

# PROPHECIES IN ISAIAH 25:8-9

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Isaiah 25:8-9 says, “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. 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.” These two verses contain several great prophecies that find fulfillment in the New Testament through God’s Son Jesus Christ.

## **The resurrection**

The first prophecy in Isaiah 25:8 is that God “will swallow up death in victory.” This is quoted in the New Testament in 1 Corinthians 15:54. There, the prophecy is applied to the final resurrection of the righteous when Christ returns: “*So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.*” Second Corinthians 5:4 in like manner says, “For we that are in this tabernacle do groan, being burdened: not for that we would be unclothed, but clothed upon, that mortality might be swallowed up of life.” Jesus Christ is the one and only source of hope for this great blessing (1 Cor 15:12-58). “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, *which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.*” (1 Pet 1:3-5).

## **No tears in heaven**

Next, Isaiah 25:8 declares, “The Lord God will wipe away tears from off all faces.” Revelation 7:17 and 21:4 explains this as being one of the great rewards to the righteous when they enter heaven after Judgment Day. “These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sits on the throne shall dwell among them. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat. For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes” (Rev 7:14-17). “*And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away*” (Rev 21:4).

## **Removing God’s rebuke**

The last prophecy in Isaiah 25:8 is that God will “take away from off all the earth”

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(continued)

the “rebuke of his people.” Israel received great shame and reproach because of her sins (Isa 43:27-28; Jer 23:39-40; 24:9; 29:18; 31:18-19; 42:18; 44:12; 59:2-15; Ezek 5:11-17; 22:4; Dan 9:16; Hos 12:14). “Sin is a reproach to *any* people” (Prov 14:34; Rom 3:23; 1 John 1:8,10). In the New Testament, Christians are the spiritual “Israel of God” (Rom 2:28-29; Gal 6:16; 1 Pet 2:5-9; Heb 12:22-23). This spiritual nation of Israel has the reproach of sin taken away (Isa 54:3-4; 65:15-25; Php 2:15; Col 1:19-23). This reproach is removed by both the forgiveness of sins, and by cleansing the heart (Matt 15:18-20; 12:34-35; Acts 15:9; 1 John 1:9), so that the same sins are not repeated in the future (Psa 103:3; Jer 33:8; 1 John 1:9; 2:1). Continuing in sin would require continuing rebukes. This does require our repentance (Luke 13:3,5; 24:47; Acts 2:38; 3:19; 5:31; 8:22; 17:30; 26:20; 2 Cor 7:10; 2 Pet 3:9). Having God’s rebuke taken away is fulfilled in the New Testament by the sacrifice of Christ on the cross. Forgiveness of sins did not come through the blood of bulls and goats (Heb 10:1-4). Sins can only be cleansed and forgiven by the blood of Christ (Jer 31:34; 33:8; 50:20; Matt 26:28; Luke 24:46-47; Acts 2:38; 3:25-26; 5:31; 10:43; 13:38-39; 26:15-18; Rom 3:24-25; 11:26-27; Eph 1:7; Col 1:13-14; Heb 8:12; 10:17; 1 John 1:7,9). Therefore, the prophecy of Isaiah 25:8 only finds fulfillment under the New Covenant (Jer 31:34; Heb 8:12; 10:17).

## **Our salvation**

Finally, Isaiah 25:9 says, “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.” This is yet another prophecy that contains fulfillment in the New Testament among Christians. The New Covenant is based upon the blood of Jesus Christ (Matt 26:28; Mark 14:24; Luke 22:20; 1 Cor 11:25-27). It is only by the blood that Christ shed in his death on the cross that men can be saved from their sins (Zech 9:11; Acts 28:20; Rom 3:24-25; 5:6-11; 1 Cor 10:16; Eph 1:7; 2:13; Col 1:13-14,20; Heb 9:11-14,22-28; 10:4-23,26-29; 12:22-24; 13:12-13,20-21; 1 Pet 1:2,18-19; 1 Jn 1:7; 5:6,8; Rev 1:5-6; 5:9-10; 7:14; 12:11). Obedience to the gospel of Christ is the only means of obtaining this freedom that comes by the saving blood of Christ (Rom 2:8-10; 6:16-18; 2 Thes 1:7-10; Heb 5:9; 2 Pet 1:2; 4:17). Obedience to the gospel is the only way for a man to be saved from his sins and have hope of eternal life (Matt 1:21; Mark 16:16; John 3:16-21; Acts 2:21,38-47; 4:12; 11:14; 13:26,47-49; 16:30-34; Rom 1:16; 2:8-10; 6:16-23; 2 Thes 1:7-10; Titus 1:11-14; Heb 5:9; Jas 1:21-27; 1 Pet 4:17-18; 2 Pet 1:2; 4:17). Thus, through Christ, we have the opportunity for victory over sin, victory over death, and eternal salvation. All of this is prophesied in Isaiah 25:8-9, and is available to everyone of us today if we will believe and obey our Lord!