

Having A Basic Understanding of Some Old Testament Truths

Part 243 – God Exalted For His Great Might (Isaiah 25:1-12)

1. Why did Isaiah exalt and praise the name of God?

“O LORD, thou art my God; I will exalt thee, I will praise thy name; for thou hast done wonderful things; thy counsels of old are faithfulness and truth” (Isaiah 25:1).

- The Lord has done many wonderful works (**Psalms 40:5, Psalms 77:14, Psalms 107:8-43, Isaiah 45:12**, and **Acts 2:22**; cf. **Joshua 10:13, I Kings 17:17-23, Isaiah 38:7-8**, and **Acts 9:36-42**).
- He wants exalted (**Psalms 46:10** and **Isaiah 33:10**).
- His counsel (**Psalms 33:11, Isaiah 46:10**, and **Ephesians 1:11**).
- God is faithful (**Deuteronomy 7:9**).
- His word is truth (**Deuteronomy 32:4**).

2. Why would strong people glorify God and cities of terrible nations fear Him?

Because of what He did to defended cities and palaces: *“(2) For thou hast made of a city an heap; of a defenced city a ruin: a palace of strangers to be no city; it shall never be built. (3) Therefore shall the strong people glorify thee, the city of the terrible nations shall fear thee” (Isaiah 25:2-3).*

- We saw cities like Damascus made a ruinous heap (**Isaiah 17:1**).
 - This was true of even defended cities (**Isaiah 37:26**).
 - He even did this to His people when they erred (**Jeremiah 9:11**).
 - Even the palaces of men were not free from God’s wrath (**Jeremiah 17:27**).
- Such judgment had been given by God to the point that, cities would be completely destroyed and nations cease to exist (**Jeremiah 50:1-3**).
- God’s actions in judgment, contextually speaking, brought about praise for Him and fear even from terrible nations (**Psalms 66:3** and **Ezekiel 18:21-23**).
- God always has wanted man to have godly fear (**Psalms 89:7, Psalms 96:4, Ecclesiastes 12:13-14, Ephesians 5:21, Philipians 2:12**, and **Hebrews 12:28-29**).

3. Who has been a strength to the poor and needy in distress?

God: *“For thou hast been a strength to the poor, a strength to the needy in his distress, a refuge from the storm, a shadow from the heat, when the blast of the terrible ones is as a storm against the wall” (Isaiah 25:4).*

- God did not turn His back on the poor (**Psalms 12:5, Psalms 72:13, Isaiah 66:2**, and **James 2:5**).
- What man misunderstands, most certainly in our country, is that the poor are not what we call poor. People who CHOOSE not to succeed in life and work for their good are not those whom God cared for (**Proverbs 13:4, Proverbs 21:25**, and **II Thessalonians 3:10**).

4. What was brought down as the heat in a dry place?

The noise of strangers: *“Thou shalt bring down the noise of strangers, as the heat in a dry place; even the heat with the shadow of a cloud: the branch of the terrible ones shall be brought low” (Isaiah 25:5).*

- It is often said that the noisy wheel gets the grease. With God, the grease isn't what you want. When there is a multitude, noisy at that, this is what God issued a woe concerning (**Isaiah 17:12-14**).
- The imagery shows us that which is high is being brought low (**Isaiah 2:12**).

5. What was God going to do “in this mountain”?

“(6) And in this mountain shall the LORD of hosts make unto all people a feast of fat things, a feast of wines on the lees, of fat things full of marrow, of wines on the lees well refined. (7) And he will destroy in this mountain the face of the covering cast over all people, and the veil that is spread over all nations. (8) He will swallow up death in victory; and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from off all faces; and the rebuke of his people shall he take away from off all the earth: for the LORD hath spoken it” (Isaiah 25:6-8).

- All Old Testament indicators would show “this mountain” to be Zion (**Psalms 69:35, Psalms 102:13, Isaiah 8:8, Isaiah 46:13, Jeremiah 31:6, and Joel 2:32**), in Jerusalem (**Psalms 135:21**).
- A feast in Zion (**Jeremiah 31:12-13**).
- It should be noted that we are talking about a mountain on earth, not a heavenly place. Darkness had covered the earth, but not the light is come (**Isaiah 60:1-2**).
- The rebuke of His people and the tears that have been shed will be taken away and replaced with joy (**Jeremiah 31:9-13**).

6. What were those who waited for God able to rejoice in?

His salvation: *“And it shall be said in that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, and he will save us: this is the LORD; we have waited for him, we will be glad and rejoice in his salvation” (Isaiah 25:9).*

- **Psalms 14:7, Psalms 97:8, Isaiah 12:1, and Zephaniah 3:14-20.**

7. Who was trodden down as straw is trodden down for the dunghill?

Moab: *“For in this mountain shall the hand of the LORD rest, and Moab shall be trodden down under him, even as straw is trodden down for the dunghill” (Isaiah 25:10).*

- Zion, again, comes to point (**Psalms 132:13-14**).
- Moab stands as a sign that God has kept His word (**Numbers 24:17**; cf. **Isaiah 15:1** and **Zephaniah 2:9**).

8. What did God do to their pride and the high fort of their walls?

Brought it down: *“(11) And he shall spread forth his hands in the midst of them, as he that swimmeth spreadeth forth his hands to swim: and he shall bring down their pride together with the spoils of their hands. (12) And the fortress of the high fort of thy walls shall he bring down, lay low, and bring to the ground, even to the dust” (Isaiah 25:11-12).*

- The figure of God stretching forth His hands is used both in times of judgment (**Isaiah 5:25**) and reconciliation (**Isaiah 65:2**).
- Moab was proud (**Jeremiah 48:29**).
- God is known for being a humbler (**Isaiah 26:5**, **Jeremiah 50:31-32**, **Matthew 23:12**, and **James 4:6**).
- God can take the strength of a people and turn it to dust (**Zephaniah 1:17**).