

# A Patient Cry for Deliverance

Psalm 25:16-22

*Halifax: October 26, 2008*

## **Introduction**

As most of you know, on Sunday mornings, I ordinarily preach a sermon series, week by week, through one of the books of the Bible—

- For a little over a year now, I have been preaching through Paul's Epistle to the Ephesians...
- And as most of you also know,
  - it has long been my custom at Covenant Reformed to break from our regular series every five or six weeks to preach from a Psalm...
  - The Psalm that is chosen is one that relates to our regular series.
    - And after I have preached from it,
      - it becomes our Psalm of Focus to be sung in our morning worship service each week until we take up a new Psalm of Focus.
- This has been very beneficial for us,
  - not only to help us become more familiar with the Psalms,
  - but also to help us have devotional material related to our sermon series...
    - a Psalm to present to God in our praises and supplications to Him.

Today I want to present Psalm 25:16-22 as our new Psalm of Focus...

- This is Psalm 25-D in our Psalter.
  - You may recall that we have already done Psalm 25-A (verses 1-7) and Psalm 25-C (verses 8-15) in connection with Ephesians,
    - though it has been quite some time ago because we went to Psalm 127 most recently when we studied about Spirit-filled domestic relationships.
    - But now I want to go back to Psalm 25 and finish it.
      - Psalm 25-D brings us to the end of Psalm 25.

Psalm 25 has been very well suited to our sermon series in the second half of Ephesians...

- By the second half of Ephesians,

- I refer to the last 3 chapters where the focus changes from what God has done for us to how we ought to respond to Him.
- The first three chapters of Ephesians beautifully set forth to us the great things the Lord does for those whom He has chosen for salvation!
  - It speaks of how He has chosen us that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love...
  - How He has redeemed us by the blood of Christ, forgiving all our sins...
  - How He has adopted us, bringing us into His very own household as sons and daughters forever and ever...
  - How He has promised us an everlasting inheritance in His house...
  - How He has made us who were dead alive in Christ...
  - How He is working in us to cause us to understand and appreciate all that He has done...
    - and how He keeps on giving us more and more grace to live for Him by the same power that raised Christ from the dead...
    - Those are the contents of the first three chapters...

Then, when you get to chapter 4, the Lord begins to call you into this new life of gratitude and holiness that God has for us!

- He calls you to put off the old man and to put on the new man that is being renewed in Christ...
  - He goes into detail about the changes you need to make—
    - from stealing to giving...
    - from sinful anger to holy anger...
    - from malice to love...
    - from sexual immorality to chastity...
    - from drunkenness to a Spirit-filled life of service to others...
- These are all changes that the Lord is working in us when He has redeemed us...
  - They are marvellous changes—wonderful changes—desirable changes!
  - They are evidence of the new life that He has given us in Christ—
    - of our transformation by His Spirit who is given to us as deposit of the good things to come...
    - It is the beginnings of what He is changing us to be as those who have been called to live heaven in as His children forever and ever with the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit!

And Psalm 25 has been very suitable to go along with this...

- When we sing the first 7 verses (Psalm 25-A),
  - we lift our soul to God and cry out to Him, asking Him to show us how He wants us to live,
    - and not only to show us, but also to give us grace and power to do it!
  - We bring ourselves before Him as children,
    - asking Him and looking to Him to lead us in the beautiful ways of truth and righteousness.
- And then in Psalm 25-C—verses 8-15,
  - we sing words of assurance...
    - words to assure ourselves that God truly does work in sinners who humble themselves before Him and look to Him to for salvation.
  - And that those who are brought into His ways always find them to be good ways—
    - very pleasing and very satisfying...
    - and that as we go along, He shows us more and more His covenant...
      - so that we understand Him and the depths of His love who gave His only Son for us...
      - We grow in our assurance of Him and in our delight and adoration of Him.
      - We see His more and more of His glory and of the glory of His plan.

O my brothers and sisters!

- This is all so very encouraging!
  - God is moving us into a whole new life.
  - He is transforming us by His grace as those who will live in His house forever!
  - We are not what we were, and He is going to keep on working in us to make us more and more like Jesus Christ—
    - to love as He loves, to be holy as He is holy, to serve as He serves.
- But there is a painful reality that is constantly before us.
  - There is the reality that we have not yet attained!
  - We have not yet reached the goal—we are far from it!
  - We are not yet in heaven...
    - Our enemies are strong—they are stronger than we are...

