

Part 5 – The Delivering, and Healing, Word

In part 4 we learned what *can* make people *spiritually* hungry, even to the point of being famished (Amos 8:11). When people harden their heart to God's Word they dwell in *spiritual* darkness (confusion and lies), as well as the 'shadow of death' (being carnally minded, Rom 8:5-8). Therefore, their own rebellion (unbelief and despising) to God's Word is *what* enslaves them to sin, which ultimately means being a slave *to Satan*! Yet, our Heavenly Father is faithful to chastise His children so that they will (hopefully) cry out to Him for help, eventually. And He is always good and merciful (Ps 107:1) to help us, so long as we're *sincerely* repentant. And that means we must be *truly* ready to put away our sins (from the heart), study God's Word and strive to obey Him, *rather than* following our carnal lusts and affections (Gal 5:24). And we also learned how our Heavenly Father saves us out of our troubles. Not only does He free, and help, us *physically*, but also *spiritually*. For when we do repent, study His Word and strive to earnestly obey Him, He sends His Holy Spirit into our hearts, which helps us to understand His Word (the truth, John 17:17), so that we learn how to do what's right. Therefore, only when we *willingly* serve righteousness (God's Word) will we be free from sin (and Satan). As Jesus said (in John 8:31-32), the truth is what sets us free, *spiritually*, from the lies and deception that Satan has us enslaved to. So, our Heavenly Father is *well able* to save us from physical bondage, but *also all spiritual* 'chains' of bondage **if** we're earnestly willing to turn our heart back to Him, study His Word and strive hard to obey Him. Yet, there are still some people who refuse to do so, which is the thought we'll pick up with in this Psalm...

Psalm 107

17 Fools because of their transgression, and because of their iniquities, are afflicted.

Now, the word '**fools**' here means (figuratively) **to be silly** and comes from an unused root that means **to be perverse** (#191). And being 'silly' means exhibiting, or indicative of, *a lack of common sense* or *sound judgment*, and can also mean *to be weak in intellect* (i.e. stupid). And those who rebel against the Most High God (YHVH) truly **do** lack sound judgment *and are* weak in intellect. And that's because they do not think with their *spiritual* mind and thus, they let their carnal mind *control them* (Rom 8:5-8). And then, interesting, the first word rendered '**because**' actually means **a road** (as trodden) and, figuratively, also means **a course of life** or **mode of action** (#1870). And the word '**transgression**' means **a revolt** (national, moral or religious) (#6588), and comes from a prim root that means **to break away from just authority**, i.e. **to trespass**, **apostatize** and **quarrel** (#6586). So, the first part of this verse is simply telling us that fools (those who are *morally stupid*) follow (or live their life according to) rebellion, which is transgressing against God's Word (His *righteous* Laws that He gives us *for our benefit*, Deut 10:13). And then the words '**because of their iniquities**' are one Hebrew word that means **perversity**, i.e. (**moral**) **evil** (#5771). Lastly, the word '**afflicted**' means **to depress**, literally or figuratively (#6031).

So, the thought the Psalmist is relaying to us here is that: *only a fool* (those who are not morally smart) will rebel (transgress) against our Heavenly Father, YHVH (who is our Creator, Ezek 18:4; Rev 4:11, etc.). And, their perverseness (obstinate, and filthy, heart) is *what causes* them to rebel. And their rebellion is *what causes* afflictions to come upon them. So, what this boils down to is that, they truly bring upon themselves their own troubles! As the Lord (YHVH) sternly warned Israel (Lev 26, Deut 28, 30), *we have the choice* in life to obey, or disobey Him – for He has given us *free will* to choose what ‘way’ (righteousness or sin) we want to live our life (good or evil). However, because we can choose what ‘way’ we want to live our life, that also means we must endure the consequences of our actions. And, as Jesus so well said: *A good man, out of the good treasure of his heart, bringeth forth that which is good; and an evil man, out of the evil treasure of his heart, bringeth forth that which is evil: for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh* (Luke 6:45). This also applies to our actions, as Jesus pointed out in Mth 15:19-20; Mk 7:21-23.

