

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: 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.

Today, I want to draw your attention particularly to verses 1-3. Here I will labor to show you:

- I. It is befitting for Christians to give thanks to the LORD
- II. Four motivations to stir up a Christian's thankfulness
- III. Many various ways you can use the truths found here

I. IT IS BEFITTING FOR CHRISTIANS TO GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD

[1a] Oh give thanks to the LORD

Q. Who should give thanks to the LORD?

1. ALL MANKIND

- All creatures of our God and King, Lift up your voice and with us sing...

- **Matthew 5:45** For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.

Q. Who should give thanks to the LORD?

2. ESPECIALLY CHRISTIANS

[2] Let the redeemed of the LORD say so,

- **Psalm 33:1** Praise befits the upright.

Q. Why is it so befitting for the redeemed 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

[1b] Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,

In order to excite your thankfulness...

Q. Can you conceive of a world governed by a lord who is not good?

- His perfect wisdom would entice the cruelest experiments.
- His infinite power would oppose you at every turn.
- His eternal holiness would forever excite your terror.
- His unchangeable justice would condemn without pardon.
- His unchangeable truth would never be known by you.
- But the slightest imperfection in His goodness and all of your comforts are lost.

R. But we have this firstly to excite our praise, the LORD of all the earth is good. Therefore...

- By His wisdom, He will work all things together for your good.
- By His power, He will keep you from all your enemies.
- By His holiness, He will purify you.
- By His justice, your redemption is forever secure.
- By His truth, he will make Himself known to you.

2. THE STEADFAST LOVE OF THE LORD ENDURES FOREVER

[1c] Oh give thanks to the LORD... for his steadfast love endures forever!

God is good. But it gets better! He lavishes his goodness on His people. And He is not going to stop!

- Beloved, He is working all things together for your good, and He will not stop.
- He is daily accepting your repentance, and He will not grow exasperated.
- He has granted you access to the throne of grace, and He will never revoke it.
- The Son took upon Himself your nature to reconcile you to God, and He will never put it off.
- Here is pleasure and enjoyment without end.

Contrarily, consider the limitations of all other enjoyments.

1. Sin promises pleasure, but produces only misery

- Gratifying sin may seem pleasant in the moment, but it always ends in rot.

2. Some things are truly pleasurable, but only in moderation

- **CHILDREN:** I like ice cream. A little is delicious. Too much, and your stomach hurts.
- Water is so refreshing on a hot day. But try to drink a gallon in one sitting and your body will say, "enough!"
- The Israelites wanted meat. The Lord gave them meat until it came out of their nostrils. And they loathed it.
- **Mothers,** remembering giving birth to your child. He comes out silent. You wait. He struggles to find his lungs. Then he inhales and lets out that first beautiful cry. Joy. Then follows a week of sleepless nights. The joy of that same 3am sound diminishes.

1. Some pleasures do not need moderation, but they are not enduring

- Every season of child-rearing is great. But they come and go so fast.
- The covenant of marriage is great. But it does not endure the grave.

- Every enjoyment has its limitations, except one.
- The steadfast love of the Lord endures forever.

- 10,000 years from now, your increase of enjoyment will not diminish.

3. THE LORD HAS REDEEMED HIS CHILDREN FROM THE HANDS OF THEIR ENEMIES

[2] Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, whom he has redeemed from trouble

Q. What does it mean to have a redeemer?

1. The redeemer is a near kinsman who restores his brother's property

- **Leviticus 25:25** "If your brother becomes poor and sells part of his property, then his nearest redeemer shall come and redeem what his brother has sold."

2. The redeemer is a near kinsman who avenges his brother's death

- **Numbers 35:19** The avenger of blood shall himself put the murderer to death; when he meets him, he shall put him to death.

1. The Redeemer of Blood will crush Satan

- **Romans 16:20** The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet.

2. The Redeemer of Blood will put your sin to death

- **Romans 6:10-11** For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

3. The Redeemer of Blood will destroy death

- **1 Corinthians 15:25-26** For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

- **You who are outside of Christ:** who will avenge you?

4. THE LORD HAS GATHERED HIS PEOPLE FROM ALL NATIONS TO BE HIS OWN POSSESSION

[3] and gathered in from the lands, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

- This does not fit the context of Israel's redemption out of Egypt.
- This does not fit the context of Israel's redemption out of Babylon.
- The Psalmist is prophetically speaking of Christ gathering His people together from all the nations on earth.

- **Beloved**, where would you be right now if Christ had not saved and sanctified you? Would you have the friends that you have? Would you have the family that you have? Would you have endured the trials that you have been through? Consider the hope, the peace in your conscience, and the rest in toil that you currently enjoy, what would your life be without Christ?

III. USE

1. INSTRUCTION

1. See how reasonable it is to be thankful.
2. See how reasonable it is to talk about the wondrous things the Lord has done for you?

2. EXAMINATION

1. Reputation: If I asked the unbelievers in your life, would they have any reason to say, "the Lord has done great things for them."
2. Prayer: Do you pray only when you need something? Or are there times of prayer in your day motivated chiefly by thankfulness?

3. WARNING

1. You who find all your joy in temporal things, what will you do when they are gone?

4. COMFORT

1. Beloved, you have a Redeemer whose steadfast love endures forever.

5. DIRECTION

1. Meditation: think on these things to stir up your thankfulness.
2. Private Worship: dedicate time for expressing your thankfulness.
3. Family Worship: thank they Lord together for particular kindnesses shown to your family.
4. Corporate Worship: come ready with a sacrifice of thankfulness to offer up.
5. Vocations: cry to the Lord for help, and thank Him when He does.

6. EXHORTATION

1. Covenant yourself to Christ, and make Him your chief delight.