- We are in a constant battle.
- There are temptations and struggles and failings and weakness and plain old sin that remain in us.
  - The good that we want to do, we do not do, but the evil we hate, that we do...
  - We are changed—because now we want to do good—
    - our lives are being gloriously transformed...
    - but the more we go on, the more we see how far we have to go.
    - The depth of our depravity becomes more and more evident to us as we go on, and the struggle continues.
- Now this is exactly the reality that Ephesians brings us to when we get to Ephesians 6:10.
  - Having gone to great length to call us to live the transformed, Spirit-filled life that the Lord has for us,
    - When we get to Ephesians 6:10,
      - Paul begins to speak about the battle and about our weakness and how we must depend wholly on the Lord.
    - He speaks of our absolute need to put on the whole armour of God that we might contend with our enemies,
      - and of our need for constant prayer as we engage in battle!
    - My brothers and sisters, the powers darkness are not going to rest easy when they see a sinner brought from darkness to life...
      - And you are no match for them!
      - You must be strong in the Lord in the strength of His might or you will be broken.
        - That is where we are going to in our study of Ephesians!

And that is exactly where Psalm 25 goes.

- After crying out to God for new life and assuring ourselves that God will give us new life...
  - In verse 15 there is this cry that He will bring us out of the net...
    - We see ourselves as yet struggling...
    - We are still entangled in trespasses and sins...
    - We are still helpless before our powerful enemies but for God's deliverance.

- Verse 15 gives us a very graphic picture...
  - Here you have the believer with his feet entangled in a net and with his eyes lifted up to heaven.
    - It says,
      - Ps 25:15: My eyes are ever toward the Lord, for He shall pluck my feet out of the net.
      - This is a striking picture of the believer's condition as long as we live in this world!
- Here we are taught not to deny the battle, not to pretend there is no battle, not to become glib about it...
  - But to plead earnestly with God in the midst of it...
    - to frankly, patiently, plead with Him to deliver us.
    - And the words of this earnest plea for deliverance are given to us in verse 16 to verse 22...
      - This is the prayer we make to God as those who are called to be His people...
        - our feet still in the net, but our eyes lifted up to heaven.

The theme of this prayer is found at the beginning of verse 16 where it says:

- Ps 25:16: "Turn yourself to me and have mercy on me."
  - This is the sinner's prayer—
    - And it is not a prayer that we pray only once, but a prayer that we begin to pray when we have come to the Lord and continue pray to the end...
      - Our Lord Himself taught us to pray each day,
        - "Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors, lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil."
        - That is the prayer of the believer who knows He is in battle with sin and in constant need of God's grace.
  - When we see Christ our mighty Saviour, and we see our present condition in this world,
    - we call out earnestly and constantly,
      - Psalm 25:16: "Turn yourself to me and have mercy on me!"
  - The phrase, "Have mercy on me" (*cho-nee-naw* in Hebrew)
    - is one that appears 19 times in the book of Psalms.

- It is the cry of an inferior to a superior when the inferior has not claim on the superior...nothing to offer him...
- All he can do is present his desperate need and ask the superior to have pity upon him.
- He is a beggar and all he can do is present his case so as to arouse the compassion and sympathy of the one he supplicates.

And that is what Psalm 25:16-22 gives you...

- It gives you words of supplication to present to the Lord...
  - It teaches you how to beg for mercy...
  - It teaches you how to present to the Lord your desperate need so that He will take notice of you and have mercy on you...
    - *cho-nee-naw*—Have mercy on me!
  - This is the publican’s prayer...
  - Let’s look more closely at how this plea is unfolded in Psalm 25:16-22.

TRANS> First, I want you to see that when you sing this Psalm,

### I. You beg for mercy on account of your condition

- In verses 16-18, you present yourself as weak, miserable, and unworthy...
  - in hopes that He will take pity on you...

A. You see how you describe our weakness at the end of verse 16—

- It says,
  - “Have mercy on me, for I am desolate and afflicted...”

1. Together these words speak of your weakness...

a. That you are **desolate** speaks of your being alone—

- not that there are no other Christians, but that there are none who are able to help you...
  - they have no more of what it takes to deliver you and to carry you forward in battle than you do...
  - You pray as one who sees the vanity of trusting in princes...

b. And **afflicted** means humble and poor—without the resources you need...

