

Psalm 107 Part 1

Table Psalm 107:1-9

- 1 *O give thanks unto the LORD, for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever.*
- 2 *Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, whom he hath redeemed from the hand of the enemy;*
- 3 *And gathered them out of the lands, from the east, and from the west, from the north, and from the south.*
- 4 *They wandered in the wilderness in a solitary way; they found no city to dwell in.*
- 5 *Hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted in them.*
- 6 *Then they cried unto the LORD in their trouble, and he delivered them out of their distresses.*
- 7 *And he led them forth by the right way, that they might go to a city of habitation.*
- 8 *Oh that men would praise the LORD for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men!*
- 9 *For he satisfieth the longing soul, and filleth the hungry soul with goodness.*

See Dr Ruckman's commentaries *Volume II of the Book of Psalms* pp 833-840, *The Book of Revelation* Chapter 12 and the *Ruckman Reference Bible* pp 315-316, 571, 953, 1067, 1657 for details.

Writer's Introduction

This writer heard a message by a then Navigator Representative Mr Marvin Smith on Psalm 107 at a Navigator Summer Task Force in Christchurch, New Zealand, 1968-1969. Marv Smith's breakdown of Psalm 107 was:

Psalm 107:1-9 *The Barren Life*

Psalm 107:10-16 *The Rebellious Heart*

Psalm 107:17-22 *Sinful Ways*

Psalm 107:23-32 *The Frustrated Ambition*

Psalm 107:33-43, the remainder of the psalm, was not addressed specifically in that message to the recollection of this writer who remembers only the sub-titles listed above. Readers may draw their own conclusions. Psalm 107:33-43 will be addressed in this study. For now, note that the Lord Jesus Christ states for:

The Barren Life John 10:10 “...I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly”

The Rebellious Heart John 14:27 “Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid”

Sinful Ways Matthew 26:28 “For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins”

The Frustrated Ambition Matthew 11:28-30 “Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

Therefore King David declares “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 exclusively in scripture.

Do it, therefore. “By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name” Hebrews 13:15.

This writer's sub-title for **Psalm 107 Part 1** is:

Psalm 107:1-9 Wilderness Wanderings

Notes on Table Psalm 107:1-9

1. **Psalm 107:1.** King David said **"Thou tellest my wanderings: put thou my tears into thy bottle: are they not in thy book?"** Psalm 56:8. King David had testified of the Lord that **"he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake"** Psalm 23:3 but King David had himself wandered from those paths as the Lord knew full well because **"The eyes of the LORD are in every place, beholding the evil and the good"** Proverbs 15:3. That is why King David prayed Psalm 51:1 **"Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions."**

King David did receive mercy as defined in 2 Samuel 12:13 **"And David said unto Nathan, I have sinned against the LORD. And Nathan said unto David, The LORD also hath put away thy sin; thou shalt not die."** David did deserve death because Numbers 35:31 states **"Moreover ye shall take no satisfaction for the life of a murderer, which is guilty of death: but he shall be surely put to death."** However **"...mercy rejoiceth against judgment"** James 2:13 and today's believer should always remember how he has received God's mercy so that his sin is put away and he does not die because **"Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold...But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot"** 1 Peter 1:18-19. That's a good incentive to declare as David does Psalm 107:1 **"O give thanks unto the LORD, for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever."**

Note then how Psalm 107:2-3 now enlarge upon the theme of redeemed wanderers like King David and like today's believer.

2. **Psalm 107:2-3.** Psalm 107:2-3 *doctrinally* are prophetic with respect to the Lord's *full, literal and permanent* restoration of *Israel as an earthly, political nation* at the Second Advent overlapping with the end of the tyrannical rule of **"that man of sin...the son of perdition...that Wicked...whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming: Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders"** 2 Thessalonians 2:3, 8-9.

The Lord allows **"that Wicked"** 2 Thessalonians 2:8 to tyrannise or to continue tyrannising certain nations, in particular African or Hamitic nations, see Genesis 10:7 with respect to **"Seba"** Isaiah 43:3, so that as His part of the 'deal' the Lord may redeem, ransom and bring His own Jewish people in the End Times into **"their own land"** Ezekiel 37:31. They will in turn **"say so"** what the Lord has done for them. Note these scriptures with their contexts that Psalm 107:2-3 summarise with respect to Israel's re-gathering and **"that Wicked"** 2 Thessalonians 2:8.

"And it shall come to pass in that day, that the Lord shall set his hand again the second time to recover the remnant of his people, which shall be left, from Assyria, and from Egypt, and from Pathros, and from Cush, and from Elam, and from Shinar, and from Hamath, and from the islands of the sea. And he shall set up an ensign for the nations, and shall assemble the outcasts of Israel, and gather together the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth" Isaiah 11:11-12.

"And it shall be said in that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, and he will save us: this is the LORD; we have waited for him, we will be glad and rejoice in his salvation" Isaiah 25:9.

"And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads: they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away" Isaiah 35:10.

"For I am the LORD thy God, the Holy One of Israel, thy Saviour: I gave Egypt for thy ransom, Ethiopia and Seba for thee. Since thou wast precious in my sight, thou hast been hon-

ourable, and I have loved thee: therefore will I give men for thee, and people for thy life. Fear not: for I am with thee: I will bring thy seed from the east, and gather thee from the west; I will say to the north, Give up; and to the south, Keep not back: bring my sons from far, and my daughters from the ends of the earth; Even every one that is called by my name: for I have created him for my glory, I have formed him; yea, I have made him” Isaiah 43:3-7.

