

Series: Towdah

November 12, 2023

Message: Thanksgiving for The LORD's Faithful Love.

Psalm 1:2 | Psalm 107 | Romans 10:13 | 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

to-daw': *an extension of the hand; **thanksgiving**; a confession; a sacrifice of praise; thanksgiving for things not yet received; a choir of worshippers.*

Our thanksgiving, our sacrifice of praise is to tell our story!

Four Stories of Redemption:

The Wanderer

The Prisoner

The Foolish Rebel

The Working Sailor

Do you want to be wise? Take this to heart.

Do you see in your history the faithful love of the LORD? Speak out!

In light of what I have learned today, what do I need to do to obey God?

Psalm 107

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good!

His faithful love endures forever.

Has the LORD redeemed you? Then speak out!

Tell others he has redeemed you from your enemies.

For he has gathered the exiles from many lands,
from east and west, from north and south.

Some wandered in the wilderness, lost and homeless.

Hungry and thirsty, they nearly died.

"LORD, help!" they cried in their trouble,

and he rescued them from their distress.

He led them straight to safety,

to a city where they could live.

Let them praise the LORD for his great love

and for the wonderful things he has done for them.

For he satisfies the thirsty and fills the hungry with good things.

Some sat in darkness and deepest gloom,

imprisoned in iron chains of misery.

They rebelled against the words of God,

scorning the counsel of the Most High.

That is why he broke them with hard labor;

they fell, and no one was there to help them.

"LORD, help!" they cried in their trouble,

and he saved them from their distress.

He led them from the darkness and deepest gloom;

he snapped their chains.

Let them praise the LORD for his great love

and for the wonderful things he has done for them.

For he broke down their prison gates of bronze;

he cut apart their bars of iron.

Some were fools; they rebelled and suffered for their sins.

They couldn't stand the thought of food,

and they were knocking on death's door.

"LORD, help!" they cried in their trouble,

and he saved them from their distress.

He sent out his word and healed them,

snatching them from the door of death.

Let them praise the LORD for his great love

and for the wonderful things he has done for them.

Let them offer sacrifices of **thanksgiving** (towdah)
and sing joyfully about his glorious acts.

Some went off to sea in ships, plying the trade routes of the world.
They, too, observed the LORD's power in action,
his impressive works on the deepest seas.
He spoke, and the winds rose, stirring up the waves.
Their ships were tossed to the heavens
and plunged again to the depths; the sailors cringed in terror.
They reeled and staggered like drunkards and were at their wits' end.
"LORD, help!" they cried in their trouble,
and he saved them from their distress.
He calmed the storm to a whisper and stilled the waves.
What a blessing was that stillness
as he brought them safely into harbor!
Let them praise the LORD for his great love
and for the wonderful things he has done for them.
Let them exalt him publicly before the congregation
and before the leaders of the nation.

He changes rivers into deserts,
and springs of water into dry, thirsty land.
He turns the fruitful land into salty wastelands,
because of the wickedness of those who live there.
But he also turns deserts into pools of water,
the dry land into springs of water.
He brings the hungry to settle there and to build their cities.
They sow their fields, plant their vineyards,
and harvest their bumper crops. How he blesses them!
They raise large families there, and their herds of livestock increase.
When they decrease in number and become impoverished
through oppression, trouble, and sorrow,
the LORD pours contempt on their princes,
causing them to wander in trackless wastelands.
But he rescues the poor from trouble
and increases their families like flocks of sheep.
The godly will see these things and be glad,
while the wicked are struck silent.

Those who are wise will take all this to heart;
they will see in our history the faithful love of the LORD.

Do you know of a great story of rescue that you or a close friend has experienced? What happened? Why do you think we are drawn to epic rescue stories? How does hearing these stories make you feel?

Read Psalm 107:1-3.

Have you experienced Yahweh's faithful love? If so, share the story!
Why is it important to share our testimony when the Lord rescues? What can giving thanks do for our hearts and attitudes?

Read Psalm 107:4-9.

How did these people find themselves in this situation? What did they do?
What specifically did the Lord do? Have you been in a situation where you almost died and were rescued? When have you last experienced being satisfied by the Lord?

Read Psalm 107:10-16.

How did these people find themselves in this situation? What did they do?
What specifically did the Lord do? How is God's power displayed in this passage? How has he displayed His might in your life?

Read Psalm 107:17-22.

How did these people find themselves in this situation? What did they do?
What specifically did the Lord do? Have you ever felt that you don't deserve God's healing help when it's something you've done? What do we learn from this Psalm that can help us overcome this way of thinking?

Read Psalm 107:23-32.

How did these people find themselves in this situation? What did they do?
What specifically did the Lord do?

Notice as we've read these four situations, two were cause by sin and rebellion and two were not. How was God's response toward all four? What can we learn from this about God?

Read Psalm 107:33-43

Why may God bring about hardship? Why might He bring about blessing?
In considering God's faithfulness, what should we do when hardship occurs? According to this Psalm, what do wise and godly people do?

How have you seen in your history the faithful love of the Lord?