



ShalomAZ Ministries

In Pursuit of Israel's Redemption

ADONAI: The Ultimate Party Planner

Rabbi Cosmo Panzetta

Devotion and Discussion Questions

Key Texts: Isaiah 25:1-5; Exodus 15:1-2; 11-13; Isaiah 9:5-6; Heb. 6:17

Isaiah 24 ended with the party of the nations collapsing. The music shuts down, the wine runs out, and the so-called “good times” of rebellion fall apart like a house of cards. Everything humanity trusted in—its systems, its power, its pride—crashes into rubble. And right in the middle of that, God starts singing a different kind of song. Isaiah 25 opens with a reminder that while the world’s party collapses, *God* has been planning something entirely different. This isn’t a last-second, thrown-together event. This is a banquet, a salvation, a restoration that’s been in the works since before creation.

Adonai is the Ultimate Party Planner. Every detail of redemption, every promise of salvation, every rescue, every deliverance—planned from of old, carried out with perfect faithfulness. Isaiah 25:1–5 gives us the opening song of the people who arrive at that banquet—those who trusted Him when everything around them was shaking, discovering that He is a stronghold for the insignificant, a refuge for the oppressed, a shade in burning heat, and a shelter in the storm.

1. HIS PLANS ARE ANCIENT, MIRACULOUS, AND ALWAYS FAITHFUL (v. 1)

Isaiah begins with intensely personal words: *“Adonai, You are my God. I will exalt You. I will praise Your Name.”* Not “You are **the** God”—You are **MY** God. After everything Isaiah has just seen—the collapse of human kingdoms, the fall of prideful nations—he stands in awe and says, “You. You alone.” Why? *“For You have done extraordinary things—plans of old with steadfast faithfulness.”*

Those two phrases—*extraordinary things (pelle)* and *plans of old (etzot me-rachok)*—intentionally echo Exodus 15 and Isaiah 9:5. The God who split the sea with His mighty hand, the One called *Pele Yo’etz—Wonderful Counselor*—He’s the One doing this. Isaiah is reminding us that salvation has never been accidental, improvisational, or reactionary. God didn’t look down and say, “Well, sin ruined everything—let Me figure out Plan B.” No—His plans were ancient. His counsel was eternal. His purpose has always been to defeat death, expose the emptiness of human rebellion, and bring His people into a new creation. And Isaiah emphasizes God’s *faithfulness* with a double-word pairing used only here—strength, truth, reliability, absolute dependability. Everything He said, He did. Everything He promised, He fulfilled. Not one detail fell through the cracks.

We often trust based on what we *see*, but God calls us to trust based on what He *says*. Humanity fell in the garden because Adam and Eve trusted their eyes over God’s voice. Isaiah invites us to reverse the curse—to trust the Planner even before we see the plan unfold.

2. HIS FAITHFULNESS BRINGS DOWN WHAT IS PROUD AND RAISES UP WHAT IS WEAK (v. 2-3) Isaiah then sings about cities becoming heaps of rubble—not because God is petty, but because human pride insists on building walls without Him. Every “fortified city” of humanity—our systems, our politics, our self-reliance, our idols—eventually collapses under their own weight. Pride falls. Always. Why? Because until we taste the emptiness of our own plans, we rarely turn to His.

We cling to what’s crumbling. We double down on our own strength. We trust structures that can’t hold up. And the Lord allows these things to fall—not to destroy us, but to wake us up. When the city of human pride becomes rubble, something unexpected happens: *“A strong people will honor You. The cities of ruthless nations will revere You.”* In other words, the very ones who

once ignored God are suddenly brought to humility. Not because He crushed them, but because the collapse of their false hopes opened their eyes. They discover the truth: *He alone is worthy of honor*. Sometimes the greatest grace of God is letting our false kingdoms fall so that His unshakable kingdom can rise in our hearts.

3. HIS HEART IS FOR THE INSIGNIFICANT, THE OPPRESSED, AND THE WEARY (v 4-5)

Now Isaiah gets tender. He moves from cosmic scope to personal experience. Listen to who God is: *“You have been a stronghold for the poor (dal—the insignificant), a stronghold for the needy in their distress, a refuge from the rainstorm, a shade from the heat.”* This is who He has always been. While tyrants roar, God shelters the powerless. While ruthless nations blow like a scorching desert wind, God becomes shade—like a cloud that suddenly cools everything underneath it. We know desert heat. Isaiah’s image is so real: blistering heat instantly reduced when a cloud passes over. *That’s what God does for the oppressed*. The storm may be pounding, the wind may be fierce, but He becomes a wall the storm cannot break through.

And then God silences the roar of tyrants the same way heat evaporates under a passing cloud. Their power, their threats, their intimidation—it all melts away because the Planner of salvation stands between His people and their enemies. Human strength and human pride crumble. But the God who shelters the insignificant, the humble, the broken—that God endures forever.

CONCLUSION

In Isaiah 25:1–5, the song of the redeemed rises from a world that has been shaken to its core. Human kingdoms fell. Rebellion imploded. Pride became rubble. But in the middle of the chaos, one truth stood unshaken: **Adonai had a plan all along. A plan from of old. A plan full of wonders. A plan perfectly faithful.** And that plan was always for *you*—for the insignificant, the powerless, the ones who have nothing to lean on but Him. He has always been the refuge in the storm and the shade in the heat. Everything crumbling around you? He planned for that.

Everything shaking? He foresaw it. Everything falling apart? He can rebuild what you cannot. And one day, all of this will be in the rearview mirror. The rubble, the chaos, the tears, the waiting—it will shrink to a speck behind us as we stand in the joy of His banquet, singing the songs of the redeemed. So hold on. Don’t cling to what’s crumbling. Trust the One whose plans have never failed.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Where have you seen God’s “plans of old” unfold in your life—even when you didn’t understand them at the time?
2. What “fortified cities” (false securities) are most tempting for you to trust instead of God?
3. How has God used seasons of collapse or disappointment to draw your eyes back to Him?
4. Which description of God in Isaiah 25:4 speaks most deeply to you—stronghold, refuge, shelter, or shade? Why?
5. How does remembering God’s ancient, faithful plan help you endure present storms?

CLOSING PRAYER:

Adonai, You are our God. We exalt You and we praise Your Name, for You have done extraordinary things—plans of old with steadfast faithfulness. Thank You for being our stronghold when we are insignificant, our refuge in distress, our shelter from the storm, and our shade in the burning heat. Teach us not to cling to what is crumbling, but to trust Your eternal purposes. Strengthen us to walk in Your ways when everything around us shakes. Make us a people who sing “Glory to the Righteous One” from the ends of the earth, now and forever. In Yeshua’s Name—Amen.