PSALMS 106-107

REVIEW…

- **Psalm 104 – God of Creation**
  - The THEME of the Psalm – is to KNEEL [bless] the LORD…
    - Because of whom God is - He is great – He is the source of all LIGHT…
  - He is who our CREATOR - spread out the Universe like a curtain – even Angels serve Him!
    - Therefore - seeing that LIFE and DEATH are in His hands – we should chose LIFE…
  - So that in the end we can say – PRAISE the LORD [הַלְלוּ-יָהּ]
- **Psalm 105 – Remember the Lord**
  - When David brought the ARK into Jerusalem – he wanted to remind the people…
  - To TALK about the LORD – SEEK the LORD – and – most importantly REMEMBER the LORD…
    - He then gave them a HISTORY lesson – from Abraham to the PROMISED land…
  - The make sure they forget would NEVER the LORD – and

PRAISE the LORD [הַלְלוּ־יָהּ]

Psalm 106 – Confess your sins

- **1st – Praise the Lord… vs. 1-5**
  - 1st - Introduction…
    - If Psalm 105 was written for Israel to REMEMBER the LORD…
    - This Psalm was written as a CONFESSION of nations sin to the LORD!
    - CONFESSION is a KEY aspect of FORGIVENESS…
    - Because until we see we are not GOOD – we will NOT look to Jesus for HELP…
    - In order to be FORGIVEN by God – we must CONFESS we are SINNERS **- I John 1:9**
    - But SIN has consequences – it DAMAGES relationships…
    - And only when we CONFESS – can we allows HEALING to take place…
    - In order to be FORGIVEN by men - we also CONFESS our sin to each other – **James 5:16**
  - 2nd – God is Good… vs. 1
    - Praise the LORD!
      - PRAISE the LORD [הַלְלוּ־יָהּ] – the THIRD time we see this in the OT…
      - This connects the Psalm to the previous chapter – **Psalm 105:45**
      - When we SIN – and make mistakes – all the more we need to REMEMBER the LORD!
      - When we FAIL – there is a TENDENCY to think that God does not want us…
      - As though somehow we become UNWORTHY of being in His presence…
      - But all the more when we FAIL - we need to come and PRAISE [imperative] the LORD!
    - Give thanks to the LORD - for He is good! For His mercy endures forever!
      - Giving [imperative] Him THANKS – because He is ALWAYS good [טוֹב]
      - And His LOVE [חֶסֶד] – will NEVER end – no matter what we do!
      - We have an ENEMY is ALWAYS lying to us…
      - Satan LIES and tells us sin is fun - just give it a try – it will not hurt us...
      - He LIES again and tells us once we have sinned – we cannot go back to God...
      - But nothing that the devil says is true - everything that comes from him is a LIE - **John 8:44**
      - Jesus tries to keep us from SIN – because it is HARMFUL…
      - But if we SIN – because of His LOVE – He is always ready to restore us!
  - 3rd – No one is perfect… vs. 2-3
    - Who can utter the mighty acts of the LORD? Who can declare all His praise?
    - Blessed are those who keep justice - and he who does righteousness at all times!
    - God is beyond our DESCRIPTION [no one can say all He has done – praise Him enough]
    - We would be HAPPY [blessed] – if we could just do what God commanded…
    - If we could be RIGHTEOUS [צַדִּיק] - ALL [כָּל]the TIME – but we CANNOT!

- None of us are PREFECT – ALL of us make mistakes – **Romans 3:23**
- Not just before we come to Jesus – even AFTER we are saved – **Romans 7:15**
- That is NOT an excuse to SIN – what it does is show our DAILY need for Jesus – **Romans 8:1**

○ 4th – Salvation of the Lord… vs. 4-5

- Remember me O LORD - with the favor You have toward Your people.
- Visit me with Your salvation: That I may see the benefit of Your chosen ones.
- That I may rejoice in the gladness of Your nation. That I may glory with Your inheritance!
- The ANSWER we need to SOLVE the problem of SIN…
- God remember [imperative] us – to give us His SALVATION [יְשׁוּעָה] – Jesus!
- So that we can have the BENEFIT of being CHOSEN [adopted] – **Ephesians 1:4-5**
- Allowing us to REJOICE – because we are His people [in spite of our flaws]
- Knowing one day we will be with Jesus – inheriting the KINGDOM!
- **Romans 8:17** – "Since [we are His] children - [we are] heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ."