- You are poor in spirit—to use the language of the Beatitudes...
  - You are a spiritual pauper—

- with no resources in yourself.
- All you have is your need.

TRANS> Here you show that if God does not help you, you will not be helped.

- You are shut up to Him with no other place to turn.
  - He alone can help you.
  - The Lord delights in such prayers—when we finally realise that we have no other place to go.

2. How much do we feel this as we go on in our service to Jesus Christ!

a. We know that we are called to love God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength,

- But we find instead that we continually come short of His glory...
- Even though He has been so kind and gracious to us, even though He is so wise and so holy and so pure,
  - instead of overflowing with gratitude and praise,
    - we find that we are cold and that our praise is flat.
  - We come to pray and we find that our minds are quickly distracted and disengaged as if we had no idea that we are speaking to our great God.

b. We know that we are called to love one another even as Christ has loved us...

- And so we get up in the morning with plans to speak gracious words,
  - but instead we speak words of anger and bitterness...
- We go to work to glorify our God in our service to others, and instead we selfishly waste our time...
- We find that we are ensnared by sin and are unable to free ourselves.
  - Covetousness has a hold on us.

c. We know that the whole church is called to make disciples of the nations,

- We go forth to minister to others,
  - to tell them of Christ and all he has done—to call them to repentance...
    - but we are no more able to turn them to Him than we are able to turn stone to bread or to raise the dead from their graves...
- We know that the Lord has told us to command our children after us in His way,

- but we constantly fail, not only in our instruction, but even in our example.
- We want to see life and fruit in our children, but we cannot make it come...
- we are poor and helpless.

TRANS> Brothers and sisters, how weak and helpless is our condition!

- How we need to cry out to God for His mercy!
- But weakness is not the only thing that characterises our condition.

B. In verse 17 & 18 we cry out to God because of the **misery** of our condition...

1. Here you are taught to sing these words as your confession:

- Ps 25:17-18: “The troubles of my heart have enlarged, Bring me out of my distresses, Look on my affliction and my pain.”
- This presents the picture of one who is swollen up—even flooded with sorrows and troubles.

2. Brothers and sisters, you are subject to all sorts of misery in this world...

- There are times when your bodies are racked with pain or wasting away with disease...
  - If you have not yet known this, chances are you will...
- There are times of oppression and times of war,
  - when we suffer at the hand of others...
- There are times of bereavement when one you love is taken away...
- There are times when destructive storms destroy your property...
  - when your business fails or when your investments come to nothing.

3. My friends, the prospect of living in this world forever without deliverance from all of our miseries would be very bleak indeed!

- We would not want to go on in this sin-cursed world forever...
- And so before God it is for us to present our misery before Him—
  - to ask Him to look upon our affliction and pain that He might have mercy on us...
  - That He might pity us and deliver us,
    - not because we deserve it, but because we need it!



TRANS> And that brings us to third thing we confess to Him about our condition...

- Not only that we are weak and helpless.
- Not only that are we miserable in this sin cursed world of pain and sorrow...

C. But also that we are unworthy of His favour—

- that we have no merit in ourselves—
- And so the end of verse 18 teaches us to cry out for forgiveness...

1. You are saying in effect,

- “Not on account of my righteousness, but because of your mercy I come expectantly to you”

a. You have nothing in yourself but sin to present to Him...

- All the misery of this world has come upon us because of our sin...
  - because our race—the whole human race—has rebelled against the one to whom all honour belongs.

b. And I say, this is only a small taste of the misery that we deserve...

- It is very evident that though we feel God’s displeasure in the sufferings of this world,
  - not all sin is judged now...
  - There are many who go on in their wickedness relatively free of judgement because the Lord has appointed a day when He will judge the world in righteousness...
    - And when that day comes, the wicked will be cast into the Lake of Fire forever and ever...
      - They will find God to be a consuming fire to them...
      - Not because He is severe, but because they are so wicked.
  - And so if be not forgiven, our misery is multiplied a thousand times over!

2. And my brothers and sisters, such wickedness clings to us all...

a. We cannot extricate ourselves from it...

- Even after the Lord has come to save us and has shown us our sin and has drawn us to Himself so that we have repented and turned to Christ for forgiveness and new life...
  - We still continue to struggle in our sin...

