

"GOD'S WONDERFUL WORKS"**Introduction**

1. A most interesting Psalm
2. Teaches us
 - (i) how to look at life
 - (ii) praise God
3. Various sections or "windows on life"

1. THERE ARE, I THINK, FIVE DIFFERENT PICTURES HERE:

- 1) (i) v.1-9
(ii) v.10-16
(iii) v.16-22
(iv) v.23-32
(v) v.33-41
Then v.42-43: an Appendix
- 2) They are inspired insights into man's life in this world and, more still, God's dealings in it
- 3) Let me summarise them:
 - (i) v.1-9: a people lost + hungry in the desert – they pray to God – God gives them a city where they can live in happily
 - (ii) v.10-16: men who sit in darkness because they have rebelled against God – they pray to God – God delivers them from their misery [drink, perhaps, or crime]
 - (iii) v.17-22: fools, who ruin their lives by folly – they pray to God – God delivers them from their misery [drink, perhaps, or drugs]
 - (iv) v.23-32: those at sea in a storm – are at their wits' end – they cry to God and He delivers them and brings them safely home to their desired haven
 - (v) v.33-41: the way in which God alters the condition of people and countries – sometimes fruitful, sometimes barren. Also, God does not regard princes but God does regard His poor people.

2. THERE ARE OBVIOUS LESSONS HERE

- 1) When people and nations sin against God, He will send misery on them – to bring them to their senses:
ILLUSTRATION: "I had been undone if I had not been undone". said Augustine. (Explain)
OBSERVE: People despise God at their peril.
- 2) God has endless ways of bringing men to an end of themselves (loneliness / imprisonment / illness / shipwreck / hunger).
APPLICATION: It is madness to rebel against God.
- 3) No matter how low down men get, if they cry out to God he will hear them: See v.6; 13, 19, 28*. It is all the same message: "In trouble, pray to God."
- 4) Real prayer is more than words – perhaps we would pray better if we had more trials – at any rate, God sends us trials to teach us to pray.
APPLICATION: O that we might learn to pray!
- 5) When God delivers us, we must never forget to thank Him. This is a prime lesson: v.8, 15, 21, etc.

CONCLUSION

"Three things make a minister." What about the state of your soul? Does it trouble you? TEXT: "Whoso is wise". Are you?

PSALM**107: 1 – 8****107: 17 – 22****107: 29 – 32**