

The Death Swallower

Description

[RG AUDIO 080521](#)

Isaiah 25:7-12

“On this mountain he will destroy the shroud that enfolds all peoples, the sheet that covers all nations; he will swallow up death forever” (Isaiah 25:7-8a). Ancient rulers and the wealthy often hired “tasters.” They would taste all food and beverages served to make sure that no poison was inserted by some enemy or usurper. Naturally, such a position was one of high trust. A taster had to be incorruptible, and a taster must be willing to die to protect their patron.

The poison was slipped in under cover of a lie, “‘You will not certainly die,’ the serpent said” (Genesis 3:4a). The man, the woman, and all their progeny were poisoned by sin. The result was death. Who could help them now? A solution would require a death swallower of unique ability and impeccable trustworthiness.

Isaiah saw past Judah's defeat and humiliation to a God who offered restoration and hope. The application to our need of salvation and the sacrifice of Jesus Christ is clear, “Surely this is our God; we trusted in him, and he saved us.” (Isaiah 25:9b).

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