- We give way to temptation and continue to come short of the glory of God so that we cry out,
  - “Who will deliver me from this body of death?”
- b. And so we do not present to God our own righteousness...
  - but instead we confess our wickedness,
    - pleading with Him to have mercy on us even because of our wickedness...
    - pleading with Him to take pity on us because of our ongoing battle with wickedness—
      - even after we have been redeemed—
      - Without His ongoing forgiveness, we are entirely without hope.

TRANS> And so you see how in our plea to God we begin by setting forth our desperate condition in the hope that we might excite the compassion of our Lord...

- We show Him our weakness, our misery, and our wickedness...
  - and leave it to Him to show mercy...
- But the Psalm does not stop with this...
  - After you have set forth your own condition...

## **II. You then beg for mercy because of your enemies**

A. First, you ask God to see how many there are!

1. They seem to be everywhere!

- In Psalm 22,
  - the Lord Jesus described Himself as surrounded by His enemies when He was on the cross.
    - If you belong to Him, you are surrounded by them too.
- Understand that the enemies we speak of in the Psalms are not just personal enemies,
  - They are those who stand in opposition to Christ who is now our life.
  - They are our enemies, first and foremost,
    - because they are against Christ.
    - They are against us because they are against Him.

2. These enemies appear in many different manners...

a. There are those who openly reject the Lord...

- You have the extremist Muslims who murder their own relations who become Christians...
  - You have your mocking atheists and agnostics who ridicule the Bible and try to make anyone who believes it look foolish—
    - who study arguments to defend and spread their unbelief.
- b. And there are those enemies who outwardly embrace Him... but inwardly are at war with Him...
- There are those ministers and seminary professors who claim to be His disciples, but who teach lies about Him...
    - denying that He came to bear the wrath of God or denying that He is truly the Son of God.
    - And of course there are the many who follow them...
  - And then there are those who are even more subtle—
    - who profess the truth and live in the church,
      - but whose hearts are not with us—as in Jesus’ parable of the sower...
        - who are more concerned about acceptance of other people than they are about the Lord Jesus and who forsake him when opposition comes—
        - or those who are more concerned about worldly things and forsake him to follow their true desires when idols of their hearts come into conflict with Him.
3. And when you add it all up, these enemies are many!
- a. The majority of persons in the world today do not even profess the Lord Jesus...
- b. And among those that do,
- the great majority enter in by the wide gate that leads to destruction rather than the narrow gate that leads to life...
  - Ask the average church goer on what basis he or she is accepted with God and you will discover that the majority either believe they are automatically accepted along with everyone else,
    - or they will claim acceptance on the basis that they try to be a good person.
      - When you tell them that apart from Christ, we all deserve to perish in the Lake of Fire,
        - you will find that this is not the Christ they claim to serve.

- Their Christ is an idol they have fashioned in their own heart with the help of false teachers and ministers.
- They are enemies of the true Christ.

TRANS> And so because our enemies are so numerous,

- we ask the Lord to take note of it that He might pity us...
- But we not only show Him their number...

B. We also ask Him to consider their malevolence—

- as it says in verse 19, they “hate us with a cruel hatred.”
1. This is obvious, of course, when there is that science professor who harasses you for believing that God created the world...
    - or those relatives who mock you and insult you because you observe the Lord’s Day...
    - or those co-workers who call you narrow and backward because you say that Christ is the only way...
    - or those who sneer at you because you believe sex outside of holy marriage is wicked and unlawful...
  2. It is even more obvious when persecution breaks out, as it is in much of the world...
    - When those who name the name of Christ are slaughtered or taken into slavery...
    - When we are called evil for Christ’s sake and threatened and tortured because we serve Him.
  3. But we need to recognise just how malevolent our enemies really are,
    - even the ones who are of the kinder, gentler variety...
    - a. In the final analysis, their goal is to draw you away from Jesus Christ!
      - They want to turn you against Him,
        - either by discrediting Him...
        - or by drawing you away from Him to something else.
    - b. That is what the unbeliever is always going to try to do...
      - 1) He is always going to be exerting a pull on you—
        - a pull away from Christ...

