

Part 8 – Whoso Is Wise

In part 7 we read of the *fourth* time (8, 15, 21 and here) the Psalmist has written (*verbatim*) that he wished *all* people would praise the Lord (YHWH) for His goodness *and* many wonderful works towards mankind. And, as we know by now, anytime something is repeated (in the Bible) it's done *for emphasis*. So, he *really* stressed the point that, it's better if we would just love (and obey) our Heavenly Father (*at all times*) instead of rebelling against Him, or even calling upon Him *only* when we need help! And then we also saw him 'wish' that the Lord God Almighty (YHWH) would be celebrated throughout *all the nation*, even in our government; and that's because, if people (everywhere) did this, then that would mean all people *served* our Heavenly Father *instead of* being rebellious to Him! Truly, the world *would* be a better place if everyone loved, worshiped and obeyed our Heavenly Father.

And then we saw the Psalmist point out the power our Heavenly Father has over His creation. For, He is able to make places, that normally have an abundance of water, into dry land - even into a *dessert*. Thus, He can (and does, and will) make the land (that wicked people are living in) dry and fruitless, even like that of a dessert. And He does so *because* of the wickedness (evil things) that the people living in the land do. But, we also learned that, just as our Heavenly Father able to dry up all sources of water for the wicked, so too is He able to freely give many sources of water to those who obey Him. And thus, through those abundant water sources He blesses those who obey Him. So, the Psalmist gave us a clear comparison of what happens to those who *obey* the Lord (YHWH) verses *those who do not*. So, His point was that, God *uses His creation* to either bless, or punish, His children. Yet, we also learned that there's a *spiritual* lesson to this as well. For, those who are rebellious against the Lord (YHWH) will, not only have trouble getting *physical* rain, but also *spiritual* rain, which is *the truth* (God's Word, John 17:17) that we need to live *enterally* (John 6:63). So, our Heavenly Father can either 'dry up' blessings or make them flow, depending on whether we *are* obeying Him *or not*! And now, we'll pick up in this Psalm with, yet, a few more comparisons...

Psalm 107

39 Again, they are minished and brought low through oppression, affliction, and sorrow.

As the structure of this Psalm (in the *Companion Bible*) shows, this verse (and the next) speak (again) of the judgment the Lord (YHWH) brings upon those who despise His Word (vs 18) and are, therefore, disobedient (rebellious) to Him. The word '**minished**' means *to pare off*, i.e. *lessen* and (intransitively) also means *to be* (or, *make*) *small or few*; and, (figuratively) it also means *to be ineffective* (#4591). And then the words '**brought low**' mean *to sink* or *depress* (#7817) while the word '**oppression**' means *closure* or *constraint* (#6115). And the word '**affliction**' means *bad* or (as noun) *evil* (natural or moral) (#7451). Lastly, the word '**sorrow**' means *affliction* (#3015). So, those who despise God's Word (the rebellious ones) will not be

allowed to be strong, and powerful, *forever*. The Lord (YHVH) promises they will be minished (lessened, and even made ineffective) *and* brought low (depressed) - through affliction (bad things) and sorrow (afflictions) - that will come upon them. So, what this ultimately means is that, while it might *appear* that the wicked ‘get away’ with their sins, they really do not! Our Heavenly Father sees it and, at the right time (and in the right way) He will ‘bring them down’. And, while we have *many* examples of this written throughout the Bible, (ex: Isa 2:12-22, 5:15-16, 10:33, Ps 106:43, Rev 18, etc.), Jesus summed it up rather well when He said: *For whosoever exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted* (Luke 14:11) ...