● **2ND – FORGETTING GOD… VS. 6-15**

○ 1st – We have Sinned… vs. 6-7

- We have sinned with our fathers. We have committed iniquity. We have done wickedly.
- Our fathers in Egypt did not understand Your wonders.
- They did not remember the multitude of Your mercies - but rebelled by the sea - the Red Sea!
- Israel had SINNED [חָטָאת] – to MISS the mark [bullseye in archery]
- They were GUILTY [עָוֹן] – because they had done EVIL [רָשַׁע]
- But they were NOT alone – they were just like those who went before them [Fathers]
- Their FATHERS did NOT understand - the MIRACLE [פָּלָא] of the Red Sea…
- They did NOT remember – the LOVE [חֶסֶד] of the LORD that saved them from the Pharoah…
- Therefore [sequential] – they REBELLED [מָרָה] – when there was NO water – **Exodus 17:7**
- People do NOT change – we ALWAYS forget about the LOVE of God…
- No matter how much the Lord has done for us - we FORGET when trials come...
- As if somehow God has changed - He took care of us before - but maybe not this time…
- When we face the challenges of life - we only need look back to see...
- God has always been faithful to take care of our needs - and He always will be!

- **Hebrews 13:8** - "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday – today - and forever."

- 2nd – Power of God… vs. 8-12
  - [And] He saved them for His names sake - that He might make His mighty power known.
  - He rebuked the Red Sea - it dried up. He led them through the depths as through the wilderness.
  - He saved them from the hand of him who hated them - redeemed them from the enemy.
  - The waters covered their enemies. There was not one of them left.
  - Then they believed His words. They sang His praise!
  - God still SAVED Israel – not because they were GOOD [they were NOT]
  - But for His NAME - so the WORLD could SEE [יָדַע] His mighty POWER…
  - Therefore [sequential] God REBUKED the Sea – it dried up so Israel could cross on DRY land…
  - But God COVERED [piel] Pharoah and his army – not ONE of them lived!
  - Which caused [hiphil] Israel to believe the WORD of God – SING His praise – **Exodus 15:1-18**
  - Paul would say much the same thing about why God saved him…
  - A man who persecuted Christians – murdered believers in Christ!
  - **I Timothy 1:16** – "God had mercy on me so that Christ Jesus could use me as a prime example of his great patience with even the worst sinners." [NLT]
  - God does a WORK in our lives – not because we are GOOD…
  - But so that people can see the God is GOOD – and even the worst of sinners can be SAVED!
- 3rd – Forgetting God… vs. 13-15
  - They soon forgot His works. They did not wait for His counsel.
  - But lusted exceedingly in the wilderness - and tested God in the desert.
  - And He gave them their request - but sent leanness into their soul.
  - But Israel QUICKLY forgot what God had done – they did NOT wait for His WORD [counsel]
  - God told them to be CONTENT with MANA – bread from HEAVEN – **Exodus 16:4**
  - Instead [sequential] they followed their LUSTS – they wanted MEAT – **Numbers 11:6**
  - Therefore - God sent them QUAIL to feed their body – but their SOULS were starving [no WORD]
  - This spiritual FAMINE – led Israel down a path of CONTINUAL sin…
  - The Author goes on to confess SIX examples - of the moral FAILURE of Israel!
  - People tend to think they know better than God what they NEED…

- Lord if only I had THIS – then my life would be BETTER…
- It is so easy for us to FORGET – God knows what is BEST for our lives…
- He might give us what we WANT – but better to wait for Him to give what we NEED…
- Because when we insist on getting OUR way – it inevitably leads to SIN!

