"Let the Redeemed of the LORD Say So, Part 1"
Psalm 107:1-16

C.I.T.—If anyone should live a life of thanksgiving, it is those whom Jesus has redeemed.
C.I.S.—If you have been redeemed, your life should be characterized by thanksgiving.
Purpose—I want to show that regardless of what life circumstances we endure, we should be thankful because we are redeemed.
Introduction—Thanksgiving Season—What are you thankful for?

- Introduction to the Psalm—Vs. 1-3
    - Command to give thanks to God
    - Justified by his goodness and his faithfulness in relation to his hesed (steadfast love)
    - Those who are redeemed should especially live a life of thanksgiving, since they were redeemed and brought out of distress.
    - Brought from the land—reference to the Exile that Israel endured starting in 586 BC.
    - This redemption is described in four ways, which bring four perspectives on our redemption as well

I. ***Wandering in the Wilderness***-vs. 4-9
    a. Circumstance
        i. To the east of Palestine/Israel is the Arabian desert, which was a wasteland and a wilderness.
        ii. These were wandering around in this desert land, aimlessly and hopelessly lost.
    b. Cause
        i. There were two main roads—The Way of the Sea and the King's Highway—that went around the desert from Egypt to Babylon.
        ii. These roads were the sanctioned pathways, and yet, if someone is lost in the desert, it is because they chose to abandon those paths.
        iii. The parallel scenarios reveal people to have rejected and rebelled against the Lord, and so these wanderers represent people who have known the right way, but chose their own way.
    c. Concern
        i. They could not find an inhabitable city—they couldn't find a home with security and provision.
        ii. They were thirsty and hungry
        iii. Their souls/life fainted out of exhaustion
    d. Call
        i. This phrase is repeated in each scenario.
        ii. They called out together on the LORD.
        iii. This communicates that they repented and returned to the LORD.
        iv. They trusted the LORD to deliver them.
    e. Answer
        i. He led them on the straight/right way.
        ii. He gave them direction and, instead of choosing their own way, they submitted to His leadership.
        iii. They found a city that could be inhabited.
        iv. It led them to satisfaction of their soul from being dried out and hungry and exhausted.
    f. Command
        i. Praise and thank the Lord
        ii. He has shown his Hesed in the midst of this difficulty and redeemed you.

g. Illus.—Getting lost statistics—Yosemite National Forest—13 people a day get lost and need assistance. On average, they were less than a mile away from their original departure point, and around 60 yards from a trail or road.
h. Application
    i. Without Jesus, it does not take long to get lost in the wilderness.
    ii. Those who have rejected Christ are described as being lost.
    iii. Those who have been redeemed go from being lost to found.
    iv. If you are lost, how thankful are you that you have been found?
i. Takeaway: ***You can thank God because you have been found.***

II. ***Dwelling in the Darkness***—vs. 10-16
a. Circumstance
    i. Dwelling in darkness
    ii. Gloom—deep shadow—used in Psalm 23 and in Job to refer to death.
    iii. Also used to refer to a dungeon.
    iv. Here we find dungeon language-prisoner of misery and chains
b. Cause
    i. Rebelled against the word of God
    ii. His Word dictates how we should live, and these people rebelled against it and found themselves in prison.
c. Concern
    i. He humbled them—he allowed this imprisonment to happen in order to humble them
    ii. They were toiling—prison work crew, enslaved
    iii. Stumbled under the load, and yet had no help.
d. Call
    i. They got to the end and called on the LORD in the same way that those wandering in the wilderness did.
    ii. Expresses humility, faith, and repentance.
e. Answer
    i. The LORD showed up again, and this time broke the bonds and delivered them.
    ii. He shattered the gates of bronze and bars of iron—strength of the imprisonment.
    iii. There is nothing that can keep the LORD from redeeming us.
f. Command—praise the Lord/thank Him
g. Illus.—Pardoning the Thanksgiving Turkey
h. Application
    i. You are imprisoned and enslaved by your sin and rebellion.
    ii. This pardon came, not as a humorous photo shoot, but with the blood of Christ.
    iii. Imagine being imprisoned with no hope and no light, and the guards coming into your cell on day, and saying, "come on out, you have been pardoned."
    iv. How thankful do you think you would be?
i. Takeaway: ***You can thank God because you have been freed.***

Conclusion

- This Psalm is talking about Jesus.
- Through His blood shed on Calvary, He redeemed you.
- He found you and he freed you.

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- If you need finding or freedom, you can have it today if you will call on Him to save you.