

MESSAGE OUTLINE



June 20, 2021 - Pastor Paula Taylor

PSALM 107:1-32; 43

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever. ² Let the redeemed of the Lord tell their story—those he redeemed from the hand of the foe, ³ those he gathered from the lands from east and west, from north and south.

⁴ Some wandered in desert wastelands, finding no way to a city where they could settle. ⁵ They were hungry and thirsty, and their lives ebbed away.

⁶ **Then they cried out to the Lord in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress.** ⁷ He led them by a straight way to a city where they could settle. ⁸ **Let them give thanks to the Lord for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for humankind,** ⁹ for he satisfies the thirsty and fills the hungry with good things.

¹⁰ Some sat in darkness, in utter darkness, prisoners suffering in iron chains, ¹¹ because they rebelled against God's commands and despised the plans of the Most High. ¹² So he subjected them to bitter labor; they stumbled, and there was no one to help. ¹³ **Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and he saved them from their distress.** ¹⁴ He brought them out of darkness, the utter darkness, and broke away their chains. ¹⁵ **Let them give thanks to the Lord for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for humankind,** ¹⁶ for he breaks down gates of bronze and cuts through bars of iron.

¹⁷ Some became fools through their rebellious ways and suffered affliction because of their iniquities. ¹⁸ They loathed all food and drew near the gates of death. ¹⁹ **Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and he saved them from their distress.** ²⁰ He sent out his word and healed them; he rescued them from the grave. ²¹ **Let them give thanks to the Lord for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for humankind.** ²² Let them sacrifice thank offerings and tell of his works with songs of joy.

²³ Some went out on the sea in ships; they were merchants on the mighty waters. ²⁴ They saw the works of the Lord, his wonderful deeds in the deep. ²⁵ For he spoke and stirred up a tempest that lifted high the waves. ²⁶ They mounted up to the heavens and went down to the depths; in their peril their courage melted away. ²⁷ They reeled and staggered like drunkards; they were at their wits' end. ²⁸ **Then they cried out to the Lord in their trouble, and he brought them out of their distress.** ²⁹ He stilled the storm to a whisper; the waves of the sea were hushed. ³⁰ They were glad when it grew calm, and he guided them to their desired haven. ³¹ **Let them give thanks to the Lord for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for humankind.** ³² Let them exalt him in the assembly of the people and praise him in the council of the elders.

⁴³ "Whoever is wise, let them heed these things and consider the great love of the Lord."



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God's unfailing love:

1. Redeems the world...(we tell our story) (v. 1-3)

Let the redeemed of the Lord tell their story...

What is a word that you would use to describe the way you have experienced God's goodness and love in your life, in your story?

2. Quiets the chaos...(we cry out) (v. 23-30)

Then they cried out to the Lord in their trouble, and he brought them out of their distress.

But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and said to him, "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?" He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace! Be still!" Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. **Mark 4:38-39**

- Where are you experiencing trouble (loss, grief, disappointment, chaos) and long to hear Jesus say, "Peace! Be still!"?

3. Is present with us in Jesus...(we worship him as Lord of all) (v. 31-32)

Let them exalt him in the assembly of the people...

"Whoever is wise, let them heed these things and consider the great love of the Lord." **Psalms 107:43**

Orientation (songs of stability): Satisfied seasons of well-being that evoke gratitude for the constancy of blessing. Feelings of joy, delight, goodness, and the reliability of God, God's creation, and the sense that all is well.

Disorientation (songs of disarray): Anguished seasons of hurt, alienation, suffering, and death. It evokes feelings of rage, resentment, self-pity, and grief, the sense that life is in disarray and God feels absent.

New Orientation (songs of surprising new life): Surprising seasons of new life when we are overwhelmed with the goodness of God, when joy breaks through the despair, and light breaks into the darkness. Our faith in God's presence and sovereignty is strengthened and our hope is restored.

Adapted from Walter Brueggemann, *The Message of the Psalms*

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