

## LESSON 8

October 20, 2024

# Unit II: Songs of the Old Testament Dinnertime!

DEVOTIONAL READING: Ephesians 1:3-14

BACKGROUND SCRIPTURES: Isaiah 25; Daniel 6:10-28

PRINT PASSAGE: Isaiah 25:1-10a

### KEY VERSE

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. (Isaiah 25:6, KJV)

.....

On this mountain 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. (Isaiah 25:6, NIV)

### Lesson Aims

As a result of experiencing this lesson, you should be able to do the following:

- Connect Isaiah's historical context to his specific assurances of God's faithfulness.
- Remain hopeful in God's future deliverance based on God's past actions.
- Write a personal testimony to God's faithfulness.

### \*Key Terms

**Counsels (verse 1)**—Hebrew: *etsab* (ay-tsaw'): advice; consultation; designs; "things planned" (NIV).

**Exalt (verse 1)**—Hebrew: *rum* (room): to rise, extol, lift, set up; the word is used concerning both God and man.

**Marrow (verse 6, KJV)**—Hebrew: *moach* (mo'-akh): fat; the nourisher and strengthener of the bones; it is said to moisten the bones.

\*(Word Study Supplement—Refer to page 2)

### Introduction

The song "Sit at the Welcome Table" had a dual meaning. When the enslaved sang about the "welcome table," they expressed their hope of being accepted by those who once oppressed them and sitting



### The Biblical Context

In Isaiah 25:1-10a, we come across a powerful passage combining biblical and historical elements. Chapters 24–27 of the book of Isaiah are often considered a unit because of their apocalyptic themes; they are sometimes referred to as the “Isaiah Apocalypse.” Chapter 24 describes God’s judgment on a polluted and transgressing earth that leads to cataclysmic events and God’s reign on Mount Zion with glory before His elders. Chapter 25 of our text continues the theme of judgment and speaks of the Lord’s actions in turning cities into ruins and silencing the uproar of foreigners. However, amidst judgment, there is praise for Yahweh’s wonderful deeds. The chapter highlights Yahweh as a refuge for the poor, offering hope to all peoples. It speaks of God’s swallowing up death forever and wiping away tears from all faces. The passage portrays fierce judgment on the ruthless while promising a banquet of abundance for all peoples. The feast on the mountain symbolizes God’s victory over evil and promises salvation, rejoicing, and the removal of disgrace. The mention of Moab being trampled down echoes historical conflicts and serves as a metaphor for God’s triumph. This passage beautifully intertwines divine judgment, hope, and redemption—a timeless message that resonates across history and faith.

down with them at a table someday. Additionally, they were singing about a future where they could sit at the table at the marriage feast of the Lamb mentioned in the New Testament book of Revelation. The song embodied the hope of a future where everyone could be accepted without any bias. Envision standing atop a mountain and seeing breathtaking views of the landscape. You’ll notice a grand banquet table filled with the finest delicacies, rich wines, and abundant provisions. People from all walks of life come together to partake in this magnificent celebration, regardless of their social status or personal background. This vision of the feast on the mountain is similar to the promise in Isaiah 25:6, which reads, “On this mountain 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” (NIV). This illustration reminds us of God’s abundant grace and provision. Isaiah invites us to participate in this spiritual feast of salvation and restoration, where our brokenness can be transformed into joy and our mourning into celebration.

### ANALYSIS OF THE BIBLICAL TEXT

### Praise for God’s Faithfulness (Isaiah 25:1-5)

#### KJV

**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.**

**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.**

**4 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.**

**5 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.**

#### NIV

**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 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.**

The passage of **Isaiah 25:1-3** expresses the worshipper's acknowledgment of God's mighty deeds and unwavering trust in His character despite tribulation. The worshipper declares, "I will exalt You; I will praise Your name" as a deliberate decision based on thoughtfulness and remembrance of God's works. **Verses 2-3** speak of God's righteous judgment—where cities crumble, palaces fall, and foreign powers are humbled. These historical events serve as reminders of God's sovereignty and justice. However, amid judgment, God protects His people. The ruins are not the end; restoration awaits. Historical examples include God's deliverance of Israel from Egypt and His preservation of the faithful through trials. **Verse 4a** emphasizes God's compassion and concern for those who are vulnerable, including the poor and needy who lack physical, emotional, or spiritual resources. This verse reminds us that God is our refuge and strength, and when we feel overwhelmed or distressed, we can turn to Him. True faith relies on God's promises and trusts in His truth to fulfill what He has spoken. In times of trouble, God does not abandon us but becomes our fortress, providing us with strength and shelter. We find refuge in His unwavering love and protection. **Verse 4b** notes that God's provision extends beyond our physical needs. The storms of life, such as external challenges, inner struggles, or spiritual battles, can threaten to overwhelm us. But God is our refuge. He shields us from the scorching heat of adversity and the onslaught of our enemies. God's strength surrounds us like a wall, standing firmly against the storm. His promises are our shelter, and His presence offers solace and protection. In **verse 5**, the "aliens" ("strangers" or "foreigners") represent oppressors or enemies. Spiritually, God silences those who oppose His people. Their threats and accusations fade away like distant heat waves. God's intervention brings peace and quiets the tumult. **Verses 4-5** teach us that God is our refuge, strength, and defender. When we feel weak or face storms, we can turn to Him. Our confidence lies not in our strength but in His faithful promises. His faithfulness remains constant, and His shelter is always available to those who trust in Him.

