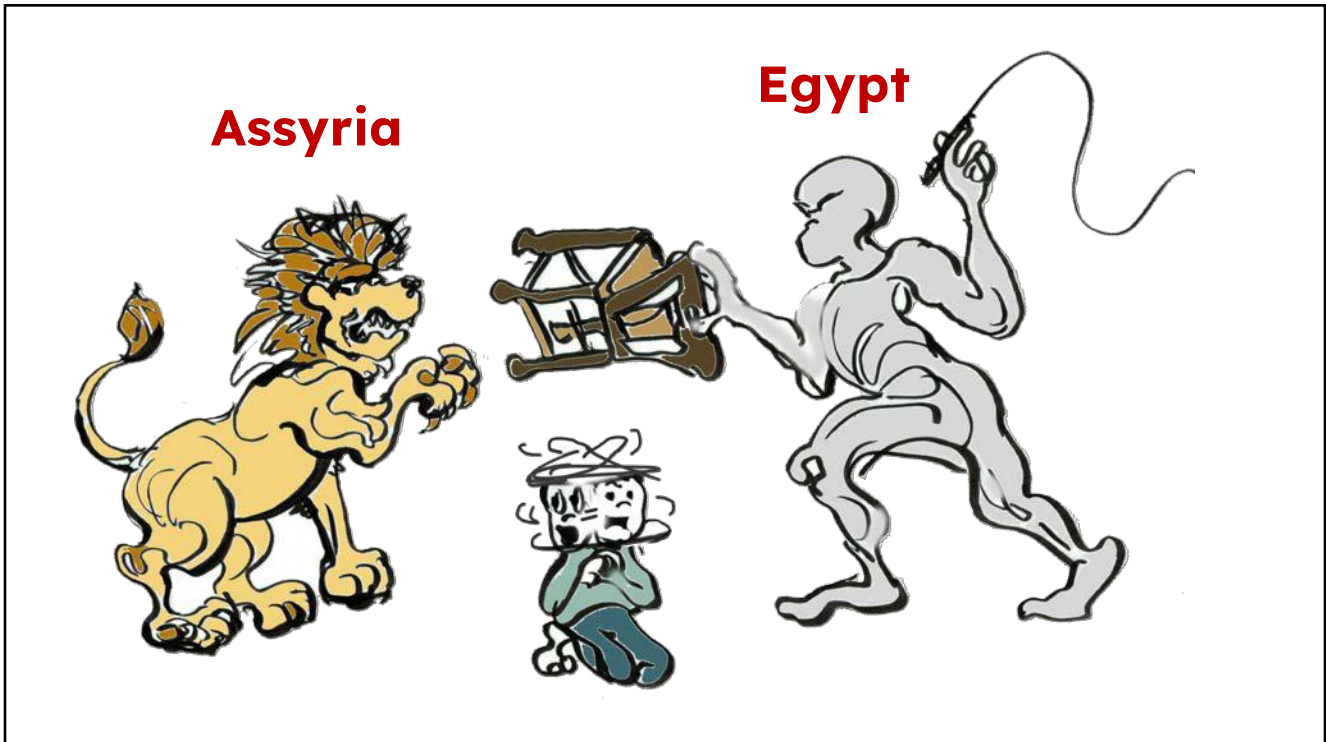
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## The Big Idea