In other words, if we want stop sinning (transgressing against our Heavenly Father) we *have* to clean our heart (desires, emotions, intentions and motivations) and mind (thoughts) *by studying* God’s Word (Heb 4:12). For, if we do not, then our actions will, *eventually*, manifest into sin, which ultimately bring forth death (James 1:13-15). In Gal 5, Paul calls sinful (even evil) actions the ‘works of the flesh’ (*adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like*, vs 19-21), but good (righteous actions) he calls the ‘fruit of the Spirit’ (*love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance*, vs 22-23). Thus, only by learning God’s Word, and striving to earnestly obey it (with the Holy Spirit within us), can we produce ‘good fruit’ that brings for eternal life (Rom 8:5-6; Rom 6:23, John 15).

But, whatever ‘road’ (course of life) we choose, we still have to endure the consequences (good or bad) of it, *for we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad* (2 Cor 5:10)! The *Companion Bible* also points out that fools (the perverse ones who have a crooked/filthy heart and mind) depend on *their own* wisdom, which is truly foolish in God’s eyes. Paul pointed this out in 1 Cor 1:20-25. And that’s why those who God choose to serve Him are not ‘wise’ in the ‘ways of the world’ (1 John 2:15-17), but wise to do what’s right (God’s wisdom). So, while many think it’s better to ‘get ahead in life’ by conforming to the wicked ‘ways of the world’ (i.e. defrauding and harming others so you can ‘get ahead’), this is truly foolishness. As Solomon pointed out: *Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil* (Eccl 12:13).

18 Their soul abhorreth all manner of meat; and they draw near unto the gates of death.

Now, this verse is still speaking about the fools (stupid, and perverse hearted, people) and the translation makes it a bit hard to understand. So, let's (again) do our 'due diligence' to 'rightly divide' God's Word (2 Tim 2:15). The word '**soul**' here means *a breathing creature* (#5315) and, as we learned back in part 3, our soul is simply the 'embodiment of our spirit' (heart and mind, i.e. our will and intellect). And, while our spirit *does* reside in our flesh body, we actually have a *spiritual* body (which **is** our 'soul'). So, our 'soul' refers to our *spiritual* body that dwells within our flesh body. Thus, when our spirit departs our flesh body, and goes back to the heavenly dimension we came from (Ecc 12:6-7), our soul *automatically goes with it* - because our spirit (heart and mind) *always* dwells in our soul (spiritual body), regardless if we're in a flesh body or, have passed on back to the heavenly dimension (2 Cor 5). You can learn more about the difference between our **Body, Soul and Spirit** here [<https://t.me/BibleStudyTruth/1017>].

So, the Psalmist really isn't referring to their *physical* body, but the *essence of their spiritual self*; for that is what '**abohorreth**' (which means *to loathe*, or *detest*, #8581) '**all manner of meat**', which is one Hebrew word that simply means *food* (#400). And, because they loathe (detest) food, they 'draw near' the 'gates of hell'. The words '**draw near**' here can mean several things: *to touch*, i.e. *lay the hand upon* (for any purpose; it's also a euphemism that means to lie with a woman, as in Gen 3:3); and, by implication, it can also mean *to reach* (figuratively, *to arrive, acquire*); or, violently, it can even mean *to strike* (*punish, defeat, destroy*, etc.) (#5060). And then the word '**gates**' means *an opening*, i.e. *door* or *gate* (#8179) while the word '**death**' means *death* (natural or violent); or, concretely, it can also mean *the dead*, their *place* or *state* (hades); and, figuratively, it can also mean *pestilence* or *ruin* (#4194). So, those who 'abhorreth' (loathe) 'meat' (good food) 'draw near' (reach out) to the 'gates' (openings) of 'death' (death, pestilence or ruin). And, while it is true that those who don't like to eat *physical* food will become emaciated and, eventually, die (we see this in people who are anorexic), the subject set forth in the prior verse (17) tells us that we're *speaking of* fools who are afflicted because of their own rebelliousness and perverse minds.