Psalms 107

40 He poureth contempt upon princes, and causeth them to wander in the wilderness, where there is no way.

This verse now explains *how* the Lord (YHVH) ‘minishes’ and ‘brings low’ those who despise His Word (Jesus Christ). The word ‘**poureth**’ here means *to spill forth* (blood, a libation, liquid metal; or even a solid, i.e. to mound up); but it also can mean (figuratively) *to expend* (life, soul, complaint, money, etc.) or even (intensively), *to sprawl out* (#8210). And the word ‘**contempt**’ here means *disrespect* (#937) while the word ‘**princes**’ actually means *voluntary*, i.e. *generous*; hence, *magnanimous*; and, as noun, it can also mean *a grandee* (sometimes *a tyrant*) (#5081). So, the first part of this verse is simply saying that our Heavenly Father will pour out (freely, as if to spill forth) contempt (disrespect) upon those who *make themselves* ‘princes’ (i.e. they make themselves as though they are ‘important people’, even rulers, which makes them as *tyrants*)! And this goes right along with the prior verse (39) where God promised to minish, and bring low, those who despise His Word. Truly, those who strive to ruler over others, not to help them (nor in obedience to God’s Word) *will be* brought low (humbled) through many afflictions; and God will also see to it that great contempt (disrespect) comes upon them. Again, there are *many* examples of this in the Bible (1 Cor 10:11).

One such example is that of David and the first man king of Israel, Saul. While Saul chased David for years (out of jealousy), he eventually was disgraced. For not only did his servants disrespect him (they knew he had an evil spirit in him) his body was disgraced, by the enemy, after his death (1 Sam 31:6-10). And, while David had been disgraced while Saul was alive (because of the many lies Saul kept telling about David), he was given *great* honor (and power and authority) when the tribe of Judah made him king over them (2 Sam 2). And, seven years later, God caused the rest of Israel to make David their king too (2 Sam 5). And, of course, we can also look at the suffering, and shame, that Jesus Christ endured at His First Advent (Phil 2:5-8). However, *God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name. That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father* (Phil 2:10-11).

And these are just two, of many, examples where God has already brought down (humbled and disgraced) those who despise Him (His Word) and raised up those who love and obey Him. So, our Heavenly Father *well knows* how to bring upon the wicked ones (those who despise His Word) great disgrace, yet this 40th verse also says that He ***causeth them to wander in the wilderness, where there is no way***. The word ‘wander’ here means *to vacillate*, i.e. *reel* or *stray* (literally or figuratively) (#8582). And then the word ‘wilderness’ actually means *a desolation* (of surface), i.e. *desert*; figuratively, *a worthless thing*; adverbially, *in vain* (#8414) and comes from an unused root that means *to lie waste*. And this same word was also used in Gen 1:2 (rendered as ‘without form’) when explaining how the Lord (YHVH) made the ‘earth that then was’ (2 Pt 3:6) a desolation, i.e. a worthless desert. And, as the study on the **3 World Ages** [<https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/488>] explains, He did so because He destroyed the *first* earth age (‘the world that then was’, 2 Pt 3:6) after Satan rebelled, and caused many of God’s children to follow in rebelling against our Creator! You can learn more about this in the study on **The Rebellion** [<https://t.me/BibleStudyTruth/1288>] and the study **In The Beginning, The World That Then Was** [<https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/496>].

But, the point to our study (here in Ps 107:40) is that our Heavenly Father can (does, and will) cause those who despise Him (His Word, i.e. Jesus Christ, John 1:1,14) to ‘wander’ in a ‘wilderness’ where there is no ‘way’, which means no *road* (#1870). Yet, the word ‘way’ (#1870) can also mean *a course of life, or mode of action*. So, this also tells us that those who despise God (and His Word) waver (stray from) God’s Word (which is ‘the way’ to eternal life, John 14:6). And (to reiterate) that’s why they eventually get disrespect poured out upon them. For, sooner or later, their wickedness will be revealed. *For there is nothing covered, that shall not be revealed; and hid, that shall not be known* (Matt 10:26) because *God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil* (Eccl 12:14). 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).

So, the wicked ones (who despise God’s Word and thus rebel against it) **will** be ‘brought down’ **and will** be despised. As it is written, concerning Satan himself: *Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit. They that see thee shall narrowly look upon thee, and consider thee, saying, Is this the man that made the earth to tremble, that did shake kingdoms; That made the world as a wilderness, and destroyed the cities thereof; that opened not the house of his prisoners?* (Isaiah 14:15-11). After Satan glorifies himself (as the word ‘princes’ in this Ps 107:40 speaks of), by claiming that he’s ‘God Almighty’ our Savior (2 Thess 2:4, Dan 7:8, Rev 13:5), he will indeed be brought very low when Jesus Christ returns, and has Satan *publicly* arrested *and* thrown into a pit, where he’ll say (in solitary confinement) for the rest of the Millennium (Rev 20:1-3), till he’s finally put to death (*spiritually*) in the ‘lake of fire’ (Rev 20:10). And this just goes to show that despising God’s Word (and thus, doing evil) truly does