- **3rd – Confessing Sin… vs. 16-39**
  - 1st – Not TRUSTING… vs. 16-18
    - When they envied Moses in the camp - and Aaron the saint of the LORD.
    - The earth opened up and swallowed Dathan - and covered the faction of Abiram.
    - A fire was kindled in their company. The flame burned up the wicked!
    - Because Israel did not TRUST – in the WORD of the LORD….
    - KORAH and his followers [Dathan and Abiram] - envied MOSES and [קָדֹשׁ] AARON…
    - They led a REBELLION against Moses – arguing KORAH should LEAD Israel…
    - God opened up the EARTH and swallowed him and ALL who followed him – **Numbers 16:32**
    - The NEXT day – Israel complained MOSES had killed the PEOPLE of the LORD [Korah]
    - As if MOSES had the power to OPEN the earth and swallow up people…
    - FURIOUS - God sent a FIRE to consume [piel] the people who complained…
    - AARON ran and stood between the LIVING and the DEAD to stop the plague – **Numbers 16:48**
    - We need to be careful as well when we COMPLAIN about our leaders…
    - When we REJECT the authority God has put in our lives [thinking we know better]
    - We end up not fighting them – but standing against the LORD!
    - **Hebrews 13:17** – "Obey those who rule over you - and be submissive - for they watch out for your souls - as those who must give account."
  - 2nd – Not WAITING… vs. 19-23
    - They made a calf in Horeb - and worshiped the molded image.
    - Thus - they changed their glory into the image of an ox that eats grass.
    - They forgot God their Savior who had done great things in Egypt.
    - Wondrous works in the land of Ham - awesome things by the Red Sea!
    - Therefore - He said that He would destroy them. Had not Moses His chosen one…
    - Stood before Him - in the breach to turn away His wrath - lest He destroy them!

- Moses was on Mount Sinai with God for FORTY days – **Deuteronomy 9:9**
- Because Israel did not WAIT - on the WORD of the LORD [Moses would be back]
- Therefore – they demanded [imperative] Aaron make a god for them to follow – **Exodus 32:1**
- Rather than the CREATOR of all things – they worshiped something they CREATED [cow]
- Because they FORGOT the God who saved them – did WONDERS [פָּלָא] in Egypt [Red Sea]
- God was going to DESTROY them – start over with MOSES – **Exodus 32:10**
- But MOSES stood in the GAP – and turned away the WRATH of God!
- One of the greatest tests we will ever face in our Christian walk is patience…
- I hate waiting – I would rather do almost anything – than just wait!
- More often we try to get things done our way - in our time
- We rarely take the time to consider that God has a much better plan!
- **Isaiah 40:31** – "Those who wait on the LORD Shall renew *their* strength… they shall run and not be weary - they shall walk and not faint."

○ 3rd – Not BELIEVING… vs. 24-27

- Then they despised the pleasant land. They did not believe His word.
- But complained in their tents - and did not heed the voice of the LORD.
- Therefore - He raised up His hand in an oath against them - to overthrow them in the wilderness.
- To overthrow their descendants among the nations - and to scatter them in the lands!
- Because Israel did not BELIEVE - the WORD of the LORD….
- Israel sent in TWELVE spies – TEN came back with a BAD report – **Numbers 13:32**
- The did NOT believe they could be VICTORIOUS in conquering the giants in the land…
- As a result [niphal] they complained – and would NOT obey the voice of God…
- So – God put His HAND against them – so they perished in the WILDERNESS…
- Israel would WANDER for FORTY years – till all those who doubted DIED – **Numbers 14:29**
- Even their DESCENDANTS would end up scattered among the NATIONS [diaspora]!
- God will often ask the impossible of us – to TEST us…
- Do we believe that God can do ANYTHING – is He the God of the impossible – **Luke 1:37**
- If we look at the CIRCUMSTANCES [giants] we will likely DOUBT…

- But if we look to the LORD – then we get to see Him do the IMPOSSIBLE through us!

