

## Daily Encouragement – Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July

### Psalm 107

This Psalm is about the Lord's redemption of the nation from captivity in Babylon.

Have you ever been at your 'wits' end'? (v27). Sometimes God takes us to a place of complete helplessness to show us our great need of His rescue. It was at that place (and only at that place) that God's people cried out to Him in prayer (vs 6,13,19,28) and He delivered them.

- <sup>1</sup> Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;  
his love endures forever.
- <sup>2</sup> Let the redeemed of the LORD tell their story—  
those he redeemed from the hand of the foe,  
<sup>3</sup> those he gathered from the lands,  
from east and west, from north and south.  
<sup>4</sup> Some wandered in desert wastelands,  
finding no way to a city where they could settle. -they lost their way  
<sup>5</sup> They were hungry and thirsty,  
and their lives ebbed away. - they were desperate
- <sup>6</sup> Then they cried out to the LORD in their trouble,  
and he delivered them from their distress.** - God answers the prayers of His people  
<sup>7</sup> He led them by a straight way  
to a city where they could settle.
- <sup>8</sup> Let them give thanks to the LORD for his unfailing love  
and his wonderful deeds for mankind,**  
<sup>9</sup> for he satisfies the thirsty  
and fills the hungry with good things.
- <sup>10</sup> Some sat in darkness, in utter darkness,  
prisoners suffering in iron chains,  
<sup>11</sup> because they rebelled against God's commands  
and despised the plans of the Most High.  
<sup>12</sup> So he subjected them to bitter labour;  
they stumbled, and there was no one to help.
- <sup>13</sup> Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble,  
and he saved them from their distress.**
- <sup>14</sup> He brought them out of darkness, the utter darkness,  
and broke away their chains.
- <sup>15</sup> Let them give thanks to the LORD for his unfailing love  
and his wonderful deeds for mankind,**  
<sup>16</sup> for he breaks down gates of bronze  
and cuts through bars of iron.
- Like us, God delivered His imprisoned people to freedom!
- <sup>17</sup> Some became fools through their rebellious ways- spiritual fools  
and suffered affliction because of their iniquities.  
<sup>18</sup> They loathed all food  
and drew near the gates of death.
- <sup>19</sup> Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble,  
and he saved them from their distress.** -praise God he saves foolish rebels
- <sup>20</sup> He sent out his word and healed them; -God's word is powerful and effective  
he rescued them from the grave.
- <sup>21</sup> Let them give thanks to the LORD for his unfailing love  
and his wonderful deeds for mankind.** -a repeated refrain of praise
- <sup>22</sup> Let them sacrifice thank offerings  
and tell of his works with songs of joy.
- <sup>23</sup> Some went out on the sea in ships;  
they were merchants on the mighty waters.
- <sup>24</sup> They saw the works of the LORD,  
his wonderful deeds in the deep.
- <sup>25</sup> For he spoke and stirred up a tempest  
that lifted high the waves.
- <sup>26</sup> They mounted up to the heavens and went down to the depths;

in their peril their courage melted away.  
<sup>27</sup> They reeled and staggered like drunkards;  
 they were at their wits' end.  
<sup>28</sup> **Then they cried out to the LORD in their trouble,  
 and he brought them out of their distress.**  
<sup>29</sup> He stilled the storm to a whisper;  
 the waves of the sea were hushed. -God controls a chaotic sea. Sound familiar?  
<sup>30</sup> They were glad when it grew calm,  
 and he guided them to their desired haven.  
<sup>31</sup> **Let them give thanks to the LORD for his unfailing love  
 and his wonderful deeds for mankind.**  
<sup>32</sup> Let them exalt him in the assembly of the people  
 and praise him in the council of the elders.  
<sup>33</sup> He turned rivers into a desert,  
 flowing springs into thirsty ground,  
<sup>34</sup> and fruitful land into a salt waste,  
 because of the wickedness of those who lived there. - there was a clear reason for God's  
 actions  
<sup>35</sup> He turned the desert into pools of water  
 and the parched ground into flowing springs;  
<sup>36</sup> there he brought the hungry to live,  
 and they founded a city where they could settle.  
<sup>37</sup> They sowed fields and planted vineyards  
 that yielded a fruitful harvest;  
<sup>38</sup> he blessed them, and their numbers greatly increased,  
 and he did not let their herds diminish.  
<sup>39</sup> Then their numbers decreased, and they were humbled  
 by oppression, calamity and sorrow;  
<sup>40</sup> he who pours contempt on nobles  
 made them wander in a trackless waste.  
<sup>41</sup> But he lifted the needy out of their affliction  
 and increased their families like flocks.  
<sup>42</sup> The upright see and rejoice,  
 but all the wicked shut their mouths.  
<sup>43</sup> Let the one who is wise heed these things  
 and ponder the loving deeds of the LORD.

God causes increase v38 and decrease v39. He punishes and blesses His people. He is in control of all things.

This song has already been used during this time in the psalms but I feel it fits the theme well and so we can listen to it again. [Beautiful saviour](#):

*'For in my helplessness You heard my cry,  
 And waves of mercy poured down on my life.'*

Adam