So, this verse is simply explaining how fools don't like to *spiritually* eat good food, which is (of course) the Word of God (John 6). And there are other Scriptures that use this same kind of analogy. For example, in 1 Peter 2:2-3, Peter tells us that, when we first accept Jesus Christ, we are as newborn babes, spiritually speaking. And, as such, we must desire the sincere 'milk' of the Word of God so we can grow *spiritually* mature, just as a baby needs its mother's milk to grow up. However, after a while, the babe grows up to the point where they begin to need food. And eventually they can handle (digest) meat, which is what gives us protein to make us strong. Likewise, we must continue to study God's Word and *keep growing in* understanding of it. That means we don't need to hear about salvation over and over (after we've already accepted Jesus Christ) because we need to know more about God's Word, i.e. *what* God expects of us and *how*

to do it! And that's why Paul admonishes the Hebrews for staying in the 'milk', and not growing up *spiritually*. In Heb 5:11-14, Paul says that the Hebrews were 'dull of hearing' because they had not *continued* to study God's Word, so they had not grown up (spiritually), i.e. past the point of being a 'babe' in their understanding of God's Word. And then, in verse 14, he points out that 'strong meat' is only something that 'grown ups' can handle (digest). And what this means spiritually is that: we cannot learn to discern good and evil if we don't continue to study God's Word *and grow* in our understanding of it. So, the point to our study is that: food has been used, as an analogy to explain spiritual things, elsewhere in the Bible. And there are other examples, such as Jer 23, and Ezek 34, which express God's anger at the 'Pastors' who do not feed their flock (His children) *the truth* (so they can grow up and be spiritually mature). Moreover, Jesus explained this Ps 107:18 verse rather well too...

16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

17 For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

18 He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

19 And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

20 For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reprov'd.

21 But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God.

John 3:16-21

So, those who hate the Light (i.e. the *spiritual* food our soul needs in order to live eternally, John 6:63) don't come to the Light (won't partake in God's Word, our spiritual food) *because* they don't want their wickedness to be exposed (they don't want to repent). And that's *why* they 'draw near' (reach out) to the 'gates' (openings) of 'death' (death, pestilence or ruin). So, what this boils down to is that: **people who are foolish would rather believe a lie, because they don't want to look inside themselves and face the fact that they sin.** Their heart is *so hardened to the truth* (by pride, lust, fear, greed, etc.) that they literally abhor God's Word, which is the only *true* spiritual food that can give them life eternal. And that's what causes them to draw near to the gates of death! So, because they cannot discern between good and evil (because they won't partake of the good food from God's Word) they foolishly *reach out for* lies and thus, *willingly starve their soul* of the spiritual food they need to grow spiritually mature *and* live forever!

Psalms 107

19 Then they cry unto the LORD in their trouble, and he saveth them out of their distresses.

Here again we see this verse repeated; it was also written back in verse 6 and then 13. And remember, anytime we see something repeated, it's done *for emphasis*. So, this is now a **triple emphasis** - to emphasize *how* gracious the Lord (YHVH, #3068) is to save us out of our troubles (#6862), and distresses (#4691) when we sincerely 'cry' (#2199) out to Him. So, when *any* of those fools (stupid ones who reject God's Word, starve themselves, and are reaching out for death itself, spiritually speaking) *finally* come to their senses, and call out to the Lord (earnestly), He *will* save them too. And the reason is that, our Heavenly Father really does *not* want any of His children to die spiritually (Ezek 18, 33). As 2 Peter 3:9 says: *The Lord is not slack concerning his promise* [that He will return and punish the wicked], *as some men count slackness* [some people think Jesus won't return]; *but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance*. So, even though not all will repent (not even after the Millennium, Rev 20:9-15) our Heavenly Father *still* wants to save *as many of* His children, *as possible*, from spiritual death *because* it is the kind of death that is eternal. As Ps 37:20 explains it, those who will die (at the end of the Millennium, Rev 20:9-15) will be like the 'fat of lambs' that consumes up into smoke and then *dissipates into nothing*. And that's why our Heavenly Father is gracious to save those who call upon Him (despite being previously stupid and rebellious towards him) *when* they have a true change of heart and sincerely call upon Him for help...