- 4th – Not KNOWING… vs. 28-31
  - Sin of Balaam…
    - They joined themselves also to Baal of Peor - and ate sacrifices made to the dead.
    - Thus - they provoked Him to anger with their deeds - and the plague broke out among them.
    - King Balak of Moab sent to Balaam [prophet] and asked him to CURSE the people of Israel…
    - Balaam was told by God he could NOT curse His people – **Numbers 23:8**
    - But He REALLY wanted to earn the REWARD King Balak had for him...
    - If he could not CURSE Israel – he knew how to get them to CURSE themselves…
    - Balaam gave king Balak the idea to TEMPT the men of Israel - with the women of Moab!
    - **Numbers 31:16** - "These women caused the children of Israel - through the counsel of Balaam - to [sin] against the LORD..."
  - Response of Phinehas…
    - Then Phinehas stood up and intervened - and the plague was stopped.
    - And that was accounted to him for righteousness to all generations forevermore!
    - Because Israel did not KNOW - the WORD of the LORD….
    - They were NOT able [niphal] to resist the TEMPTATION that came from Balaam…
    - PHINEHAS – grandson of Aaron – saw a man taking a Moabite woman into his tent…
    - He ran after them – and speared them both to the ground [judged] – **Numbers 25:7-8**
    - This stopped [niphal] the PLAGUE God sent – but not before 24 THOUSAND had died…
    - An act that was counted to Phineas as RIGHTEOUSNESS [צָדִיק] for ALL generations!
    - We live in a world that is driven by LUST – it is altogether acceptable…
    - If we do not KNOW the word of God – that we are to be HOLY – **I Thessalonians 4:3**
    - Then rather than RUN from temptation – we will fall into in - **II Timothy 2:22**
- 5th – Not OBEYING… vs. 32-33
  - They angered Him also at the waters of strife - so that it went ill with Moses on account of them.
  - Because they rebelled against His Spirit - so that he spoke rashly with his lips!
  - Moses was NOT exempt from making MISTAKES…
  - Because Moses did not OBEY - the WORD of the LORD….
  - When the people complained - AGAIN - they had no water at Meribah – **Numbers 20:1-13**
  - God told MOSES to strike the rock ONCE – but MOSES struck it TWICE in ANGER…
  - **Numbers 20:10** – "Hear now you rebels! Must we bring water for you out of this rock?"
  - It was a misrepresentation of the LORD – he was NOT angry with the people…
  - As a RESULT – God would NOT let Moses enter into the Promised Land!
  - People do NOT see God – but they do see our lives…
  - We might be the only Bible people ever read – **II Corinthians 3:3**
  - How we ACT – what we SAY – the way we LIVE – represents God to others…

- When we do NOT obey His WORD – then we send the WRONG message!

- 6th – Compromising… vs. 34-39
  - They did not destroy the peoples concerning whom the LORD had commanded them.
  - But they mingled with the Gentiles and learned their works.
  - They served their idols - which became a snare to them.
  - They even sacrificed their sons and their daughters to demons - and shed innocent blood.
  - The blood of their sons and daughters whom they sacrificed to the idols of Canaan.
  - And the land was polluted with blood.
  - Thus - they were defiled by their own works - and played the harlot by their own deeds!
  - After the death of Joshua – God left some of the GENTILES in the Land…
  - It was a TEST for Israel – would they look to the WORD or to the WORLD – **Judges 2:22**
  - Because they did NOT remove the TEMPTATION [godless nations]
  - They [sequential] LEARNED their EVIL ways – SERVED [sequential] their idols…
  - And even SACRIFICED [sequential] their children to demons [שֵׁד] – **Deuteronomy 32:17**
  - They murdered [sequential] their own sons and daughters – polluting the Land!
  - The Canaanites would put their children into the red hot hand of Molech [god of pleasure]
  - It was the ancient version of abortion – doing away with unwanted children!
  - The KEY that began the whole progression [sequential] – was the TEST…
  - Do we look to the WORD – or do we look to the WORLD…
  - If we are not SOLID in the WORD – then we are going to be influenced by the WORLD…
  - And there truly is no BOTTOM to the depravity of where that leads!