not pay! So, while it might *seem like* the wicked ‘get ahead’ in life, they are truly only digging their own grave! Psalms 37 [https://t.me/BibleStudyBooks_Psalms/423] explains this point *incredibly* well, and that’s why this 40th verse (here in Ps 107) promises that, those who despise God’s Word *will be* terribly disgraced and *never* (short of sincere repentance) find *the* ‘way’ to *eternal* life. They’ll *continue* to ‘wander’ (stray) in the ‘wilderness’ (lies and confusion) for the rest of their wretched lives. As Jude 13 describes them, they are as *wandering stars, to whom is reserved the blackness of darkness for ever*. Of a truth, *there is no peace for the wicked* (Isa 48:22, 57:21).

Psalms 107

41 Yet setteth he the poor on high from affliction, and maketh him families like a flock.

Now we see the ‘comparison’ to the wicked, i.e. what happens to those who do not despise God’s Word, and love (and obey/serve) Him instead. So, instead of oppression, affliction, sorrow, contempt and wandering in the wilderness, the ‘poor’ will be set ‘on high’, meaning they’ll be lifted *out of* their afflictions. The word ‘**poor**’ here means *destitute* (#34) which means *needy* and *impoverished*. And the word ‘**high**’ means *to be* (or, *make*) *lofty*, especially *inaccessible*; and, by implication, it also means *safe* and *strong* (#7682). And the word ‘**affliction**’ means *depression*, i.e. *misery* (#6040). So, while those who don’t ‘sell out’ their faith in God (and Jesus Christ) might be poor (not wealthy in the physical sense) they *will* be lifted up out of their afflictions and set on high; which means not only will they be made safe and strong but also inaccessible to the wicked ones who want to oppress them (2 Thess 3:3). And this promise truly looks forward to the return of Jesus Christ (His Second Advent), for that’s when all the wicked ones will be deposed while all those who have remained *faithful* servants to Him will be rewarded; not only with *eternal* life but being allowed to rule (*forevermore*) with Jesus Christ. You can learn more about this in the special studies on **Point A To Point B** [<https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/489>] and **Your Labor Is Not In Vain** [<https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/502>]. And this verse also promises God will bless their ability to have children, so that they’ll have *many of them*. The term ‘like a flock’ is simply a figure of speech (apx 6) that means they’ll be able to have *many* children. And our Heavenly Father does consider children a blessing. As it is written...

3 Lo, children are an heritage of the LORD: and the fruit of the womb is his reward.

4 As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man; so are children of the youth.

5 Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them: they shall not be ashamed, but they shall speak with the enemies in the gate.

Ps 127:3-5

Of course, this doesn’t mean those who cannot have children cannot be blessed by God; but having children has always been considered a blessing from our Heavenly Father (Detu 28:4), not a ‘curse’ as many people think of it today. That is, after all, one of the blessings that our

Heavenly Father gave to Abraham, *even when he didn't have any children* (Gen 15:5, 17:2-8, 22:17-18)! After all, when we get old and frail, the people who *most often* care for us *the best* are our children. And that's why the Psalmist uses this figure of speech to explain how those who are 'poor' will be blessed IF they love, and obey, our Heavenly Father. So, the point is that our Heavenly Father is not a respecter of persons (Deut 1:17, Acts 10:34, Rom 2:11, 1 Pt 1:17, John 12:46-48, Col 3:24-25). For, *in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him* (Acts 10:35). As Paul pointed out: *whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men; Knowing that of the Lord ye **shall** receive the reward of the inheritance: **for ye serve the Lord Christ**. But he that doeth wrong **shall** receive for the wrong which he hath done: and there is no respect of persons* (Col 3:23-25).

