

**Study 62: Isaiah, Part 18 Isaiah 25:1-8**

**Chapters 24-27** “are to be taken as a continuous prophecy of the overthrow of the great world-powers which were arrayed against Jehovah and His people.”<sup>1</sup>

**Isaiah 25** Lord, you are my God;

I will exalt you and praise your name,  
for in perfect faithfulness

you have done wonderful things,  
things planned long ago.

2 You have made the city<sup>2</sup> a heap of rubble,  
the fortified town a ruin,  
the foreigners’ stronghold a city no more;  
it will never be rebuilt.

3 Therefore strong peoples will honor you;  
cities of ruthless nations will revere you.

4 You have been a refuge for the poor,  
a refuge for the needy in their distress,  
a shelter from the storm  
and a shade from the heat.

For the breath of the ruthless  
is like a storm driving against a wall

5 and like the heat of the desert.

You silence the uproar of foreigners;  
as heat is reduced by the shadow of a cloud,  
so the song of the ruthless is stilled.

6 On this mountain<sup>3</sup> the Lord Almighty will prepare  
a feast of rich food for all peoples,  
a banquet of aged wine—  
the best of meats and the finest of wines.

7 On this mountain he will destroy  
the shroud that enfolds all peoples,  
the sheet that covers all nations;

8 he will swallow up death forever.  
The Sovereign Lord will wipe away the tears  
from all faces;  
he will remove his people’s disgrace  
from all the earth.

The Lord has spoken.

[This is obviously referring to the Messiah and His bringing of salvation, not only to the Jews, but to “all peoples.” In v. 8, it says He will “swallow up death forever.” How does He do this? Not just the sacrifice He provided on the cross. It was also necessary that the Mosaic covenant (“the Law”) be ended. See 1 Cor 15:54-57<sup>4</sup> (cp. Hos 13:14<sup>5</sup>). **In this way**, He “will wipe away the tears from all faces”, and “remove His people’s disgrace from the earth” (see Rev 21:1-4)<sup>6</sup>]

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<sup>1</sup> Ellicott’s *Commentary for English Readers* (<http://biblehub.com/commentaries/isaiah/24-1.htm>).

<sup>2</sup> “The city” was a term used of Babylon.

<sup>3</sup> Mt. Zion, i.e. Jerusalem.

<sup>4</sup> When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: “Death has been swallowed up in victory.” “Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?” 56 The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. 57 But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>5</sup> “I will deliver this people from the power of the grave; I will redeem them from death. Where, O death, are your plagues? Where, O grave, is your destruction?”

<sup>6</sup> Then I saw “a new heaven and a new earth” [Isa 65:17], for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. 2 I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Look! God’s dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. 4 ‘He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death’ [Isa 25:8] or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.”