- **4TH – HOPE IN GOD… VS. 40-48**
  - 1st – Consequences… vs. 40-43
    - The wrath of the LORD was kindled against His people - He abhorred His own inheritance.
    - And He gave them into the hand of the Gentiles - and those who hated them ruled over them.
    - Their enemies also oppressed them - and they were brought into subjection under their hand.
    - Many times He delivered them - but they rebelled in their counsel…
    - And were brought low for their iniquity!
    - Because Israel – did not TRUST – WAIT – BELIEVE - KNOW – or OBEY – the Word of God…

- Their lives were continually full of COMPROMISE – that led them into SIN…
- As a RESULT [sequential] – God was ANGRY with them…
- And He allowed [sequential] them to be conquered by the GENTILES [גּוֹיִם]
- God would DELIVER them – raise up a JUDGE to save them - and they would return to the Lord...
- But it did NOT last - after a SHORT period of time - they would REBEL again...
- This CYCLE is repeated SEVEN times in the book of **Judges**!
- It is the same CYCLE of sin we see repeated in our lives today...
- When we TRUST – WAIT – BELIEVE – KNOW – and OBEY the Word – we are BLESSED…
- But over time we start to COMPROMISE - get drawn back into the world - into sin...
- As a result – God allows our lives to fall apart – we end up dominated by sin...
- So - we cry out to Jesus - and in His grace He rushes in to save us...
- And we are back walking with God - for a time - until we start to COMPROMISE again!

- 2nd – God of Love… vs. 44-46
  - Nevertheless - He regarded their affliction - when He heard their cry.
  - And for their sake He remembered His covenant.
  - And relented according to the multitude of His mercies.
  - He also made them to be pitied by all those who carried them away captive!
  - But God did not deal with Israel just according to their SIN…
  - Because of His LOVE [חֶסֶד] – He would HEAR their cry [prayers]
  - He REMEMBERED [sequential] His promises to His people…
  - And God would make those who took Israel CAPTIVE – show PITY to His people…
  - NOTE – He did not take them out of CAPTIVITY – He just made it less harsh!
  - The LOVE of God – does not mean we do not face consequences…
  - In fact - our consequences reflect His LOVE – they teach us to depend on Jesus…
  - But when we CRY out to the LORD in brokenness – He will always hear…
  - And remember His promises to us – and have MERCY on us!
- 3rd – Praise the Lord… vs. 47-48
  - Save us - O LORD our God - and gather us from among the Gentiles.

- To give thanks to Your holy name. To triumph in Your praise.
- Blessed be the LORD God of Israel from everlasting to everlasting!
- And let all the people say - Amen! Praise the LORD!
- SAVE us [hiphil] – this is a VERY famous phrase – Hosanna [הוֹשִׁיעֵנוּ]
- It is the same phrase the Jews cried out to Jesus on the Triumphal Entry – **John 12:13**
- They wanted Jesus to be SAVE them from the ROMANS [עַמִּים]
- If Jesus did – then they would give THANKS [piel] – and TRIUMPH in His name…
- All of Israel would say AMEN – and PRAISE the LORD [הַלְלוּ־יָהּ]
- But instead – FOUR days later – that same crowd cried out CRUCIFY – **John 19:15**
- Because they were looking for the wrong kind of SALVATION!
- When we come to Jesus – come to the Word of God – what are we looking for…
- Are we looking for a God who saves us from our circumstances – consequences…
- Do we look for a King who will give us MONEY – or BLESSING in this life…
- If we are – then we will likely end up VERY disappointed in what God does…
- Jesus did not come to give us a better life – He came to give us ETERNAL life…
- And only when we are looking to heaven – will we be able to say – PRAISE the LORD [הַלְלוּ־יָהּ]

