THE CHRISTIAN'S THANKSGIVING

Psalm 107:1-43.

LESSON 47 -- Primary Course

MEMORY VERSE: "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above" (James 1:17).

BIBLE TEXT

Psalm 107:1-43

- 1 O give thanks unto the LORD, for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever.
- 2 Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, whom he hath redeemed from the hand of the enemy;
- 3 And gathered them out of the lands, from the east, and from the west, from the north, and from the south.
- 4 They wandered in the wilderness in a solitary way; they found no city to dwell in.
- 5 Hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted in them.
- 6 Then they cried unto the LORD in their trouble, and he delivered them out of their distresses.

- 7 And he led them forth by the right way, that they might go to a city of habitation.
- 8 Oh that men would praise the LORD for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men!
- 9 For he satisfieth the longing soul, and filleth the hungry soul with goodness.
- 10 Such as sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, being bound in affliction and iron;
- 11 Because they rebelled against the words of God, and contemned the counsel of the most High:
- 12 Therefore he brought down their heart with labour; they fell down, and there was none to help.

13 Then they cried unto the LORD in their trouble, and he saved them out of their distresses.

14 He brought them out of darkness and the shadow of death, and brake their bands in sunder.

15 Oh that men would praise the LORD for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men!

16 For he hath broken the gates of brass, and cut the bars of iron in sunder.

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

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

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

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

21 Oh that men would praise the LORD for his goodness,

and for his wonderful works to the children of men!

22 And let them sacrifice the sacrifices of thanksgiving, and declare his works with rejoicing.

23 They that go down to the sea in ships, that do business in great waters;

24 These see the works of the LORD, and his wonders in the deep.

25 For he commandeth, and raiseth the stormy wind, which lifteth up the waves thereof.

26 They mount up to the heaven, they go down again to the depths: their soul is melted because of trouble.

27 They reel to and fro, and stagger like a drunken man, and are at their wits' end.

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

29 He maketh the storm a calm, so that the waves thereof are still.

30 Then are they glad because they be quiet; so he

bringeth them unto their desired haven.

31 Oh that men would praise the LORD for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men!

32 Let them exalt him also in the congregation of the people, and praise him in the assembly of the elders.

33 He turneth rivers into a wilderness, and the watersprings into dry ground;

34 A fruitful land into barrenness, for the wickedness of them that dwell therein.

35 He turneth the wilderness into a standing water, and dry ground into watersprings.

36 And there he maketh the hungry to dwell, that they may prepare a city for habitation:

37 And sow the fields, and plant vineyards, which may yield fruits of increase.

38 He blesseth them also, so that they are multiplied greatly; and suffereth not their cattle to decrease.

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

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

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

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

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

NOTES

Giving Thanks

God expects us to be thankful to Him for all His blessings. If we have thanks in our hearts we also have love. God wants us to love

Him, for He loved us so much that he sent Jesus to die for us and take away our sins. How thankful we should be to Jesus for the awful suffering He went through for us! He did it to keep us from suffering. We should never forget to thank Him with all our hearts for His goodness and love.

Thanks unto the Lord

Sometimes we remember to thank our parents and our friends for kind things they do for us, but perhaps we forget that every good thing we have comes from God. Unless He gave them to us we should not have them. He gives us the sunshine and the rain, which makes things grow, and He gives us food. He gives us the air we breathe. He gives us health, or heals us if we are sick. He gives us parents to love and care for us. He gives us kind friends to be with us and help to make us happy.

The Best Gift

Most of all, and best of all, He gave us Jesus to take away our sins and to show us how to live so that we may make Heaven our Home forever and ever. Heaven is a beautiful place – no sickness there, no sorrow, no dying. Jesus tells us that He has gone to prepare a place for us, and where He is we may be with Him always.

Jesus takes good care of us while we are here on earth and love Him and do the things he tells us to do. We should always remember to thank Him.

Learning to Pray

A group of children who had never learned to pray were told by a teacher that they should talk to God as they would talk to a kind father. They should tell God what they wanted just as they would tell their own loving father. The children did that for two days. Then the teacher said that they would do it for one more day. But a little girl who had never learned to pray but had learned to say

"Thank you" to her parents and others, said, "We asked God for something, and I think it would be nice to say 'Thank you' to God." That little girl was right; too often we forget to say, "Thank you, God, for all the things You give us." We should thank Him for Jesus, for His death on the Cross, for the Bible, for our church, for our Sunday School, for Christian parents, for His love, for His care of us, and for every other good thing He has given us.

Unthankfulness

In the Bible we read that one day as Jesus entered into a village, He was met by ten men who were sick with leprosy. When they saw Jesus, they asked Him to have mercy upon them. Jesus told them to go show themselves to the priests; and as they obeyed Jesus' command, they were healed. However, only one of the ten men came back to Jesus and fell down at His feet and thanked Him for this healing. Jesus then said, "Were there not ten cleansed? but where are the nine?" Wouldn't you think that all ten should have come back to thank Jesus?

From the East and from the West

We are to be thankful to God that He loves all people — people who live in the North, the South, the East, the West. The colour of their skin or the country from which they come makes no difference to God. He wants them to ask Him to forgive their sins and make them His children.

There is a beautiful picture of Jesus with children of many countries. He is holding one in His arms, but He loves them all. And Jesus wants to forgive their sins and have them live with Him in His Home in His beautiful Heaven.

God does everything just right, and we must never forget to thank Him, to love Him, and to do what He tell us to do. "Jesus loves the little children,
All the children of the world;
Read and yellow, black and white,
They are precious in His sight;
Jesus loves the little children of the world."

QUESTIONS

- Does Jesus help people who are in trouble?
 Psalm 107:13; Psalm 50:15.
- 2. Does Jesus want us to praise Him in Church? Psalm 107:32.
- 3. Does God remember the poor? Psalm 107:41.
- 4. How many daily blessings can you name which we receive from the Lord?
- 5. Does Jesus want us to be thankful for all things? Ephesians 5:20.

LESSON RESOURCES

TITLE

THE CHRISTIAN'S THANKSGIVING

Lesson 47

Psalm 107:1-43

A Child's Thanksgiving

WATCH AND PRAY 37

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A Child's Thanksgiving

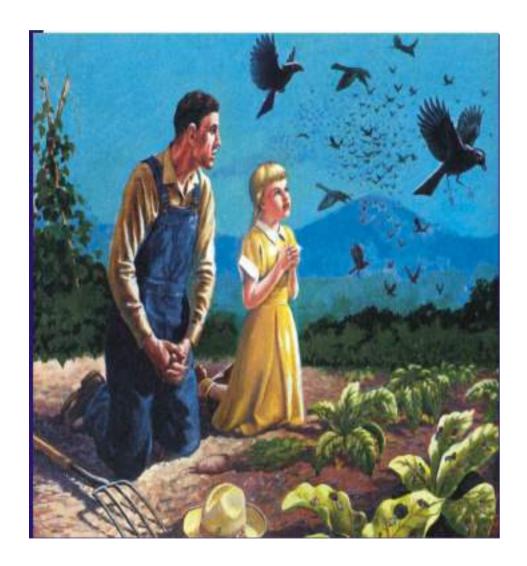
We sing the praise of God above

For all His goodness and His love

He sends all good things unto us

He feeds and clothes and houses us

PICTURE 1



PICTURE 2

