

Psalm 107

- [1] Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever!
- [2] Let the redeemed of the LORD say so,
whom he has redeemed from trouble
- [3] and gathered in from the lands,
from the east and from the west,
from the north and from the south.
- [4] Some wandered in desert wastes,
finding no way to a city to dwell in;
- [5] hungry and thirsty,
their soul fainted within them.
- [6] Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble,
and he delivered them from their distress.
- [7] He led them by a straight way
till they reached a city to dwell in.
- [8] Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love,
for his wondrous works to the children of man!
- [9] For he satisfies the longing soul,
and the hungry soul he fills with good things.
- [10] Some sat in darkness and in the shadow of death,
prisoners in affliction and in irons,
- [11] for they had rebelled against the words of God,
and spurned the counsel of the Most High.
- [12] So he bowed their hearts down with hard labor;
they fell down, with none to help.
- [13] Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble,
and he delivered them from their distress.
- [14] He brought them out of darkness and the shadow of death,
and burst their bonds apart.
- [15] Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love,
for his wondrous works to the children of man!
- [16] For he shatters the doors of bronze
and cuts in two the bars of iron.
- [17] Some were fools through their sinful ways,
and because of their iniquities suffered affliction;
- [18] they loathed any kind of food,
and they drew near to the gates of death.
- [19] Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble,
and he delivered them from their distress.
- [20] He sent out his word and healed them,
and delivered them from their destruction.
- [21] Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love,
for his wondrous works to the children of man!
- [22] And let them offer sacrifices of thanksgiving,
and tell of his deeds in songs of joy!
- [23] Some went down to the sea in ships,
doing business on the great waters;
- [24] they saw the deeds of the LORD,
his wondrous works in the deep.
- [25] For he commanded and raised the stormy wind,
which lifted up the waves of the sea.
- [26] They mounted up to heaven; they went down to the depths;
their courage melted away in their evil plight;

[27] they reeled and staggered like drunken men
and were at their wits' end.
[28] Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble,
and he delivered them from their distress.
[29] He made the storm be still,
and the waves of the sea were hushed.
[30] Then they were glad that the waters were quiet,
and he brought them to their desired haven.
[31] Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love,
for his wondrous works to the children of man!
[32] Let them extol him in the congregation of the people,
and praise him in the assembly of the elders.

[33] He turns rivers into a desert,
springs of water into thirsty ground,
[34] a fruitful land into a salty waste,
because of the evil of its inhabitants.
[35] He turns a desert into pools of water,
a parched land into springs of water.
[36] And there he lets the hungry dwell,
and they establish a city to live in;
[37] they sow fields and plant vineyards
and get a fruitful yield.
[38] By his blessing they multiply greatly,
and he does not let their livestock diminish.

[39] When they are diminished and brought low
through oppression, evil, and sorrow,
[40] he pours contempt on princes
and makes them wander in trackless wastes;
[41] but he raises up the needy out of affliction
and makes their families like flocks.
[42] The upright see it and are glad,
and all wickedness shuts its mouth.

[43] Whoever is wise, let him attend to these things;
let them consider the steadfast love of the LORD.

INTRO: This morning we resume our study of Psalm 107.

Psalm 33:1 Praise befits the upright.

This is the theme of this Psalm. Look how befitting it is for thankfulness to mark the lives of believers.

CONTENT:

1-3: A summary exhortation to give thanks to the Lord.

4-32: Specific examples illustrating various reasons man should give thanks to the Lord.

33-42: General examples from the Lord's providential governing illustrating how fitting it is to give thanks to the Lord.

43: A final exhortation to meditate on these things in order to stir up thankfulness.

DOCTRINE: Christians have many reasons to give thanks to the Lord.

Last time we looked at verses verses 1-3 wherein we see:

I. It is befitting for Christians to give thanks to the LORD

II. Four motivations to stir up a Christian's thankfulness

1. The Lord of all the earth is good

2. The steadfast love of the Lord endures forever

3. The Lord has redeemed his children from their enemies

4. The Lord has gathered his people from all nations to be His own possession

Today we look at verses 4-43, where we will see:

I. Who should thank the Lord? (Verses 4-32)

- II. What should you thank the Lord for? (Verses 33-42)
- III. How can you stir up a thankful heart? (Verse 43)

I. WHO SOULD THANK THE LORD?

I. THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN REFRESHED SHOULD THANK THE LORD

Persons:

[4] Some wandered in desert wastes,
finding no way to a city to dwell in;

Trouble:

[5] hungry and thirsty,
their soul fainted within them.

Petition:

[6] Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble,

Deliverance:

and he delivered them from their distress.
[7] He led them by a straight way
till they reached a city to dwell in.

Praise:

[8] Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love,
for his wondrous works to the children of man!
[9] For he satisfies the longing soul,
and the hungry soul he fills with good things.

Q. Is this you?

- To those whose souls are currently fainting within them.
 - **Device of Satan:** The Lord has already done all that He is going to do for you.
- **CHILDREN** Do you remember you remember the story of the Exodus?
 - **John 6:51** I am the living bread that came down from heaven.
 - **1 Corinthians 10:4** and the Rock was Christ.
- To those whose souls once fainted within them, but have now been satisfied.

II. THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN LIBERATED SHOULD THANK THE LORD

Persons:

[10] Some sat in darkness and in the shadow of death,
prisoners in affliction and in irons,
[11] for they had rebelled against the words of God,
and spurned the counsel of the Most High.