### **WHAT DO YOU THINK?**

Reflect on the contrast between the city's destruction and God's wonderful deeds. How does God's sovereignty shine through even in times of judgment and upheaval?

### **The Ultimate Feast (Isaiah 25:6-10a)**

#### **KJV**

**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 vail 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.**

**9** 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.  
**10** For in this mountain shall the hand of the LORD rest.

### **NIV**

**6** On this mountain 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.

**9** In that day they will say, "Surely this is our God; we trusted in him, and he saved us. This is the LORD, we trusted in him; let us rejoice and be glad in his salvation."

**10** The hand of the LORD will rest on this mountain.

**Verses 6-8** unveil a heavenly banquet where death is swallowed up forever and points to the ultimate redemption through Jesus Christ. His victory over death brings hope and eternal life. Throughout Israel's history, they awaited the fulfillment of God's promises. **Verse 9** captures the moment when hope becomes reality. Spiritually, this verse reminds us that God's promises are trustworthy. Just as Israel waited for the Messiah, we wait for Christ's return. Our hope rests in His faithfulness. The redeemed celebrate God's deliverance. Spiritually, this verse encourages us to praise God even before we see the fullness of His promises. Our joy is not based on circumstances but on the certainty of His salvation. **Isaiah 25:8** (preceding verse) speaks of God's swallowing up death forever.

In **verse 9**, the redeemed respond with joy. Spiritually, this points to Christ's resurrection. His victory over death ensures eternal life for believers. We celebrate this triumph, knowing that death has no final hold on us. **Verse 9** invites us to recognize Jesus as our Savior, rejoice in His salvation, and trust in God's promises. It's a declaration of hope fulfilled and eternal victory. **Verse 10** speaks of the Lord's hand resting on the mountain. Symbolically, Mount Zion represents God's dwelling place and His reign. It foreshadows the spiritual restoration of humanity through Christ's sacrifice.

## **WHAT DO YOU THINK?**

Share personal experiences of brokenness and restoration. How has God rebuilt areas that seemed irreparable?

## **A Closing Thought**

Isaiah 25:1-10a invites us to praise God, trust His judgment, and anticipate the glorious future He promises. It reminds us that our God is faithful, just, and worthy of exaltation. We can find practical application, historical context, and spiritual hope in these verses.



## Your Life

Let us always strive to give glory to the Lord and acknowledge His fantastic works in our lives, whether we are experiencing moments of joy or facing challenges. We must never forget that God is our refuge, even during life's storms. Write down your testimony of God's faithfulness and share it with others.

## Your World!

God has promised to wipe away tears from all faces. This promise indicates healing, restoration, and the elimination of shame. It is essential to encourage transparency and authenticity in people. By creating a secure space, you can help people share their pain and find healing. Be a compassionate listener and offer hope. Share your struggles and victories honestly. This will show others that it is okay to be imperfect. Authenticity helps to foster connection and trust.

## Closing Prayer

Lord, transform our brokenness into beauty. Rebuild the ruins within us. As we wait for Your salvation, grant us patience and unwavering hope. May we be vessels of Your love, extending shelter to those in need. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

## Conclusion

### (Preparing for Next Week's Lesson)

Next week's lesson will answer how to find security in God during life's storms. Read Psalm 62:1-12.

### Home Daily Bible Readings

MONDAY, October 21	"I Believe—Help My Unbelief!"	(Mark 9:14-27)
TUESDAY, October 22	"God Is My Strength and Shield"	(Psalm 28)
WEDNESDAY, October 23	"Trust God with All Your Heart"	(Proverbs 3:1-8, 13-14)
THURSDAY, October 24	"God in You Is Greater"	(1 John 4:4-13)
FRIDAY, October 25	"Boldness on the Day of Judgment"	(1 John 4:14-21)
SATURDAY, October 26	"Blessed Are Those Who Trust God"	(Jeremiah 17:5-11)
SUNDAY, October 27	"Wait upon God's Salvation"	(Psalm 62)

## Notes

---

---

---