

## **Psalm 107    God's power to rescue when men repent**

The Jews are God's people, and He has done some wonderful things for them. As you read this Psalm, keep in mind that He will do the same kind of things for people in our day if they will trust in Jesus Christ as savior and do their best to live in a good and godly manner.

<sup>1</sup> You Jews who know the LORD, open your mouth, and thank Him because He is good in every way. He will extend His tender love and kindness to those who trust in Him, and He will continue to do it for eternity. <sup>2-3</sup> You Jews whom the LORD has bought back from the hand of your enemies, openly testify of His goodness. Yes, you Jews whom the LORD has brought back to Israel from all parts of the world, openly testify of His goodness. Let's look at several examples of people whom the LORD has redeemed when they repented of their sin and turned to Him. Consider the following examples.

### ***God shows His power by delivering persecuted men when they turn to the LORD***

#### **The problem**

<sup>4</sup> There were those who had been forced to wander aimlessly in a lonely and barren desert, and they could not find their way to an inhabited city where they could enjoy life. <sup>5</sup> They were both hungry and thirsty because they couldn't find food or water. As a result, they were faint from lack of nourishment.

#### **The resolution**

<sup>6</sup> Eventually, they cried out to the LORD for help, and He rescued them from their unbearable circumstances. <sup>7</sup> Because He saw that they had genuinely repented, He led them straight to a city where they could live in peace. <sup>8</sup> Every one of you whom the LORD has redeemed, testify of the His tender love and kindness, and tell everyone about the wonderful things He has done for you. <sup>9</sup> Isn't it fascinating and wonderful how the LORD heaps His tender love and kindness upon the soul who aggressively hungers and thirsts for the knowledge of God? Everyone who does so will be filled to overflowing with the goodness of the LORD.

### ***God shows His power by delivering rebellious men when they turn to the LORD***

#### **The problem**

<sup>10</sup> There were those who were experiencing all kinds of hurts, heartaches, and losses, some so severe that they feared they might not live another day. They were prisoners of their miserable circumstances, and there was no way in their own power that they could deliver themselves from their difficulties. It was just as though those troubles were shackled to them. <sup>11</sup> These adverse circumstances were the direct result

of their rebellion toward God and their utter contempt for the advice and counsel our great God tried to give them through His Word. <sup>12</sup> As a result, He loaded them down with exhausting labor, and there was absolutely no one who could or would help them. They stumbled again and again and endured the hard knocks of life.

### **The resolution**

<sup>13</sup> Those difficult times caused them to abandon their pride and arrogance and humbly admit that the LORD is God. They finally realized that He gives good and beneficial counsel to those who seek Him, so they cried out to God in repentance, and He saved them out of their troubles. <sup>14</sup> He lifted them out of their dire circumstances, relieved them of the fear that death may come at any moment, and freed them from their adverse circumstances. <sup>15</sup> Let each one who has experienced this kind of deliverance thank the LORD for extending such tender love and kindness to them, and let them testify to anyone who will listen about God's wonderful works. <sup>16</sup> It is only right to do so, because the LORD has shattered the bars that held them imprisoned to the consequences of their sin and has broken the chains that had bound them.

***God shows His power by delivering fools when they admit that God is God and they turn to the LORD in repentance***

### **The problem**

<sup>17</sup> There were rebellious fools who lived like there was no God. As a result, they experienced all sorts of hurts, heartaches, and losses because of their sinful lifestyle. <sup>18</sup> It got so bad that they were near death and didn't even want to eat.

### **The resolution**

<sup>19</sup> When things got that bad, they realized their need of the LORD. They cried out in prayer, and the LORD delivered them from their distresses. <sup>20</sup> He gave them understanding of His Word, and that knowledge brought healing. <sup>21</sup> Encourage them to thank the LORD for His tender love and kindness and for the wonderful way He works in the lives of those who are born again by faith in the blood of Jesus Christ, the Messiah<sup>1</sup>. <sup>22</sup> Now is the time for them to serve Him with thankfulness and sing aloud telling the world about the wonderful things God has done in their life through Jesus Christ.

***God shows His power by delivering men from dangerous situations***

### **The problem**

<sup>23</sup> Men whose business is to transport cargo from sea to sea <sup>24</sup> have seen the wonders of the LORD and how He is able to manipulate the seas causing storms with howling winds and huge waves. <sup>25-27</sup> All that the LORD needed to do was to speak the word, and a massive storm would develop. It got so bad that the waves were taller than the ship. The sailors walked around like drunken men as the boat rocked back and forth

so violently that the sailors feared for their lives. It kept getting worse, and they didn't know what to do.

### **The resolution**

<sup>28-30</sup> Once it got that bad they cried out to the LORD in prayer asking Him to save them. Well, He heard their prayer and stilled the storm. Then they were thrilled that the sea was calm, and He guided them to their destination. <sup>31</sup> Encourage them to thank the LORD for His tender love and kindness and for the mighty things He does for the sons of men. <sup>32</sup> Allow them to stand up in front of the church and give testimony of the LORD's kind working on their behalf.

### ***God is in control - learn from the previous examples***

<sup>33-34</sup> When the people of a nation are committed to a sinful lifestyle, the LORD can and may change their beautiful, productive countryside into a dry, barren land. <sup>35-37</sup> On the other hand, when people are hungry, the LORD works on their behalf. He will change a dry barren land into a lush fertile land. There the LORD will cause these people to dwell in prosperity, and their fields will produce bumper crops at harvest time. <sup>38</sup> He blesses them so that they have lots of children, and their herds and flocks will increase in number.

<sup>39</sup> Sometimes severe oppression causes the populace of a country to be reduced in number and loaded down with burdens that are hard to bear. This results in misery and sorrow. <sup>40</sup> When this happens, the LORD despises the rulers of that country and makes them dwell in a desert where they cannot find their way. <sup>41</sup> At the same time, He delivers those oppressed people and acts as their security guard while He leads them like a flock of sheep. <sup>42</sup> Those who do what is right in the sight of the LORD will see all of this transpire and will be thrilled with the way the LORD worked on behalf of those oppressed people. At the same time, all of those who commit wicked acts will simply stand there with their mouth shut not knowing what to say.

<sup>43</sup> All of you who are wise, consider how the LORD works in the lives of His children and in the lives of the wicked. Learn from the examples above. Recognize how the LORD shows tender love and kindness to those who turn to Him in repentance. Now, it is in your best interest to love and serve Him before trouble comes. If you wait until trouble overtakes you, be sure to repent of your sin and call upon Him in prayer asking Him to save you. If you do, He will.

<sup>1</sup> Since Christ said in John 14:6, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me," the name "Jesus Christ, the Messiah" has been used.