Trouble:

[12] So he bowed their hearts down with hard labor;
they fell down, with none to help.

Petition:

[13] Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble,

Deliverance:

and he delivered them from their distress.
[14] He brought them out of darkness and the shadow of death,
and burst their bonds apart.

Praise:

[15] Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love,
for his wondrous works to the children of man!
[16] For he shatters the doors of bronze
and cuts in two the bars of iron.

Q. Is this you?

- To those who are still enslaved to their sin.
 - **Device of Satan:** How dare you ask God to deliver you.
- **CHILDREN** This describes many of you. All of you were born in slavery to your sin.
- To those who have had their bonds burst apart.

- **Thomas Watson:** To be redeemed from Turkish slavery is a great mercy, but it is infinitely more to be redeemed from sin.

III. THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN HEALED SHOULD THANK THE LORD

Persons:

[17] Some were fools through their sinful ways,

Trouble:

and because of their iniquities suffered affliction;

[18] they loathed any kind of food,

and they drew near to the gates of death.

Petition:

[19] Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble,

Deliverance:

and he delivered them from their distress.

[20] He sent out his word and healed them,

and delivered them from their destruction.

Praise:

[21] Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love,

for his wondrous works to the children of man!

[22] And let them offer sacrifices of thanksgiving,

and tell of his deeds in songs of joy!

Q. Is this you?

- To those who are presently sick to their stomach suffering the consequences of past foolishness.
- **Device of Satan:** The Lord may pardon you, but you still have to carry your own shame.
- To those who have been healed (body or soul). (Sing!)

IV. THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN HELPED SHOULD THANK THE LORD

Persons:

[23] Some went down to the sea in ships,

doing business on the great waters;

Trouble:

[24] they saw the deeds of the LORD,

his wondrous works in the deep.

[25] For he commanded and raised the stormy wind,

which lifted up the waves of the sea.

[26] They mounted up to heaven; they went down to the depths;

their courage melted away in their evil plight;

[27] they reeled and staggered like drunken men

and were at their wits' end.

Petition:

[28] Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble,

Deliverance:

and he delivered them from their distress.

[29] He made the storm be still,

and the waves of the sea were hushed.

[30] Then they were glad that the waters were quiet,

and he brought them to their desired haven.

Praise:

[31] Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love,

for his wondrous works to the children of man!

[32] Let them extol him in the congregation of the people,

and praise him in the assembly of the elders.

Q. Is this you?

- To those who feel like they are drowning in their vocation.
- **Device of Satan:** Your vocation is secular. Worship Him on Sunday, but the rest of your week you are left to your own devices.
- To those who have received help from the Lord. (Praise him with the congregation!)

II. WHAT SHOULD YOU THANK THE LORD FOR?

For His goodness. For His enduring steadfast love. But how does He manifest it?

I. THANK THE LORD THAT HE HUMBLER THE PROUD

[33] He turns rivers into a desert,
springs of water into thirsty ground,
[34] a fruitful land into a salty waste,
because of the evil of its inhabitants.

Says he who has dominion, "I will not suffer the proud to dwell with me."

II. THANK THE LORD THAT HE EXALTS THE HUMBLE

[35] He turns a desert into pools of water,
a parched land into springs of water.
[36] And there he lets the hungry dwell,
and they establish a city to live in;
[37] they sow fields and plant vineyards
and get a fruitful yield.
[38] By his blessing they multiply greatly,
and he does not let their livestock diminish.

Says the redeemer, "the lowliest of my servants shall enjoy their inheritance."

Objection. That is not my experience. I see the righteous brought low while the proud stay strong?

Answer. Verses 39-40

III. THANK THE LORD THAT HE WILL VINDICATE THE LOWLY

[39] When they are diminished and brought low
through oppression, evil, and sorrow,
[40] he pours contempt on princes
and makes them wander in trackless wastes;

Says the king, "when my servants are brought low, then will I arise!"

Says the avenger of blood, "when my servants are diminished, then will I repay!"

IV. THANK THE LORD THAT HE WILL RAISE UP THE NEEDY

[41] but he raises up the needy out of affliction
and makes their families like flocks.
[42] The upright see it and are glad,
and all wickedness shuts its mouth.

He is a Father to the fatherless. A faithful covenant head for the widow. A mighty King for the sojourner. He is the Shepherd, Redeemer, Provider, and Protector for all His people. They may be brought low for a moment, but they will rise. And they will reign on this earth, with Him, forever.

Q. So let me ask you, do you have anything to be thankful for?

Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love,
for his wondrous works to the children of man!

III. HOW CAN YOU STIR UP A THANKFUL HEART?

[43] Whoever is wise, let him attend to these things;
let them consider the steadfast love of the LORD.

- Do you want to be a fool? Then let your mind be consumed with all of your troubles.
- Do you want to be wise? Then meditate on the truths revealed in Psalm 107.

Q. Who will refresh the weary?

Who will liberate the slave?

Who will heal the hurting?

Who will help the drowning?

Who will humble the proud?

Who will exalt the humble?

Who will vindicate the lowly?

Who will raise up the needy?

A. He who was crushed for the sins of my people.

- This Christ is offered to you. Cry out to Him. He will deliver you! Receive Him. Rest upon Him. And make the entirety of your life a living sacrifice of thanksgiving.

IV. DIRECTIONS

1. **Learn Satan's devices.**
2. **Meditate often on the works of God.**
3. **Cry out to the Lord for deliverance.**
4. **Thank the Lord with with songs of joy.**