



SERMON NOTES

April 3, 2016 Scripture: Psalm 107:1-43 (NAS)
Topic: "God Helps The Helpless" Rev. Bruce Gardner

- 1 Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good, For His lovingkindness is everlasting.
- 2 Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, Whom He has redeemed from the hand of the adversary
- 3 And gathered from the lands, From the east and from the west, From the north and from the south.
- 4 They wandered in the wilderness in a desert region; They did not find a way to an inhabited city.
- 5 They were hungry and thirsty; Their soul fainted within them.
- 6 Then they cried out to the LORD in their trouble; He delivered them out of their distresses.
- 7 He led them also by a straight way, To go to an inhabited city.
- 8 Let them give thanks to the LORD for His lovingkindness, And for His wonders to the sons of men!
- 9 For He has satisfied the thirsty soul, And the hungry soul He has filled with what is good.
- 10 There were those who dwelt in darkness and in the shadow of death, Prisoners in misery and chains,
- 11 Because they had rebelled against the words of God And spurned the counsel of the Most High.
- 12 Therefore He humbled their heart with labor; They stumbled and there was none to help.
- 13 Then they cried out to the LORD in their trouble; He saved them out of their distresses.
- 14 He brought them out of darkness and the shadow of death And broke their bands apart.
- 15 Let them give thanks to the LORD for His lovingkindness, And for His wonders to the sons of men!
- 16 For He has shattered gates of bronze And cut bars of iron asunder.
- 17 Fools, because of their rebellious way, And because of their iniquities, were afflicted.
- 18 Their soul abhorred all kinds of food, And they drew near to the gates of death.
- 19 Then they cried out to the LORD in their trouble; He saved them out of their distresses.
- 20 He sent His word and healed them, And delivered them from their destructions.
- 21 Let them give thanks to the LORD for His lovingkindness, And for His wonders to the sons of men!
- 22 Let them also offer sacrifices of thanksgiving, And tell of His works with joyful singing.
- 23 Those who go down to the sea in ships, Who do business on great waters;
- 24 They have seen the works of the LORD, And His wonders in the deep.
- 25 For He spoke and raised up a stormy wind, Which lifted up the waves of the sea.
- 26 They rose up to the heavens, they went down to the depths; Their soul melted away in their misery.
- 27 They reeled and staggered like a drunken man, And were at their wits' end.
- 28 Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, And He brought them out of their distresses.
- 29 He caused the storm to be still, So that the waves of the sea were hushed.
- 30 Then they were glad because they were quiet, So He guided them to their desired haven.
- 31 Let them give thanks to the LORD for His lovingkindness, And for His wonders to the sons of men!
- 32 Let them extol Him also in the congregation of the people, And praise Him at the seat of the elders.
- 33 He changes rivers into a wilderness And springs of water into a thirsty ground;
- 34 A fruitful land into a salt waste, Because of the wickedness of those who dwell in it.
- 35 He changes a wilderness into a pool of water And a dry land into springs of water;
- 36 And there He makes the hungry to dwell, So that they may establish an inhabited city,
- 37 And sow fields and plant vineyards, And gather a fruitful harvest.
- 38 Also He blesses them and they multiply greatly, And He does not let their cattle decrease.
- 39 When they are diminished and bowed down Through oppression, misery and sorrow,
- 40 He pours contempt upon princes And makes them wander in a pathless waste.
- 41 But He sets the needy securely on high away from affliction, And makes his families like a flock.
- 42 The upright see it and are glad; But all unrighteousness shuts its mouth.
- 43 Who is wise? Let him give heed to these things, And consider the lovingkindnesses of the LORD.

I. OUTLINE OF THE PSALM

- A. Introduction
- B. Four Main Parts—Wanderers, Prisoners, Sick (from sin), Overwhelmed by Storm
- C. Two Cycles Describing Plenty To Poverty, Poverty to Plenty

II. THE WANDERERS – THE SPIRITUALLY LOST

- A. Hungry, Thirsty, Exhausted
- B. No Meaning In Life
- C. Call To The Lord For Help
- D. Greatest Danger Is Not Knowing They Are Lost

III. THE PRISONER

- A. Captivity, Darkness, Chains
- B. They Have Rejected God's Counsel, His Law
- C. They Operate On The Basis Of What Feels Good *Jude 4*
- D. Humbled And They Call On The Lord *Proverbs 3:5,6*

IV. THE SICK

- A. This Sickness Is A Direct Result Of Sin
- B. "Fool" Defined
- C. Sins Can Cause One To Feel Unworthy To Call On The Lord
- D. Call – He Will Answer

V. THE OVERWHELMING STORM

- A. Causes Us To See Our Smallness
- B. "Perfect Storm" Described vss. 25-30
- C. Sailors Come To See Their Inability vss. 30,31

VI. GOD DESTROYS THE SELF-SUFFICIENT MENTALITY

- A. Plenty To Poverty vss. 33-34 and vss. 39-40
- B. Poverty to Plenty vss. 35-38 and vss. 41-42

CONCLUSION: THE BIG QUESTION

1. Who Will Be Wise?
2. The Wise Will See God's Lovingkindness