

Notes

The Joy of the Messianic (Millennial) Kingdom (25:1–12)

- Isaiah 25 is one of the most joyful chapters in the Book. It is a song of praise sung by the faithful remnant anticipating Christ's reign in the Millennial Kingdom (Rev 20:1-6). The prophet gives us a glimpse of the Messiah's glorious rule upon Mount Zion - where God's promises are fulfilled, His enemies are defeated, and His redeemed people rejoice under His reign.
- Prophecy is not merely about knowing future events; it is meant to strengthen our faith and fill us with joyful anticipation (Titus 2:13). One day Jesus Christ will return to establish His righteous Kingdom upon the earth.

1. Praise for the LORD's Faithfulness and Justice (25:1–5)

- Praising God for His Faithfulness (v1). Isaiah begins with a personal confession: "*O LORD, thou art my God.*" True worship begins with a personal relationship with God. Isaiah declares, "*I will exalt thee, I will praise thy name.*" Worship is a deliberate choice based on God's unchanging character, not on changing circumstances. Isaiah praises God because He has done "*wonderful things.*" These include His mighty works of creation, salvation, judgment, and deliverance. Everything God does flows from His eternal plan ("*counsels of old*"), and His purposes never fail because He is always faithful and true ("*faithfulness and truth*"). Our confidence rests not in changing circumstances but in the God whose plans can never fail.
- Praising God for His Righteous Judgment (vv2–3). Isaiah sees a proud city reduced to ruins. This city represents the rebellious world system that reaches its fullest expression in end-time Babylon (Rev 17–18). Throughout history, mighty kingdoms have risen and fallen. Human pride is temporary, but God's Kingdom is eternal (Rev 19:11–21). God's judgments are always righteous because He is perfectly holy (Gen 18:25). His judgments expose sin, vindicate righteousness, defend His people, and display His sovereign rule over all the earth. As a result, even the nations (v3) will acknowledge God's authority during the Millennial Kingdom (Zech 14:16).

- Praising God for His Care of the Humble (vv4–5). The God who judges the proud also cares tenderly for those who trust Him. Isaiah describes God as:

- A strength for the poor.
- A strength for the needy.
- A refuge from the storm.
- A shadow from the heat.

Storms represent sudden trials, while desert heat pictures long seasons of suffering. God promises His presence and sustaining grace in every situation (Ps 46:1; 121:5–8). Meanwhile, those who oppose Him will ultimately be brought low (v5). Every enemy of Christ will one day be defeated, but those who depend upon the LORD will never find Him lacking.

2. The Blessings of the Messiah's Kingdom (25:6–8)

- A Glorious Feast (v6). Isaiah describes a magnificent banquet prepared by the LORD Himself. Christ welcomes His redeemed people into joyful fellowship. This feast pictures joy, peace, abundance, and perfect fellowship with God. It points forward to the Marriage Supper of the Lamb (Rev 19:9) and recalls the Lord Jesus' promise of future fellowship at the Last Supper (Matt 26:29). The invitation extends to redeemed people from every nation, demonstrating that God's salvation includes both believing Jews and Gentiles (Rev 7:9). The believer's future is one of everlasting joy in the presence of Christ (Rom 8:18).
- Spiritual Blindness Removed (v7). Sin has blinded mankind to God's truth. Isaiah pictures this blindness as a veil covering the nations. When Christ reigns, that veil will be removed. The knowledge of the LORD will fill the earth (11:9), and people will no longer walk in spiritual darkness.
- Death Finally Defeated (v8). Death entered the world because of Adam's sin (Gen 2:16–17; Rom 5:12; Heb 9:27), but one day God will swallow up death forever (1 Cor 15:54). After the Millennium, death itself will be destroyed forever (Rev 20:14; 21:4). Isaiah also promises:
 - God will wipe away every tear.
 - God's people will be publicly vindicated.

These promises are certain because "*the LORD hath spoken it.*" Because Christ has conquered death, believers can face the future with confidence and hope.

3. The Triumph of God's Salvation (25:9–12)

- The Rejoicing of the Redeemed (v9). Isaiah hears God's people joyfully proclaim, "*Lo, this is our God.*" For generations they trusted God's promises by faith. Now their faith has become sight. They rejoice because:

- God has fulfilled every promise.
- Their waiting has not been in vain.
- Salvation belongs entirely to the LORD.

Believers today likewise wait confidently for Christ's return.

- The Humbling of the Proud (vv10–12). Jerusalem will enjoy perfect security, not because of military strength or human wisdom, but because the LORD Himself reigns there. His gracious hand rests upon His people as they live under the righteous rule of their King. In striking contrast stands Moab, which represents those who proudly resist God (16:6). While God's hand rests in blessing upon His people, His judgment falls upon the proud. Isaiah pictures Moab desperately struggling like a swimmer trying to stay afloat, yet unable to escape God's judgment (v11). Every human fortress, achievement, and source of confidence apart from God will ultimately fall (v12).
- There are only two responses to God's King:
 - Humble yourself and rejoice in His salvation, or,
 - Persist in pride and face His judgment.

There is no middle ground. The day is drawing nearer when Christ will return to reign from Jerusalem. Creation will flourish under His righteous rule, and the redeemed will rejoice in His glorious presence. Until then, let us trust God's promises, worship Him faithfully, and serve Him with joyful expectation as we await the day when faith becomes sight (v9).