Sunday Night Message
December 13, 2015

Psalm 107 – Let the Redeemed of the Lord Say So
Series – The Psalms

Text – Psalm 107

Introduction

Psalm 105 looked back on Israel's history and rejoiced in all of the wonderful victories that were won by God and His people. Psalm 106 looked back on Israel's history and remembered the failures of God's people to be faithful, but also reflected on the fact that God was always faithful to them. Psalm 107 will also reach back into the history of Israel in a general way, not recalling specific events necessarily, but recognizing the cycle that had always been present. God's people would go through difficult trials and testing, oftentimes because of their disobedience and lack of faith, but in their affliction they would cry out to God, and God delivered them, which caused them to rejoice.

Four times in this psalm, we read the phrase, which is the chorus for this song:

"Oh that men would praise the LORD for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men!" (Psalm 107:8, 15, 21, 31)

I think the idea that the psalmist is giving us here is that we should be more consistent in our praise to God, and then, perhaps, we would not have to go through so many painful periods of problems and trials, which are needed to bring us back to the place where we are depending on Him again and praising Him.

Some have stated that this psalm references Israel's deliverance from the Babylonian captivity, which may be true based on verses 2 and 3. This psalm is also somewhat prophetic in that it foreshadows the redemption of Israel from the dominion of Antichrist at the end of the Great Tribulation. The term "redeemed" was used often by Isaiah regarding those delivered from captivity. (See Isaiah 35)

"Thus saith the LORD, your redeemer, the Holy One of Israel; For your sake I have sent to Babylon, and have brought down all their nobles, and the Chaldeans, whose cry is in the ships. I am the LORD, your Holy One, the creator of Israel, your King." (Isaiah 43:14-15)

"Remember these, O Jacob and Israel; for thou art my servant: I have formed thee; thou art my servant: O Israel, thou shalt not be forgotten of me. I have blotted out, as a thick cloud, thy transgressions, and, as a cloud, thy sins: return unto me; for I have redeemed thee. Sing, O ye heavens; for the LORD hath done it: shout, ye lower parts of the earth: break forth into

singing, ye mountains, O forest, and every tree therein: for the LORD hath redeemed Jacob, and glorified himself in Israel." (Isaiah 44:21-23)

"Go ye forth of Babylon, flee ye from the Chaldeans, with a voice of singing declare ye, tell this, utter it even to the end of the earth; say ye, The LORD hath redeemed his servant Jacob."

(Isaiah 48:20)

"Go through, go through the gates; prepare ye the way of the people; cast up, cast up the highway; gather out the stones; lift up a standard for the people. Behold, the LORD hath proclaimed unto the end of the world, Say ye to the daughter of Zion, Behold, thy salvation cometh; behold, his reward is with him, and his work before him. And they shall call them, The holy people, The redeemed of the LORD: and thou shalt be called, Sought out, A city not forsaken." (Isaiah 62:10-12)

I An Ernest Command (vs. 1 - 3; vs. 22 & 32)

Here the psalmist commands the Israelite of old (as well as the believer today) to boldly and publically declare his praise for the Lord.

Illustrate - Pastor Clark - Open Your big, fat mouth and praise God.

Notice the phrase, "His mercy endureth forever". God will never run out of mercy for His children. His mercy is always available, but is accessible only to those that are repentant.

God promises redemption and healing:

"If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." (2 Chronicles 7:14)

We can praise the Lord for His provision, and His protection, and His power; but perhaps the greatest reason to praise the Lord is because of His propitiation. He was merciful to me, a sinner, unworthy of blessing, and deserving of judgment. He died for me. He was merciful.

II An Endless Cycle (vs. 4 – 31)

In these verses we see several examples of the cycle that many of God's people experience regularly.

- 1 We forsake God.
- 2 Our lives spin out of control.

- 3 Chastisement and Consequences come.
- 4 We cry out to God.
- 5 God delivers us redeems us.

The situations are always different, but the cycle is the same.

When they cried out to Him, God delivered them from the following *distresses* (vs. 6, 13, 19, 28):

- A Desire (vs. 4 9)
- B Darkness (vs. 10 16)
- C Destruction (vs. 17 21)
- D The Deep (vs. 23 32)

III An Enlightened Comprehension (vs. 33 - 43)

God loves His children, and desires to bless them and protect them; but they must be yielded to Him. If you and I are wise, we will look back on the cycle of Israe, and on our own past, and learn that we do not have to go through the pain, judgment, and heartache. We could simply stay inside the will of God, and continue to praise Him and appreciate Him boldly and publically.

Notice the word, "lovingkindness". Of the 26 times this word appears in the Bible, 22 are in the psalms.

J. Vernon McGee says that kindness is when a mother gives her little boy a piece of toast with butter, but lovingkindness is when she puts jam on it without being asked to.

God not only wants to supply our needs, but He also wants to put a little jam on those needs as well. He is worthy of our praise all of time.