Psalm 107 – Cry out to the LORD

- **1st – Give Thanks… vs. 1-3**
  - 1st – Book FIVE…
    - Psalms is broken up into FIVE different books…
      - Book 1 – Psalms 1-41 – almost exclusively written by King David - [יְהוָה] the name of God
      - Book 2 – Psalms 42-72 – mixture of the sons of Korah and David - [אֱלֹהִים] the name of God…
      - Book 3 – Psalms 73-89 – written by Asaph and the sons of Korah…
      - Book 4 – Psalms 90-106 – most of the Psalms have UNKNOWN authors…
      - Book 5 – Psalms 107-150 – almost all of these Psalm also have UNKNOWN authors!
    - PRAISE the LORD…
      - Psalms Book FIVE – continues the focus on the importance of PRAISING God…
      - Hallelujah [יְהַלֶּל־יָהּ] - a compound Hebrew word - introduced in Book 4
      - It means to INTENSELY [piel] give PRAISE [הָלַל] – to the LORD [יָהּ] an abbreviation for [יְהוָה]
      - Used 24 times in the Psalms: FIVE times in Book FOUR – NINETEEN times in Book FIVE!
      - The WORD is universal in every language – it should not be translated…
      - Because in every language our purpose is the same – we were created to PRAISE the LORD!
    - Introduction…

- As with most of the Psalms in Books FOUR and FIVE – there is not stated AUTHOR…
- We do CONTINUE the THEME from Psalm 106 – giving THANKS to the LORD for His LOVE…
- But rather than focus on REPENTANCE – it focuses on what God does when we turn to Him!

○ 2nd – Give thanks… vs. 1-3

- Give thanks to the LORD for He is good! For His mercy endures forever!
- Let the redeemed of the LORD say so - whom He has redeemed from the hand of the enemy.
- And gathered out of the lands - from the east and from the west - the north and from the south!
- Israel MUST [imperative] give THANKS to the LORD for TWO reasons…
- FIRST – because He is always GOOD [טָוֹב] – He will always do the RIGHT thing…
- SECOND – because His LOVE [חֶסֶד] endures forever [never runs out]
- The RESULT of these TWO things – is God REDEEMED Israel from their ENEMY…
- Brought them HOME from the FOUR winds!
- God always does what is RIGHT [good] – which means we do NOT get away with our SIN…
- But He also a God of LOVE – which means He provides a solution for our SIN…
- Once we have been HUMBLED – BROKEN – He is God who will RESTORE…
- The Psalmist will give us FOUR examples – of How God RESTORED Israel!

- **2ND – DAY OF TROUBLE… VS. 4-32**

○ 1st – Wandering and lost… vs. 4-9

- Lost in the wilderness…
  - They wandered in the wilderness in a desolate way. They found no city to dwell in.
  - Hungry and thirsty - their soul fainted in them.
  - They cried out to the LORD in their trouble - and He delivered them out of their distresses.
  - And He led them forth by the right way - that they might go to a city for a dwelling place.
  - FIRST - when Israel did not know where to go – LOST in the wilderness – no CITY to live in…
  - They were HUNGRY and THIRSTY – and were about to FAINT [forty years of wandering]
  - They CRIED out to God – and He SAVED them from their TROUBLE!
- Know the Lord satisfies…
  - Oh - that men would give thanks to the LORD for His goodness.
  - For His wonderful works to the children of men.
  - For He satisfies the longing soul - and fills the hungry soul with goodness!
  - The Psalmist will give this REPLY in each of his FOUR illustrations…
  - Oh - that people would just KNOW [יָדַע] the LORD…
  - FIRST – KNOW that He is a God who LOVES [חֶסֶד] – **I John 4:8**
  - SECOND – KNOW that He is a God who does MIRACLES [פָּלָא] – **Mark 10:27**
  - What is the LESSON that God was trying to teach Israel in the WILDERNESS…
  - God has put eternity in our hearts – **Ecclesiastes 3:11**
  - Only in God will we ever be SATISFIED – He fills our SOUL with goodness!