Psalm 107

42 The righteous shall see it, and rejoice: and all iniquity shall stop her mouth.

Now, this verse is still connected to the thought of how the Lord (YHVH) will humble and depose the wicked (those who despise His Word, vs 39-40) while lifting up the poor (those who earnestly seek His Word, Ps 107:9) out of their afflictions. So, this means the righteous (the straight, or upright ones, #3477) will rejoice (be blithe and gleesome, #8055) when they see that happen! Now, the word '**iniquity**' means *moral evil* (#5766) and the word '**stop**' means *to draw together*, i.e. *close*; by implication, *to leap* (by *contracting* the limbs); specifically, to die (from gathering up the feet) (#7092). And the word '**mouth**' does mean *the mouth* (as the means of blowing) but specifically refers to *the speech* (#6310). So, to say that *all iniquity shall stop her mouth* simply means that the wicked ones won't have anything to boast about anymore. Or, as Ps 112:10 puts it, *the desire of the wicked shall perish*! So, what this boils down to is, when the Lord (YHVH) enforces His righteous judgment (particularly when Jesus Christ returns at His Second Advent), the lies of the wicked will be put to an end (i.e. forced to shut up). As 2 Thess 2:8 says, *then shall that Wicked be revealed, **whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming***! Rev 19:15 also tells us that, out of his mouth (speaking of Jesus Christ) goeth a sharp sword [Eph 6:17], *that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God*. And Isaiah sums up this comparison rather well...

*19 If ye be willing and obedient, ye **shall** eat the good of the land:*

*20 But if ye refuse and rebel, ye **shall be devoured with the sword**: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it.*

Isa 1:19-20

Yet, in Isa 25:8, the Lord (YHVH) is also very candid; for He promises that Jesus *will **swallow up death in victory**; and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from off all faces; **and the rebuke of his people shall he take away from off all the earth***: for the LORD hath spoken it. So, the

righteous judgment, and pure truth, that will come when Jesus Christ returns, **will** indeed *stop the mouth* (the iniquitous words, and actions) of the wicked. Paul quotes this verse, in Isaiah, in 1 Cor 15:54 when stating that: *when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, **then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.*** Moreover, this gives us insight into how the ‘earth’ helps the ‘woman’ in Rev 12:16 by ‘swallowing up’ the ‘flood’ (of lies) that the dragon (Satan) casts out of his mouth! Just as Job uses the figure of speech (*my words are swallowed up*) in Job 6:3, so too will the ‘earth’ (#1093, a region on earth) ‘swallow’ up the lies of Satan, that are likened to a flood of water (in Rev 12). Considering what Jesus Christ told us in Mth 10:18-20, Mk 13:9-11 and Lk 21:12-15 (that the Holy Spirit will speak through His servants, in the cloven tongue which all people everywhere can understand, in order to publicize the Gospel to the entire world before Jesus returns) we can see how the ‘earth’ will ‘swallow up’ the lies of the wicked *and why all iniquity shall stop her mouth*, when (and even shortly before) Jesus Christ returns (to execute judgment and righteousness in the earth), as this precious Psalm 107:42 says!

Psalm 107

43 Whoso is wise, and will observe these things, even they shall understand the lovingkindness of the LORD.

So, the Psalmist ends this beautiful Psalm (that has been speaking of the ‘Delivering, and healing, Living Word’) by pointing out that those who are ‘wise’ will understand the things written in this Psalm (i.e. the wicked will be punished and the righteous will be saved, and healed, by the Living Word, which is Jesus Christ; John 1;1,14, etc.). The word ‘**wise**’ here does mean *wise* but also *intelligent, skillful or artful* (#2450), and it comes from a word that mean *to be wise in mind, word or act* (#2449). And the word ‘**observe**’ here is an important Hebrew word to understand (one we’ve learned about previously in our studies in the Psalms). The Hebrew word is *shamar* (#8104), a primitive root that means *to hedge about (as with thorns)*, i.e. *guard*; generally, *to protect, attend to*, etc. It’s been rendered many ways, such as *beward, circumspect, take heed (to self), keep (-erself), mark, look narrowly, observe, preserve, regard, reserve, save (self), sure, (that lay) wait (for), watch (-man)*. So, it not only implies obedience to ‘these things’ (which the Psalmist has been teaching) but guarding them closely, especially in our own heart and mind (Ex 34:12, Deut 2:4, 23, 11:16, 12:30, 27:9-10, etc.) You can learn more about this in the study **Keep God’s Word** [<https://t.me/BibleStudyGodsWord/465>].