Psalm 107

20 He sent his word, and healed them, and delivered them from their destructions.

Now, this is an incredibly important verse to remember! As the *Companion Bible* points out, it is the 'key-note' to the *whole* 'book' (the fifth, 'Deut. Book' of the Psalms). And it teaches us that *all blessings are bound up in* what this verse teaches us. And let's not forget that the prior verses were speaking about the fools being afflicted because of their transgressions (rebellion), and their iniquities (perverse spirit) (vs 17), and how their soul loathed the only true spiritual food (God's Word) which is what caused them to draw near to spiritual death (vs 18). But then, they cried out to the Lord (YHVH) in their troubles and He saved them (vs 19). **So, this verse is simply explaining how He saved them.** The word 'sent' here means *to send away, for, or out* (#7971). Thus, in this 20th verse (in Ps 107), it's speaking of the Lord (YHVH) *sending out* His Word. And the word 'word' here means (not surprisingly) **a word**; but, by implication, it can also mean **a matter** (as spoken of) **or thing** and, adverbially, can even mean **a cause** (#1697). In the context of this verse, it does indeed mean God's **Word** but that which comes from His own mouth. For, this word comes from a prim root that means *to arrange* but is used, figuratively, *of words*; thus, it can also mean *to speak* (#1696).

And the word 'healed' means *to mend* (by stitching) or, figuratively, can also mean *to cure* (#7495), which *is* the way it's being used here in Ps 107:20. And then the word 'delivered'

means *to be smooth*, i.e. (by implication) *to escape* (as if by slipperiness); and, causatively, it can also mean to *release* or *rescue* (#4422) – and ‘rescue’ is the way it’s being used here. And then the word ‘**destructions**’ means *a pit-fall* (literally or figuratively) (#7825) and the prim root it comes from is *especially* enlightening for it means *to depress*, i.e. *prostrate especially in homage to royalty or God* (#7812). Only, those who are foolish enough to transgress against our Heavenly Father were *not* (during their rebellion) prostrating themselves (humbling and worshiping) our Heavenly Father (YHVH, the *true* God Almighty) - but to Satan, who is called ‘death’ in Heb 2:14.

Now, these verses have not indicated any *specific* time in history that the Psalmist is referring to, but there have been *many* times Israel have been rebellious to the Lord (YHVH). Yet, as the last Psalm (106) so well explained, when they did humble themselves (in sincere repentance) and called out to the Lord (YHVH) for help, He *always* helped them. And this verse tells us an important part of that salvation, i.e. *being healed by the Word of God*! So, what this boils down to is that, even if the Lord (YHVH) saves us out of our troubles (or sicknesses), if we go back to sinning (rebellious) against Him, and continue to despise His Word (not studying it or striving earnestly to obey it) then we’ll quickly be back into the same (or similar) mess (destructions) we were in before. Case in point, if you eat unhealthy food and the Lord (YHVH) heals you (and saves you from death), if you don’t change your diet (and get some exercise) you will quickly be sick again; and perhaps with a disease much worse than you had before. Likewise, if you don’t begin to (and continue to) spiritually ‘eat’ good food then you will still go back to the filthy ways that got you into trouble before! And that’s why **only God’s Word heals us**, for it gives us the spiritual nourishment we need to learn how to do what’s right, *so we don’t go back to the sinful ways* that get us into trouble [<https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/420>]. As Moses pointed out in Deut 10:13, God gave us His Laws *for our good*. And that’s because they teach us how to do *what’s right*, so we **can** be blessed and healthy, both spiritually *and* physically. As our Heavenly Father said in Isa 45:19: *I the LORD speak righteousness, I declare things that are right*. That’s why Jesus said that God’s Word IS the truth (John 17:17).

