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“THANKSGIVING”

Psalms 107

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Thanksgiving is just around the corner. I think that most of us smell Thanksgiving before we even think about it. When we do, it sometimes takes awhile to cut through the pie of problems on our plate. In Romans 1:21, the Apostle Paul traces the downward path of us human beings. The first thing goes like this: *“for although they knew God they did not honor Him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking and their senseless minds were darkened.”* The point is that when we stop giving thanks to God, we lose our grip and perspective on life.

Psalms 107 is very interesting. The primary theme is thanking God for deliverance. Not just one kind of deliverance, but deliverance from the most difficult situations of life. The first is deliverance from a state of wandering. This is a type of wandering where we feel empty, dry, and exhausted. The promise says, *“For He satisfies the thirsty soul and fills the hungry soul with good.”*

The second type is for those suffering in chains and darkness because of our sin and rebellion. In the midst of that lonely and guilty state “they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and He delivered them from their distress.” The promise says, *“He led them from the darkness and shadow of death and snapped their chains.”*

The third type is for those sick in body, mind, or spirit. Life tastes bitter and death is on the doorstep. They, too, cried to the Lord in their trouble and He delivered them. The promise says, *“He spoke, and they were healed - snatched from the door of death.”*

The last type is from the overwhelming storms of life. When we are at our wit’s end, and life feels totally out of control from heavy storms, we cry out for deliverance. The promise says, *“He calms the storm and stills the waves. What a blessing is that stillness, as He brings them safely into harbor!”*

The Psalmist ends with this advice: *“Whoever is wise, let him give heed to these things; let men consider the steadfast love of the Lord.* Have a thankful Thanksgiving.