

“Oh, That Men Would Give Thanks to the LORD!”

Psalm 107

A Call to Thanksgiving – Four ‘Vignettes’ of God’s saving mercies.

OT Israel: Thanking God for restoration from exile.
NT Fulfillment: Thanking God for His saving mercies

1. A Call to Thanksgiving

vv. 1-3

(1) **For God’s goodness and His covenant love** *“O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever!”*

(2) **For redeeming His people**

Redeemed from trouble – from the hand of the enemy
Gathered from among the nations cf. 106:47

2. Four Vignettes or Portraits of Redemption

vv. 4-32

(1) **Deliverance from Being Lost** (4-9) *“Some wandered in desert wastes,
finding no way to a city to dwell in;
...hungry and thirsty,
their soul fainted within them.”*

- **Their peril**

Lost and wandering
Starving – dying of thirst

- **Their cry and deliverance**

They reach a city to dwell in
Their hungry soul filled with good things

(2) **Deliverance from Bondage** (10-16) *“Some sat in darkness and in the shadow of death,
prisoners in afflictions and irons,
for they had rebelled against the words of God...”*

- **Their peril**

Prisoners doomed to death
Slaves

- **Their sin:** They had rebelled against the words of God

- **Their cry and deliverance**

Brought out of darkness and the shadow of death
Delivered from their bonds

(3) **Deliverance from Self-destruction** (17-22) *“Some were fools through their sinful ways,
and because of their iniquities suffered affliction;
they loathed any kind of food,
and they drew near to the gates of death.”*

- **Their sin**

Fools – through their sinful ways

- **Their condition**

Suffering affliction, disease, emaciated, self-starvation (?)

- **Their cry and deliverance**

Healed; delivered from their destruction

(4) **Deliverance from Fear** (23-32)

*“Some went down to the sea in ships...
he commanded and raised the stormy wind,
which lifted up the waves of the sea.
...their courage melted away in their evil plight;
they reeled and staggered like drunken men
and were at their wits’ end.”*

- **Their peril**

Tossed on the waves
About to perish
Paralyzed by fear

- **Their cry and deliverance**

The storm stilled
Brought to safe haven

3. Two Divine Corollaries

vv. 33-43

- **Two more reasons to give thanks for and to marvel at God’s covenant love –**

(1) **All men are entirely in God’s hands** (33-38)

- For curse vv. 33-34
- For blessing vv. 35-38

(2) **God will deliver and vindicate His own** (39-42)

- “He guards the meek with watchful eye”
- Final vindication cf. Rom. 3:19; Matt. 25:33-34, 46

Further Application

1. Whoever is wise, let him attend to these things! Consider God’s saving mercies! v. 43

2.