BIBLE STUDY

3/21/13

Psalm 107

Oh give thanks to YAHWEH, for He is good,
For His **lovingkindness** (hesed) is everlasting.
**2**Let the **redeemed** of YAHWEH say *so*,
Whom He has **redeemed** from the hand of the adversary
**3**And gathered from the lands,
From the east and from the west,
From the north and from the south.

How does God’s lovingkindness relate to His redemption in this Psalm?

**4**They wandered in the wilderness in a desert region;
They did not find a way to an inhabited city.
**5***They were* hungry and thirsty;
Their soul fainted within them.
**6**Then they cried out to YAHWEH in their trouble;
He delivered them out of their distresses.
**7**He led them also by a straight way,
To go to an inhabited city.
**8**Let them give thanks to YAHWEH for His lovingkindness (hesed),
And for His wonders to the sons of men!
**9**For He has satisfied the thirsty soul,
And the hungry soul He has filled with what is good.

**10**There were those who dwelt in darkness and in the shadow of death,
Prisoners in misery and chains,
**11**Because they had rebelled against the words of God
And spurned the counsel of the Most High.
**12**Therefore He humbled their heart with labor;
They stumbled and there was none to help.
**13**Then they cried out to YAHWEH in their trouble;
He saved them out of their distresses.
**14**He brought them out of darkness and the shadow of death
And broke their bands apart.
**15**Let them give thanks to YAHWEH for His lovingkindness (hesed),
And for His wonders to the sons of men!
**16**For He has shattered gates of bronze
And cut bars of iron asunder.

**17**Fools, because of their rebellious way,
And because of their iniquities, were afflicted.
**18**Their soul abhorred all kinds of food,
And they drew near to the gates of death.
**19**Then they cried out to YAHWEH in their trouble;
He saved them out of their distresses.
**20**He sent His word and healed them,
And delivered *them* from their destructions.
**21**Let them give thanks to YAHWEH for His lovingkindness (hesed),
And for His wonders to the sons of men!
**22**Let them also offer sacrifices of thanksgiving,
And tell of His works with joyful singing.

**23**Those who go down to the sea in ships,
Who do business on great waters;
**24**They have seen the works of YAHWEH ,
And His wonders in the deep.
**25**For He spoke and raised up a stormy wind,
Which lifted up the waves of the sea.
**26**They rose up to the heavens, they went down to the depths;
Their soul melted away in *their* misery.
**27**They reeled and staggered like a drunken man,
And were at their wits’ end.
**28**Then they cried to YAHWEH in their trouble,
And He brought them out of their distresses.
**29**He caused the storm to be still,
So that the waves of the sea were hushed.
**30**Then they were glad because they were quiet,
So He guided them to their desired haven.
**31**Let them give thanks to YAHWEH for His lovingkindness (hesed),
And for His wonders to the sons of men!
**32**Let them extol Him also in the congregation of the people,
And praise Him at the seat of the elders.

**…43**Who is wise? Let him give heed to these things,
And consider the lovingkindnesses (hesed) ofYAHWEH.

Directions: Choose a different color for each of the following:

* Historical situation
* Plea
* God’s response
* How man should respond

Reason for thanksgiving (only in columns 2 and 3)

Ruth 1-3

Ruth 1:1 Now it came about in the days when the judges judged, that there was a famine in the land. And a certain man of Bethlehem in Judah went to sojourn in the land of Moab with his wife and his two sons.

Ruth 1:2b and the name of his wife, Naomi; and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion, Ephrathites of Bethlehem in Judah.

Ruth 1:16-18 But Ruth said, “Do not urge me to leave you or turn back from following you; for where you go, I will go, and where you lodge, I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God, my God. Where you die, I will die, and there I will be buried. Thus may Yahweh do to me, and worse, if anything but death parts you and me.”

Ruth 1:20-21 “Do not call me Naomi; call me Mara, for the Almighty (Shaddai) has dealt very bitterly with me, I went out full, but Yahweh has brought me back empty. Why do you call me Naomi, since Yahweh has witnessed against me and the Almighty (Shaddai) has afflicted me?”

Ruth 2: 4 Boaz said to the reapers, “May Yahweh be with you.” And they said to him, “May Yahweh bless you.”