- **John 4:13-14** – "Whoever drinks of this water will thirst again - but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst."

- 2nd – Bound in Prison… vs. 10-16
  - Bound in Prison…
    - Those who sat in darkness and in the shadow of death - bound in affliction and irons.
    - Because they rebelled against the words of God - and despised the counsel of the Most High.
    - He brought down their heart with labor. They fell down and there was none to help.
    - Then they cried out to the LORD in their trouble - and He saved them out of their distresses.
    - He brought them out of darkness and the shadow of death - and broke their chains in pieces.

    - Because Israel did NOT listen to the WORD of God – rejected His counsel…
    - God put them in PRISON [darkness] – bound in chains with no hope of escape…
    - They CRIED out to God – and He SAVED them from their TROUBLE…
    - Brought them out of the PRISON [darkness] – and broke their CHAINS!
  - Know the Lord gives freedom…
    - Oh - that men would give thanks to the LORD for His goodness!
    - And for His wonderful works to the children of men.
    - For He has broken the gates of bronze - and cut the bars of iron in two!
    - The Psalmist again gives this REPLY [same in each of his FOUR illustrations]
    - Oh - that people would just KNOW [יָדַע] the LORD…
    - FIRST – KNOW that He is a God who LOVES [חֶסֶד] – **I John 4:8**
    - SECOND – KNOW that He is a God who does MIRACLES [פֶּלֶא] – **Mark 10:27**
    - Not all PRISONS have bars – many people are PRISONERS to addiction…
    - Their lives are in DARKNESS – and they are SLAVES to their SIN – **John 8:34**
    - The Word of God warns us to stay away from SIN – but if we do NOT listen…
    - God can still set us free – He breaks [piel] the gates of BRONZE – cut the IRON bars!
    - John 8:36 – "If the Son makes you free - you shall be free indeed."
- 3rd – Sickness… vs. 17-22
  - Sick unto death…
    - Fools - because of their transgression - and because of their iniquities - were afflicted.
    - Their soul abhorred all manner of food - and they drew near to the gates of death.
    - Then they cried out to the LORD in their trouble - and He saved them out of their distresses.
    - He sent His word and healed them - and delivered them from their destructions!
    - The FOOL walks in the way of TRANSGRESSION [open rebellion against God]
    - As a RESULT of their SIN [עָוֹן] – they become SICK – and hate even the idea of FOOD…
    - But in their TROUBLE [sickness] – they CRY out to God – and He HEALS [רָפָא] them!
  - Know the Lord heals…
    - Oh - that men would give thanks to the LORD for His goodness.
    - And for His wonderful works to the children of men.
    - Let them sacrifice the sacrifices of thanksgiving - and declare His works with rejoicing!
    - A THIRD time Psalmist gives this REPLY [same in each of his FOUR illustrations]
    - Oh - that people would just KNOW [יָדַע] the LORD…
    - FIRST – KNOW that He is a God who LOVES [חֶסֶד] – **I John 4:8**
    - SECOND – KNOW that He is a God who does MIRACLES [פֶּלֶא] – **Mark 10:27**
    - Not all SICKNESS comes from SIN – but SIN can cause SICKNESS…

- And God will allow the BODY to fail – in order to save the SPIRIT…
- But when God HEALS – we should give Him the SACRIFICE [piel] of THANKS!

