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Prayer Meeting Address by Mr. J. Delves at "Ebenezer" Clapham on
Saturday evening 1.3.75

Hymns 6, 1105

75/A

Reading Isaiah 25 and 26 (1-8)

In the chapter are two things which I might just mention. The first refers to what the Lord has been "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". This is what the Lord has been and what some of you have proved it may be, in times of trouble and distress. He is this to the poor and needy, He is their refuge from the storm. What a mercy this is for poor defenceless people, and the Lord has been faithful to His Word in this particular over the generations that have passed, and many of you have proved it so in your own experience.

The second point is what the Lord will do "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". This refers evidently to His redeemed people on whose behalf at the last day He will swallow up death in victory. The Lord Jesus died and has swallowed up death for His people, not the article of death, but the curse that has fallen upon all those who have sinned against a just and holy God.

He has provided "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". This evidently refers to the blessings of the Gospel tested and tried in the fire.

It is a blessing to know something of what is set forth here with regard to the Lord's people, and especially in these solemn times in which we are living, and the sad things that are occurring, and have recently occurred in this city in this sad, dreadful "accident" as it is termed. O How solemn it must be to be ushered into eternity in a moment, and what a mercy if the voice were to be heard in this city, in the country and the people brought down before God, to acknowledge His judgments and to seek His mercy. May the Lord help us. The people of God are in a blessed state for them it is said, "He will swallow up death in victory". They have a blessed day to look forward to, a day in which it shall be said, "This is our God; we have waited for Him, and He will save us". We have waited for Him, and here He is, He has come, we have not waited in vain - "we will be glad and rejoice in His salvation". May we be favoured to know something of this. Amen.