

# Isaiah 41:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The isles saw it, and feared; the ends of the earth were afraid,  
drew near, and came.

## Analysis

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The nations' fear response to Cyrus's God-ordained rise is both appropriate (recognizing divine action) and inadequate (leading to idol-making, verse 7, rather than repentance). The Hebrew 'yare' (feared) and 'charad' (trembled) indicate terror before manifest divine power. The 'ends of the earth' emphasizes universal awareness of God's work.

## Historical Context

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As news of Cyrus's conquests spread, nations recognized something unprecedented was happening, yet most responded by strengthening their false gods rather than turning to the true God.

## Related Passages

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**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

## Study Questions

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1. How do people today respond to God's evident works with renewed idolatry rather than repentance?

2. What does it mean to respond to God's power with proper fear that leads to worship, not just terror?

## Interlinear Text

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וַיַּרְא	אֲיִלִּים	וַיִּירָאוּ	אֶת־קְצֵה	אֶרֶץ	וַיִּירָאוּ	וַיִּקְרְבוּ
saw	The isles	it and feared	the ends	of the earth	were afraid	drew near
H7200	H339	H3372	H7098	H776	H2729	H7126
וַיָּבֹאוּ						
and came						
H857						

## Additional Cross-References

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**Psalms 67:7** (Parallel theme): God shall bless us; and all the ends of the earth shall fear him.

**Psalms 65:8** (Parallel theme): They also that dwell in the uttermost parts are afraid at thy tokens: thou makest the outgoings of the morning and evening to rejoice.

**Psalms 66:3** (Parallel theme): Say unto God, How terrible art thou in thy works! through the greatness of thy power shall thine enemies submit themselves unto thee.

**Joshua 5:1** (Parallel theme): And it came to pass, when all the kings of the Amorites, which were on the side of Jordan westward, and all the kings of the Canaanites, which were by the sea, heard that the LORD had dried up the waters of Jordan from before the children of Israel, until we were passed over, that their heart melted, neither was there spirit in them any more, because of the children of Israel.