1056-H1-1401 **Kathleen M Clark*** (drkclark@gmail.com), School of Teacher Education, 1114 West Call Street, Tallahassee, FL 32306-4459. *For the good-hearted reader: Joost Bürgi, the history of logarithms, and a work that should have been famous.*

When discussing the emergence of the logarithm concept, most historians of mathematics feature and detail the achievements of Scottish mathematician John Napier (1550-1617), and give at most partial mention to his Swiss contemporary Joost Bürgi (1552-1632), despite the latter's independent and original, near simultaneous account. Bürgi was a craftsman employed in the court of Duke Wilhelm II, and wished to address the difficulties of the lengthy arithmetical operations when computing with large numbers. More importantly, he sought to create "general tables" that would improve upon the need for a multiplicity of tables for all manner of calculation. To better understand Bürgi's contribution, I translated, analyzed, and interpreted his primary source text *Arithmetische und Geometrische Progress Tabulen*, which was finally published in 1620. I present here the salient features of Bürgi's contribution and some of the features of his tables of logarithms. As well as providing a richer account than ever before, I set the scene for more reflective questions about the issues of parallel discoveries in mathematics and what they can reveal about the mathematics at the time in which such multiple insights arise. (Received September 21, 2009)