

# Pastor's Pen

Swallowed Up!

***He will swallow up death for all time, Isaiah 25:8***

A reference to swallow in the Old Testament refers to death taking someone to Sheol, to the grave. In Numbers 16:32 we read, ***"and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed them up, and their households, and all the men who belonged to Korah with their possessions."*** However, here in Isaiah 25:8 we see something different occurring. God is promising that death will be swallowed up forever.

This occurred when Jesus died and rose from the dead on the third day. Everyone who puts their faith in Jesus Christ for salvation has no fear of death. For the ungodly, this is not so. All those who die denying that Jesus is the Messiah, the Savior, the only way, will be swallowed up by death and taken into Sheol to wait upon their final judgment and then everlasting punishment in the lake of fire.

Paul expresses the hope of every true follower of Christ: ***"But when this corruptible puts on the incorruptible, and this mortal puts on immortality, then will come about the word that is written, "Death is swallowed up in victory. 55 O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?" 56 Now the sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law; 57 but thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ ( 1 Cor. 15:54-57)!"***

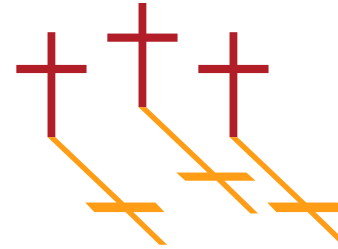
Isaiah also declared that the Lord would wipe away every tear (Is.25:8). John records when this will occur in the Book of Revelation:

***Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth passed away, and there is no longer any sea. 2 And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, made ready as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne, saying,***

***"Behold, the tabernacle of God is among men, and He will dwell among them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself will be among them, 4 and He will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there will no longer be any death; there will no longer be any mourning, or crying, or pain. The first things passed away (Rev. 22:1-5)."***

God is a God of promise, and He has given us the Holy Spirit as our guarantee that one day, death will be swallowed up for us. On that day, we will join all other believers praising God, and we will spend eternity worshipping the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords.

Your shepherd,  
Pastor Mark



## Quote of the Week

"O What A Freedom Is Thine! Freedom from  
Condemnation. Freedom to the Promises,  
Freedom to the Throne of Grace, and at last  
Freedom to Enter Heaven!"  
-Charles Spurgeon

# Grace Gems

My Father's home! (James Smith, "The Better Land")

***"Do not be troubled. There are many rooms in my Father's home, and I am going to prepare a place for you. When everything is ready, I will come and get you, so that you will always be with Me where I am!" John 14:1-3***

How familiar with Heaven-how well acquainted with that "better land" must Jesus be! He calls it "My Father's home!" Sweet view of our eternal residence!

Dying is but 'going home!' Going home to our Father! Going to our Father's home!  
And shall we fear this? Fear it! Can we do anything other than eagerly desire it? Do we not wish to go home and see our Father? We shall not be strangers there-so many of our Christian friends have gone home before us. And even if some of our loved ones are not there-we could not possibly feel unhappy where JESUS is!

***"I am leaving the world,"*** said Jesus, ***"and am going to My Father!"*** Such should be our language in the prospect of death. O that, with child-like simplicity, we could receive into our minds the testimony of God's Word! O that we could view death and Heaven-just as the Scriptures represent them! Where would our doubts and fears be then? What would become of our reluctance to leave the world then? Then, if we spoke of departed Christian loved ones-we would use similar language to that of Judah in reference to his younger brother Benjamin, ***"He is this day with our Father!"*** We would no longer talk of losing friends or relatives. Oh no! we should speak of them as being in our Father's home, or of being with our Father!  
My soul, I charge you in future to look to Heaven, simply as your Father's home!

***"Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal!"***  
***2 Corinthians 4:16-18***

# Weekly Gatherings

## Bible Classes

Old & New Testament Classes  
Ladies Class  
Young Adults    Young Parents  
Youth            Surge  
Sunday Morning @ 9:00AM

## Weekday Meetings

Mondays | 7PM Men's Book Study  
Fridays | 6AM Men's Book Study  
Wednesdays | 6:30PM AWANA  
Thursdays | 10AM Ladies Bible Study

## Family Groups

Thursdays @ 7PM  
Please see website for locations

## Build the Body Teams

If you would like to serve on a BtB Team and need to sign up, please contact the team leader at the appropriate email address on the back of this bulletin.

## Youth Study

Wednesdays @6:30PM  
Youth Study; AWANA & Surge!

## Service Times

Sunday School 9:00AM  
Children's Church 10:30AM  
Sunday Services 10:30AM

Giving from service on 02/02/2025

General Offering .....	\$8,713.47
Building Fund .....	\$1,901.00
Uganda .....	\$240.00
Benevolence .....	\$200.00

Total.....\$11,054.47  
Attendance ..... 232

## Build the Body Ministries

Women's Ministry-women@ghbcva.org  
AWANA-awana@ghbcva.org  
Outreach Ministry-outreach@ghbcva.org  
Worship Ministry-worship@ghbcva.org  
Men's Ministry-men@ghbcva.org  
Children's Ministry-children@ghbcva.org  
Youth Ministry-youth@ghbcva.org  
Prayer Team-prayer@ghbcva.org  
Maintenance-maintenance@ghbcva.org  
Fellowship-fellowship@ghbcva.org  
Communications-communications@ghbcva.org  
Front Line-frontline@ghbcva.org  
Security-security@ghbcva.org



GRACE HARVEST BIBLE CHURCH

GO GATHER GROW GO

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# Grace Harvest Bible Church

Feb 09, 2025

Welcome