“...Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I will take the children of Israel from among the heathen, whither they be gone, and will gather them on every side, and bring them into their own land...And they shall dwell in the land that I have given unto Jacob my servant, wherein your fathers have dwelt; and they shall dwell therein, even they, and their children, and their children’s children for ever: and my servant David shall be their prince for ever” Ezekiel 37:21, 25.

“He shall stretch forth his hand also upon the countries: and the land of Egypt shall not escape. But he shall have power over the treasures of gold and of silver, and over all the precious things of Egypt: and the Libyans and the Ethiopians shall be at his steps...And he shall plant the tabernacles of his palace between the seas in the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him” Daniel 11:42-43, 45.

In sum, the Lord has delivered Israel to “Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, whom he hath redeemed from the hand of the enemy” Psalm 107:2 with Isaiah 25:9, 35:10 in accordance with King David’s exhortation in Psalm 66:16 “Come and hear, all ye that fear God, and I will declare what he hath done for my soul.”

Spiritually it is the same for today’s believer as Peter exhorts. “But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light: Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy” 1 Peter 2:9-10.

3. **Psalm 107:4-5.** Practical application of Psalm 107:4 has in part been made with respect to King David, when he went “in a solitary way” “and walked not in the way of the LORD” 2 Kings 21:22, see remarks under Psalm 107:1 but Psalm 107:4-5 prophetically depict the wilderness wanderings of Israel’s believing remnant fleeing “that Wicked” 2 Thessalonians 2:8 before the Lord’s Return into the wilderness where God feeds them because “Hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted in them” Psalm 107:5 according to John’s depiction of Israel in Revelation 12:1, 6, 14 “And there appeared a great wonder in heaven; a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars...And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred and threescore days...And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent.”

Israel’s believing remnant is nevertheless in great fear in their wilderness wanderings of “that Wicked” 2 Thessalonians 2:8 pursuing them as in the case of Pharaoh’s pursuit as Psalm 107:4 reflects, “a solitary way” being that without a guide and as Jeremiah prophesied as Psalm 107:5 reflects in that believing Israel will have no trustworthy allies at this time as Jeremiah laments. “As for us, our eyes as yet failed for our vain help: in our watching we have watched for a nation that could not save us” Lamentations 4:17.

“For Pharaoh will say of the children of Israel, They are entangled in the land, the wilderness hath shut them in” Exodus 14:3.

“Our persecutors are swifter than the eagles of the heaven: they pursued us upon the mountains, they laid wait for us in the wilderness...We gat our bread with the peril of our lives because of the sword of the wilderness” Lamentations 4:19, 5:9. That explains Psalm 107:6-7.

4. **Psalm 107:6-7.** Psalm 107:6 is like Israel's distress over Pharaoh's pursuit followed by God's victory over the pursuer in Exodus 14:10, 13-14, 30-31 **"And when Pharaoh drew nigh, the children of Israel lifted up their eyes, and, behold, the Egyptians marched after them; and they were sore afraid: and the children of Israel cried out unto the LORD...And Moses said unto the people, Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will shew to you to day: for the Egyptians whom ye have seen to day, ye shall see them again no more for ever. The LORD shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace...Thus the LORD saved Israel that day out of the hand of the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead upon the sea shore. And Israel saw that great work which the LORD did upon the Egyptians: and the people feared the LORD, and believed the LORD, and his servant Moses."** Psalm 107:6 thereby complements the Lord's promise operative for today's believer as for believing Israel in the End Times in Psalm 50:15 **"And call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me."**



"From the end of the earth will I cry unto thee, when my heart is overwhelmed: lead me to the rock that is higher than I...Selah" Psalm 61:2, 4

Psalm 107:7 shows that in the case of believing Israel in the End Times shut in the wilderness with no guide and **"that Wicked"** 2 Thessalonians 2:8 like Pharaoh in hot pursuit, the Lord's deliverance is that **"...he led them forth by the right way, that they might go to a city of habitation"** that is **"a city of refuge for the slayer"** Joshua 21:13, 21, 27, 32, 38 in that *historically* **"...ye denied the Holy One and the Just, and desired a murderer to be granted unto you; And killed the Prince of life, whom God hath raised from the dead; whereof we are witnesses"** Acts 3:14-15 *but in the End Times believing Israel is an unwitting accomplice and a city of refuge is designated* **"...that whosoever killeth any person at unawares might flee thither, and not die by the hand of the avenger of blood, until he stood before the congregation"** Joshua 20:9 when as King Solomon testifies to Israel **"He shall judge thy people with righteousness..."** Psalm 72:2. The End Times city of refuge for believing Israel is the rock city of Sela Petra in **"the wilderness of Edom"** 2 Kings 3:8 south of the Dead Sea www.gotquestions.org/Petra.html. See graphic.

The Lord thereby promises for believing Israel in the End Times **"For the oppression of the poor, for the sighing of the needy, now will I arise, saith the LORD; I will set him in safety from him that puffeth at him"** Psalm 12:5 i.e. **"that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan"** Revelation 12:9 www.fishingowl.co.za/sasnakespuffadders.html.

For the saints of all ages, *noting the reference to Sela Petra in the End Times* **"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble...The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah"** Psalm 46:1, 7.



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5. **Psalm 107:8-9** **"Oh that men would praise the LORD for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men! For he satisfieth the longing soul, and filleth the hungry soul with goodness"** are a fitting aspiration and conclusion to this first part of Psalm 107 because they express what is true for both today's believer and believing Israel in the End Times as King David testifies. It doesn't get any better. **"I sought the LORD, and he heard me, and delivered me from all my fears"** Psalm 34:4.