- He will be raising doubts, making negative comments about Him, speaking well of things He has forbidden...
- There will be that pull, however subtle, to draw you away from Him.
  - The message will be that it is too hard to serve Christ...
  - Or that there are things that are better than to serve Christ...
  - or that all that the Bible says about Him is not true...

2) What cruelty this is!

- Here you have found eternal life in Jesus Christ!
  - You have an inheritance in heaven with Him!
  - All your sins are forgiven in Him and He is going to bring you into His Father's house where you will see His glory and live in his presence forever and ever!
  - And He is going to make you like Himself so that you will love as he loves...
- And these cruel enemies want to pull you away from Him because of their malice toward Him...
  - They want you to join them in their rebellion...
  - They want you to draw you away to a destruction that is a thousand times worse than death...
  - They may not be consciously attempting to draw you there...
    - But they are because they have natural antipathy for the true Christ...
      - They cannot stand Him and until they repent,
        - they are going to resist Him in whatever way seems to work best for them.

c. And my brothers and sisters,

- We are not able to stand before these enemies!
  - For at the head of them is Satan Himself who brought down our first parents!
  - And but for the grace of God, He would bring us down also!
- Indeed, if you are truly in Christ,
  - the Lord has promised to keep you and to preserve you to the end!

- But He has not promised to do this apart from a real battle!
- There is going to be that pull and that drawing away from the Lord that presses upon you daily...
  - You are in a war and you must keep on fighting!
  - But as you can only prevail by the grace of God,
    - it is for you to be strong in the strength of His might...
    - It is He who enables you to stand in the evil day and it is for you to present your case before Him.

TRANS> And so you are taught in this Psalm,

- First to cry out to God because of your desperate condition...
- And second to cry out to God because of your enemies...
- And now thirdly,
  - I want you to see that...

### **III. We beg for mercy from God because of His covenant...**

- by that, I mean, because He has made a promise that He is merciful to sinners who look to Him...
  - He has revealed to us that it is His way to be merciful to all who come to Him...
  - so we add to our plea what He has made known about Himself—that He delights to show mercy...

A. In verse 20 you put forth the plea that you have to come to Him for refuge...

- You say:
  - v. 20: Keep my soul, and deliver me; Let me not be ashamed, for I put my trust in You.
- 1. The word translated “trust” here translates a Hebrew word that speaks of trusting in something (or someone) for a refuge...
  - a. A refuge is something you run to for safety and protection when danger is about...
    - For example, if a storm breaks out and you run to a shelter...
    - Or if enemies come, and you run to a fortress for protection.
  - b. And the Scripture teaches us that God has appointed a refuge for us in His Son...

- 1) This is what the Father says to us about this refuge...
    - In 1 Peter 1:6, the Father is quoted as saying:
      - “Behold, I lay in Zion A chief cornerstone, elect, precious, And he who believes on Him will by no means be put to shame.”
  - 2) Of course this is speaking about Jesus Christ.
    - The marvellous thing is that the Father has appointed Him to be refuge for those who know they need mercy...
      - When you are gripped by your weakness, your misery, your wickedness, your enemies...
        - It is for you to run to the refuge that God has appointed for you!
2. And when you do, what confidence you can have that God will show mercy to you.
- a. Did you catch what the Father says about this refuge in the verse I quoted from 1 Peter 1:6?
    - “He who believes on Him will by no means be put to shame!”
  - 1) To be put to shame would mean that you came to this refuge that God has appointed...
    - That you came putting your trust in Christ...
      - And that He failed you—
        - that He was unable to keep your soul or to deliver you!
  - 2) And of course that cannot be!
    - For Christ is the Son of God who came into the world at the Father’s command for the very purpose of saving sinners...
      - God’s promise that all who come to Him will be saved cannot fail.
  - b. And so it is for you to come to the Lord, not only presenting your need,
    - but also reminding Him of His promise to those who put their trust in Him.
    - Your plea to Him is that He cannot turn you away because you have come to Him for your refuge in view of His covenant promise...
      - You can say to him with certainty—
        - “Keep my soul and deliver me; let me not be ashamed, for I put my trust in you!”
        - I am not trusting in myself, but I am trusting in you as my refuge.

- If I am not saved, it means that your refuge is no good...
- You see, brothers and sisters,
  - by appointing Christ as our refuge and promising that whoever believes in Him will not be put to shame,
    - the Lord has graciously put His own reputation on the line...
    - All to give desperate sinners like us confidence and assurance...
      - Now we can plead before Him not only our need, but also His promise to be merciful to those who trust in Him.
        - “Let me not be ashamed because I trust in you.”