Further, this truly is a *prophetical* verse. For it say that God (YHVH) sent (sent out, #7971) His Word. As John 1:1 says: *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and **the Word was God***. And then we’re told (in vs 14) that: *And **the Word was made flesh**, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth*. So, while in times past, God sent prophets to relay His Word to Israel, He later sent out the *Living Word*, which is Jesus Christ (Heb 1:1-2), to speak to us. As Jesus said in John 8:42: *If God were your Father, ye would love me: for I proceeded forth and came from God; neither came I of myself, but **he sent me***. In other words, God ‘sent His Word’ via Jesus Christ, who **is** the Living Word *because everything* He did in life was *in accordance to God’s Will* (Word). And, that’s why Jesus said, in John 4:34: *My meat is to do the will of **him that sent me**, and to finish his work*. Note the *great* difference in Christ’s ‘meat’ from that of the fools that this Ps 107:17

spoke of! And Jesus Christ *was* perfectly (without fault) faithful to do the will (work) of His Father (YHVH) who sent Him to earth. And what is God's will? Why did God send Him to the earth? *Jesus answered and said unto them, **This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent*** (John 6:29). So, God sent Jesus Christ (the Living Word) to teach His children *to believe in His Word*, i.e. what we need to obtain eternal life (ex: Mth 19:16-24, Mk 12:28-34). And that's why Jesus said in John 7:16: *My doctrine is not mine, but his that **sent me***.

So, God sent forth the Living Word (Col 1:19, 2:9) to explain God's Word (will) to His children. As Jesus professed, in John 18:37: *To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should **bear witness unto the truth**. Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice.* God's Word IS the truth (John 17:17) and that's what Jesus witnessed to, not only through His Words but also His actions (Heb 4:15, 2 Cor 5:21, 1 Peter 2:22, 1 John 3:5). And the 'fruit' that came from Jesus Christ coming to earth, and teaching God's Word (the truth) to His children (and shedding His blood so we could be forgiven our sins, Rom 5:11, etc.) was that we *could* be spiritually healed *when we believe in Jesus*, i.e. believe in God's Word, for Jesus IS the 'Living Word'. Further, while Jesus did heal many people *physically*, it was only people who had *faith in Him* (and the Father) that received the physical healings. Thus, true healing is that of our 'inner man' (soul and spirit). As Jesus also said, in John 5:24: *Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that **heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life***. Romans 8 explains this ever so beautifully [https://t.me/BibleStudyBooks_Romans/39], as do many other Scriptures. As Jesus also explained in John 6:40: ***this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day***. The 'last day' is Jesus Christ's return (the Second Advent), so that's when those who believe on Him (and keep their faith in Him, not apostatizing to the false Christ, 2 Thess 2, Rev 12, etc.) will receive *enteral* life (Phil 3:21; Rev 20:4-6, etc.).

And Jesus summed up what eternal life is so perfectly, in John 17:3, when He said: *And **this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent***. And truly, there are *many other* Scriptures which document that Jesus Christ IS the Living Word (God in the flesh, John 1:1,14) that was sent (by YHVH) to His children *to heal them spiritually* (convert them back to the truth) so they could be delivered from their destructions, just as this precious Psalm 107:20 says. So, that's *why* studying the written Word is *so very* important. For, as Jesus said, in John 6:63, God's written Word *is* the Holy Spirit of God *in written form*, and ***that*** is what we need to have *eternal* life *because **that is** what causes us to know (and obey) Him!* So, God's Word not only heals us, but also delivers us - both physically *and spiritually*. And *what a blessing* it is to have access to God's written Word *and* His Holy Spirit today!

11 Let us **labour** therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief.

12 For **the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword**, piercing even to **the dividing asunder of soul and spirit**, and of the joints and marrow, **and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart**.

13 Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do.

14 Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, **let us hold fast our profession**.

15 For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.

16 Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

Heb 4:11-16

We'll pick this up in part 6...

AMEN.