And then the word ‘**understand**’ means *to separate mentally* (or distinguish), i.e.(generally) *understand* (#995) and the word ‘**lovingkindness**’ means *kindness* (#2617) and is often rendered as *mercy*. And, of course, the word ‘**Lord**’ here is God’s sacred (and covenantal) name *Yehovah* [<https://t.me/BibleStudyTruth/946>] which means (the) *self-Existent* or *Eternal* (#3068). So, His name *reveals* that our Heavenly Father (Yehovah) is the *only* one who has *always* existed and *always* will, which is why He is *eternal* (Rev 1:8, 4:9, 11:17, 16:5, 22:13). So, this Psalm ends by

reminding us that those who are truly wise, will observe God's Word. As Ps 111:10 says, *the fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: a good understanding have all they that do his commandments: his praise endureth for ever.* So, those who 'observe' God's Word will, not only hear His Word, but also understand it and thus, will obey it wholeheartedly. Jesus gave us a really good parable, in Matt 7:21-27 [<https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/401>], to explain **how important** it is to hear, and obey, God's Word. But, in Matt 5:19, Jesus summed it up rather well: *Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called **great** in the kingdom of heaven.* And **why** will those who 'observe' (obey and guard) God's Word understand the loving-kindness of the Lord (YHVH)? Because they'll be on the 'receiving end' of His mercy when Jesus Christ returns! As it is written...

*8 But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.
9 Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.
10 For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, **we shall be saved by his life.***

Rom 5:8-10

*6 Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober.
7 For they that sleep sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night.
8 But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation. [Eph 6]
9 **For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ,**
1 Thess 5:6-9*

Therefore, God's 'Cup of Wrath' [<https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/418>] Is NOT for those who love, fear and serve Him! However, all those who are **not** wise, won't 'observe' (obey and guard) God's Word (which heals, and delivers us); and that's why they won't understand (see our experience) God's kindness, for they will be on the 'receiving end' of His wrath, as it is written...

*6 Seeing **it is a righteous thing with God to recompense tribulation to them that trouble you;**
7 And to you who are troubled **rest with us,** when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, [Isa 24:17-23; Matt 13:40-42, 47-50, Matt 24:29-31, 25:31-46; Mark 13:24-27; Rev 20:1-5]
8 **In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ:**
9 **Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power;***

*10 When he shall come to be glorified in his saints, and to be admired in all **them that believe** (because our testimony among you was believed) **in that day**.*

2 Thess 1:6-10

So, this beautiful Psalm has done an excellent example of explaining that God's Word (Jesus Christ) brings us *everlasting* life (John 3:16, 6:63, 17:3, etc.) and that's *why* God's Word is *what* delivers (saves) and heals us (even spiritually). For, if we learn God's Word, *and obey it wholeheartedly*, we'll not only be healed (spiritually) but we'll be delivered from the wrath of God [<https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/418>], when Jesus Christ returns to depose the wicked of the earth. So, all these examples (in this Psalm 107) lead us to *a profound conclusion*: that the Lord *deserves* our sincere praise and worship; and His faithful (and consistent) love, grace, mercy and righteousness, ought to be *forever* in the minds of His children. Moreover, let us not forget that: just as our Heavenly Father has the ability to change a dessert into a flourishing place, *and* to calm the stormy winds, and waves, of the sea... so too is our Heavenly Father (via the healing power of the Living Word) able to help us put off our 'old man', *which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts* (Eph 2:22), so we no longer want to *serve sin any longer* (Rom 6:6). And how does He do this? By *renewing in the spirit of our mind* (Eph 4:23) ***as we study His Word sincerely, and consistently***, (Col 3:10); for the Holy Spirit **will** help us put on the 'new man', *which is created in righteousness and true holiness* (Eph 4:24) **if** we 'continue' to (#3306) 'abide' in Him (John 8:31-32, 15), which means continue to earnestly study His Word *and* strive to obey Him, *from the heart* ...

*16 For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, **yet the inward man is renewed day by day**.*

17 For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory:

*18 While we **look not at the things which are seen**, but **at the things which are not seen**: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal.*

2 Cor 4:16-18

*1 If ye then be risen with Christ (Rom 6), **seek those things which are above**, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.*

*2 **Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth**.*

3 For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.

*4 When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, **then shall ye also appear with him in glory**.*

5 Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth: fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry:

6 For which things' sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience:

7 In the which ye also walked some time, when ye lived in them.

8 But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth.

9 Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have **put off the old man with his deeds**;

10 And **have put on the new man**, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him:

Col 3:1-10

AMEN.