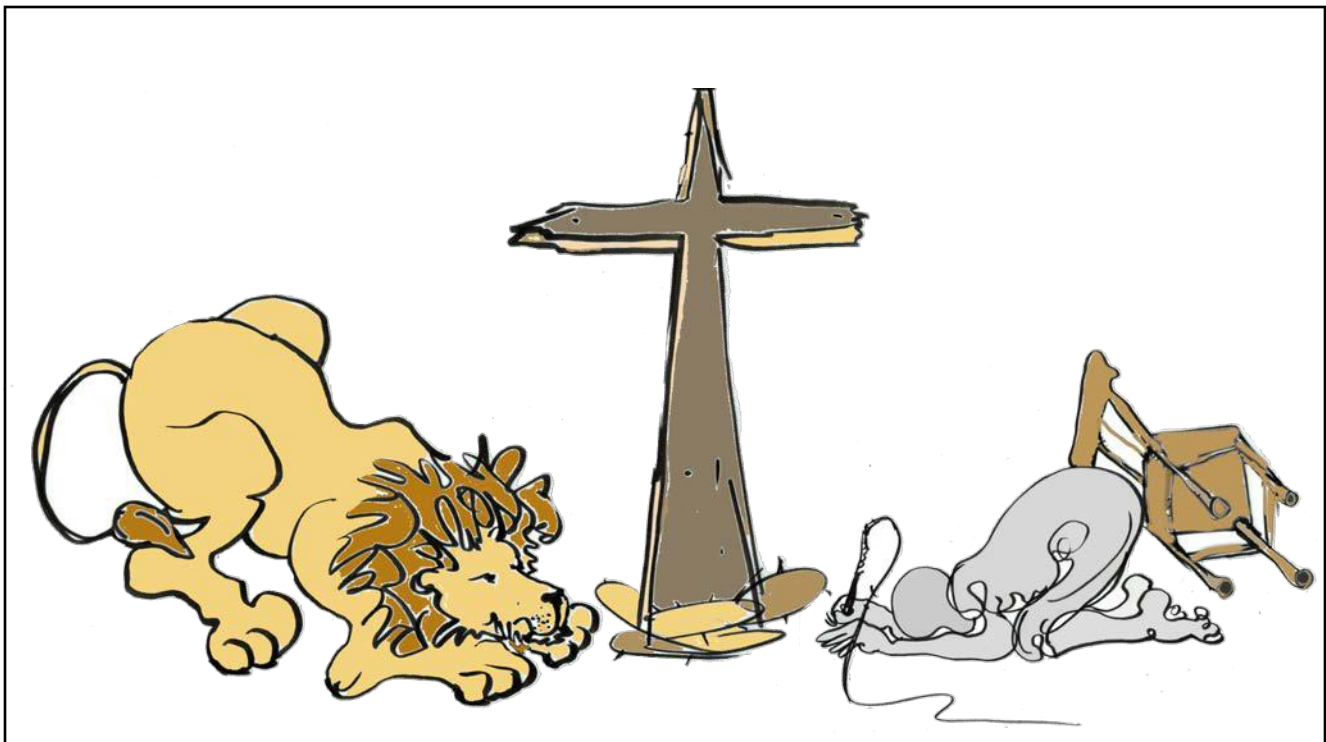
God is working to bring

**peoples of all nations** even the  
**to God** most unlikely  
**together** in our eyes  
**in Christ**

12



13



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16



## **God's purpose: all things under Christ**

With all wisdom and understanding, he made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ, to be put into effect when the times reach their fulfillment—to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ.

Ephesians 1:8b-10

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Isaiah 2:2-5

### **In the last days**

the mountain of the Lord's temple will be established as the highest of the mountains; it will be exalted above the hills, and all nations will stream to it.

Many peoples will come and say,  
 "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,  
 to the temple of the God of Jacob.  
 He will teach us his ways,  
 so that we may walk in his paths."

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The law will go out from Zion,  
the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.  
He will judge between the nations  
and will settle disputes for many peoples.  
They will beat their swords into plowshares  
and their spears into pruning hooks.  
Nation will not take up sword against nation,  
nor will they train for war anymore.  
**Come, descendants of Jacob,  
let us walk in the light of the Lord.**

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The Lord Almighty will bless them, saying,  
• “Blessed be Egypt **my people**,  
• Assyria **my handiwork**,  
• and Israel **my inheritance.**”

Isaiah 19:25

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## The Big Idea

God is working to bring  
peoples of all nations  
to God  
together  
in Christ

even the  
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in our eyes

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## Application

- Bow before Jesus Christ alone
  - The power and work of God are astounding!
  - “At the name of Jesus **every knee should bow**, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and **every tongue acknowledge** that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.” Philippians 2:10-11



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## Application

- Bow before Jesus Christ alone
  - What steals your contentment, your hope, your peace?
  - What brings fear?
  - What do you pursue to bring a better future?
  - **Everything and everyone will bow at the feet of Jesus!**



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## The call of the Church

- Not mere survival, or getting through, or “hanging in there”
- To be a part of this astounding work of God!
  - “The Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline.” *2 Timothy 1:7*

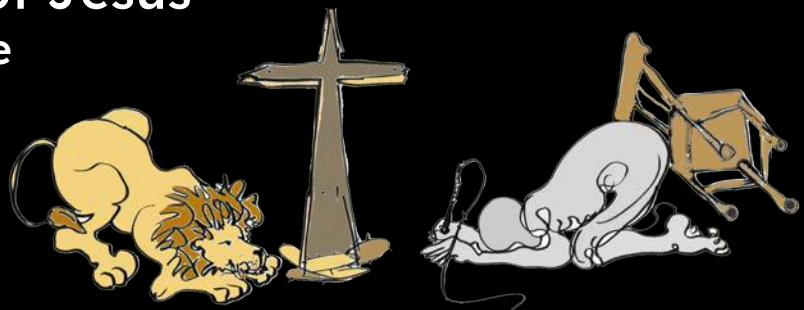
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“I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know...his **incomparably great power** for us who believe. That power is the **same as the mighty strength he exerted** when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only **in the present age** but **also in the one to come**. And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be **head over everything for the church**, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.” *Ephesians 1:18-23*

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## Application

- Join God’s work of bringing all peoples and powers into His will
  - Boldness & Humility
  - Tell what God has done in your life to all who will listen
  - Do the works of Jesus
    - Common grace
    - Saving grace



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## **Elisha, the prophet of God**

“an army of horses and chariots” of Aram surrounded Elisha & his servant

Elisha’s servant was afraid

“Don’t be afraid,” the prophet answered. “Those who are with us are more than those who are with them.”

And Elisha prayed, “Open his eyes, Lord, so that he may see.” Then the Lord opened the servant’s eyes, and he looked and saw the hills full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha. *2 Kings 6:16-17*

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## **Great Powers**

- Who or what does the Church fear?
- Who or what are we tempted to trust in rather than trusting in God?
- What work are we called to be a part of?

### **The story of Yasna**

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?” And I said, “Here am I. Send me!” *Isaiah 6:8*

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