

Our God Is Awesome

Isaiah 25:1-9

1/4/11

Introduction: The Bible is full of stories which make us say “our God is Awesome!” For instance, we have read of a shepherd boy who killed a giant with a stone, the Red Sea that was parted by the rod, and the walls of Jericho that came down by simply walking around the fortified city (**1 Samuel 17:49**). As Christians, we have several stories of our own that we can recount (do you know the song...count your blessings name them one by one). They might not be written in the Bible, but they are experiences we have gone through which make us believe and say that we truly serve an amazing and awesome God. Unlike the Bible, our stories did not take place thousands of years ago. Some of them might have taken place just this past year. As we enter this new year, let us take time to reflect on the One who sustains us, protects us and loves us on a daily basis (**James 1:17**).

Verses 1-3

The Exaltation

In these verses, we see the Lord being exalted by Isaiah the prophet. Isaiah is suddenly **overcome** with praise for God (**Hebrews 13:15**). The fact that God will establish His people in Heaven has brought this beautiful **expression** of praise from Isaiah. Notice how Isaiah makes it personal when he says, "my God". God is not the God of the crowd, but the individuals in the crowd. Christianity is a personal decision. Jesus purchased our salvation as individuals (**Romans 5:8**). Isaiah does not say, we will praise thee, but he says "I will praise thee". He has a reason for praising the Lord. The Lord has done wonderful things. God's character, power and **performance** should cause us to want to praise Him (**Psalms 150:6**). The prophet is also giving praises to God for planning His actions long before their implementation. In other words, we have to learn to praise God in advance. Notice the prophecy in verse 3, it says "the people will glorify thee". In the end when the Lord reigns, nations from all over the world will glorify Him (**Isaiah 24:14-15**). We serve a God who not only deserves our praise, but is **worth** the praise.

Verses 4-5

The Demonstration

The Lord always demonstrates His compassion to the less fortunate and He expects all of His followers to help those that are in need. This is one of the ways we can tell whether a person is following Christ (**John 13:34-35**). We should not only help them physically, but also help those who are suffering spiritually (**Romans 15:1**) (**Galatians 6:1**). Verse 4 says, the Lord has been strength to the poor and needy in distress. The stress of this world will sometimes put us in a mess! But for the believer, we have hope because when we are weak that is when the Lord is strong. The grace that He gives us will surely help us to get through whatever we are going through (**2 Corinthians 12:9-10**). Verse 4 also tells us the Lord is a refuge from the storm and a shadow from the heat. In other words, He keeps us covered at all times (**Psalms 9:9**) (**Psalms 27:5**). In verse 5, it tells us how the Lord will deal with our enemies ("Thou shalt bring down the noise of strangers"). This is speaking of God silencing the nations which have opposed God's people. He will make our enemies behave. We should never be afraid of our enemies because the Lord is always with us (**Psalms 118:6**) (**Hebrews 13:5**). Sometimes our haters become our motivators. They cause us to keep leaning on the Lord!

Verses 6-9

The Celebration

These verses show us there is a celebration for the believer. The scripture now focuses on some of the blessings the saved will receive. This feast seems to be a Heavenly feast prepared for the believers by God. In other words, there is a Godly party waiting on us. The mountain referred to in this verse is Mount Zion. This symbolizes the church (Jerusalem). The fat things, marrow and things of that nature appear to be God preparing the feast for the redeemed. This should encourage every believer to shout (**Psalms 107:2**). Notice verse 8 brings us more good news. It says, He will swallow up death and wipe the tears from all faces (**Revelation 21:4**). We can clearly see these verses are talking about Heaven, but Heaven is a prepared place for prepared people. If we want an invitation to this party, we have to be born again (**John 3:3**) (**1 Corinthians 15:50**). Verse 9 closes by saying, "we will be glad and rejoice in His salvation". We may suffer on earth sometimes, but in the end we will celebrate His goodness and His salvation (**Acts 4:12**). Our salvation rests in Jesus Christ our Lord. This should encourage every believer to say, "Our God Is Awesome!"