- 4th – Stormy seas… vs. 23-32
  - In the Typhoon…
    - Those who go down to the sea in ships - who do business on great waters.
    - They see the works of the LORD - and His wonders in the deep.
    - For He commands and raises the stormy wind - which lifts up the waves of the sea.
    - They mount up to the heavens - go down to the depths. Their soul melts because of trouble.
    - They reel to and fro - and stagger like a drunken man - and are at their wits end.
    - Then they cry out to the LORD in their trouble - and He brings them out of their distresses.
    - He calms the storm - so that its waves are still.
    - Then they are glad because they are quiet. So He guides them to their desired haven!
    - Those who work on SHIPS see the WORK of God – and His WONDERS…
    - When the STORMS come – the waves pick the ship up to HEAVEN – then drop back down…
    - The MEN on board stager around like drunks – as the SHIP is tossed by the waves…
    - But in their TROUBLE [storm] – they cry out to God – and He CALMS the storm!
  - Know the Lord protects…
    - Oh - that men would give thanks to the LORD for His goodness.
    - And for His wonderful works to the children of men!
    - Exalt Him also in the assembly of the people - praise Him in the company of the elders!
    - A FINAL time Psalmist gives this REPLY [same in each of his FOUR illustrations]
    - Oh - that people would just KNOW [יָדַע] the LORD…
    - FIRST – KNOW that He is a God who LOVES [חֶסֶד] – **I John 4:8**
    - SECOND – KNOW that He is a God who does MIRACLES [פָּלָא] – **Mark 10:27**
    - We do NOT need to work on a boat to experience the STORMS of life…
    - In a moment – without warning – our life can get caught up in a TYPHOON…
    - But the STORM is not an accident – God commands the stormy wind…
    - And if we are willing to call out to Him – He can also CALM the storm…
    - So - we can say PRAISE the LORD [הַלְלוּ־יָהּ] - along with those who went before us [Elders]
    - **Matthew 8:26** – "Why are you fearful - O you of little faith?" Then He arose and rebuked the winds and the sea - and there was a great calm."

- **3rd – Cry out to God… vs. 33-43**
  - 1st – Blessings from God… vs. 33-38
    - He turns rivers into a wilderness - and the water springs into dry ground.
    - A fruitful land into barrenness - for the wickedness of those who dwell in it.
    - He turns a wilderness into pools of water - and dry land into water springs.
    - There He makes the hungry dwell - that they may establish a city for a dwelling place.
    - And sow fields and plant vineyards - that they may yield a fruitful harvest.
    - He also blesses them - and they multiply greatly - and He does not let their cattle decrease!
    - We CRY out to God – because He can turn a RIVER – into DRY ground…

- He can make a FRUITFUL land – become BARREN because of the wicked who live there…
- BUT – He can also take a BARREN land – and make it FRUITFUL…
- He can make it a BLESSING – overflowing – so we have EVERYTHING we need!
- No matter what we are experiencing in life – it is from God…
- It may be a TRIAL – that God is using to get our attention – so we CALL out to Him…
- Or if it is a BLESSING – it is because we are looking to the one who PROVIDES!

- 2nd – Position from God… vs. 39-42
  - When they are diminished and brought low through oppression – affliction - and sorrow.
  - He pours contempt on princes - causes them to wander in the wilderness where there is no way.
  - Yet He sets the poor on high - far from affliction - and makes their families like a flock.
  - The righteous see it and rejoice - and all iniquity stops its mouth!
  - We CRY out to God – because He can HUMBLE the PRINCES – wander aimlessly…
  - But He can also RAISE up the POOR – those who are HUMBLE [עָנִי]
  - And those who are RIGHTEOUS will rejoice – because it brings an END to SIN!
  - Being BLESSED in life – has NOTHING to do with our position…
  - God can HUMBLE the RICH – and EXALT the POOR…
  - And He does – so that we LEARN not to trust in this life – but instead live a GODLY life!
- 3rd – Knowing God… vs. 43
  - Whoever is wise will observe these things.
  - And they will understand the lovingkindness of the LORD!
  - The WISE men will see this is the TRUTH – this is how LIFE works…
  - And they will understand – nothing is more important than the LOVE [חֶסֶד] of the LORD!