TRANS> But my brothers and sisters,

- You must not only trust—you must also **continue** to trust in Him.
  - God’s covenant promise is to those who **continue** to trust in Him...

B. And so in verse 21, you also declare that you **wait** for Him.

1. The struggle does not end as soon as we trust in Him...
  - a. Indeed we are justified, completely pardoned and declared righteous from the moment we believe...
    - But this is in fact when the battle really begins because now we are on the Lord’s side.
      - You are not to become discouraged when the battle rages...
      - You are to wait for the Lord.
        - You are to continue in faith until His appointed time of deliverance at the last day.
  - b. He has not promised to bring an end to the struggle until then.
    - We are called rather to prepare ourselves for conflict for as long as we remain in this world.
      - We must enter the kingdom through much tribulation...
    - It will not be easy,
      - but as long as we continue to wait on the Lord...
      - as long as we trust in Him...
        - We can be sure that we will not be put to shame.



2. You see that the prayer in verse 21 is that integrity and uprightness will preserve us.
  - a. **Integrity** refers to devoutness that completely fills you—
    - It is a devotion to the Lord that is not half-hearted or hypocritical...
    - **Uprightness** refers to that devoutness that follows the will of God without bypaths and forbidden ways.
    - In other words,
      - you are asking the Lord to enable you to hold on to Christ with sincerity...
        - to remain in Him as your refuge.
      - Those who truly know Him will ask for this and the Lord will grant it to them...
  - b. The point here is not perfection, but sincerity—
    - Such sincerity as will keep us from breaking covenant with the Lord.
    - There will be many failings along the way,
      - but if we truly belong to Christ, we will not cast Him off—
      - We will continue to trust Him when the battle rages...
        - We may waver and we may sin and we may be doubt,
          - but we will not walk away from Him as our refuge and our only hope.
        - When others depart, we will say,
          - “Lord, we have no other place to go—you have the words of eternal life.”
      - We will not walk away because the Lord will keep us...
        - He will keep us trusting in the heat of the battle...
        - He will keep us yearning for His deliverance...
        - He will keep us yearning for His way.
        - He will cause integrity and uprightness to preserve us—He will cause us to remain sincere toward Him.
    - In other words,
      - We will not cast off His way—
        - We will continue to ask Him to show us His way in the darkest hour...

- We will continue to ask Him to lead us in His way in the greatest conflict...
- We will continue to know at the core of us that His way is a good way and that it is the only way.
- And this faith, this integrity and uprightness...
  - will keep us...
  - It will keep us clinging to Christ!
    - It will keep us in the day of evil, clothed with the whole armour of God which is Jesus Christ Himself, our refuge.
      - And so we will not be put to shame!

### **Conclusion**

- Oh my brothers and sisters!
  - There is only one refuge for us—and it is Jesus Christ!
  - We are in a desperate battle and we would be destroyed in a moment if it were not for Him!
    - We plead His mercy...
      - Because of our weak, miserable, sinful condition...
      - Because of our enemies that are great in number and in malice...
      - And because of His covenant that assures us that all who trust in Him and wait on Him will have mercy and so will not be put to shame.
        - This is how you stand in the evil day of battle!
- And if this is how you stand, this is how we all stand—all of us together...
  - And so when you sing this Psalm, you end with verse 22 which says:
    - “Redeem Israel, O God, out of all their troubles!”
    - As you have prayed for yourself in the battle,
      - so you are taught at the conclusion to pray for all your brothers and sisters as well!
  - This is what our Lord Jesus Christ does!
    - He intercedes for the whole church for which He died.
    - He sees us in the battle and His prays for us and His prayers will never fail...
      - And here you are led, each time you sing this Psalm, to join Him in praying that the whole church will at last be delivered—

- not from some of her troubles...
  - but from all of them...
- This is God's promise...
  - Isaiah 25:6 says: The LORD of hosts will make for all people a feast of choice pieces, a feast of wines on the lees, of fat things full of marrow, of well-refined wines on the lees... He will swallow up death forever, and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces; the rebuke of His people He will take away from all the earth; for the LORD has spoken. And it will be said in that day: "Behold, 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."