Ruth 1:22 So Naomi returned, and with her Ruth the Moabitess…from the land of Moab. 2:9 Boaz says to Ruth, When you are thirsty, go to the water jars and drink from what the servants draw [from the well].

Ruth 3:7 When Boaz had eaten and drunk and his heart was merry, he went to lie down…and Ruth came secretly, and uncovered his feet and lay down.

Genesis

Genesis 12:3 [Yahweh said to Abram] And I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse. And in you all the families of the earth will be blessed.

Genesis 35:11God also said to Jacob, “I am God Almighty (El Shaddai);
Be fruitful and multiply;
A nation and a company of nations shall come from you,
And kings shall come forth from you.

Genesis 29:1-2, 10 Then Jacob went on his journey… He looked and saw a well in the field. …When Jacob saw Rachel the daughter of Laban his mother’s brother, and the sheep of Laban his mother’s brother, Jacob went up and rolled the stone from the mouth of the well and watered the flock of Laban his mother’s brother.

Genesis 19:33 So [the daughters of Lot] made their father drink wine that night, and the firstborn went in and lay with her father…

Genesis 12:10 Now there was a famine in the land; so Abram went down to Egypt to sojourn there, for the famine was severe in the land.

Genesis 12:1 Now Yahweh said to Abram, “Go forth from your country, and from your relatives and from your father’s house, to the land which I will show you.

Genesis 35:19 So Rachel died and was buried on the way to Ephrath (that is, Bethlehem).

Sarah

Gen. 11:30 Sarai was barren; she had no child. 21:1-2 Then Yahweh took note of Sarah as He had said, and Yahweh did for Sarah as He had spoken. So Sarah conceived and bore a son to Abraham in his old age, at the appointed time of which God had spoken to him. Abraham called the name of his son who was born to him, whom Sarah bore to him, Isaac.

Rebeccah

Gen. 25:21 Isaac prayed to Yahweh on behalf of his wife, because she was barren; and Yahweh answered him and Rebekah his wife conceived…When her days to be delivered were fulfilled, behold, there were twins in her womb. And they called his name…

Leah

Gen. 29:31 Now Yahweh saw that Leah was unloved, and He opened her womb…Leah conceived and bore a son and called him Reuben, for she said, “Because Yahweh has seen my affliction…

Rachel

Gen. 29:31 Rachel was barren. 30:22 Then God remembered Rachel, and God gave heed to her and opened her womb. So she conceived and bore a son and said, “God has taken away my reproach. So she named him Joseph.

Ruth

Ruth 1:4 They took for themselves Moabite women as wives…And they lived there about ten years. 4:13 So Boaz took Ruth, and she became his wife, and he went in to her. And Yahweh gave her conception to conceive, and she gave birth to a son…The neighbor women called him a name…so they named him Obed.

Hannah

1 Sam. 1:1 Now there was a certain man from Ramathaim-zophim from the hill country of Ephraim, and his name was Elkanah…He had two wives: the name of the one was Hannah and the name of the other Peninnah; and Peninnah had children, but Hannah had no children….19 And Elkanah had relations with Hannah his wife, and Yahweh remembered her. It came about in due time, after Hannah had conceived, that she gave birth to a son and she named him Samuel, saying, “Because I have asked him of Yahweh.”

Elizabeth

Luke 1:5 In the days of Herod, there was a priest named Zacharias and he had a wife from the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth…. But they had no child, because Elizabeth was barren…13 The angel said to him, “Do not be afraid, Zacharias, for …your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will give him the name John…18 Zacharias said to the angel, “how will I know this for certain? For I am an old man and my wife is advanced in years.” The angel of the Lord said to him, “I am Gabriel…and I have been sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. And behold, you shall be silent and unable to speak until the day when these things take place, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their proper time.”24 After these days Elizabeth his wife became pregnant. Now the time had come for Elizabeth to give birth, and she gave birth to a son…His mother said, his name shall be John.

Mary

Luke 1:26 Now in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to…Joseph, of the descendants of David; and the virgin’s name was Mary. 30 The angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary; for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name Him Jesus…and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David; and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and His kingdom will have no end.” Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I am a virgin?

…2:6 While they were in Bethlehem, the days were completed for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son…

Ruth 4

1 Now Boaz had gone up to the **gate [of the city]** and sat down there. And behold, the redeemer, of whom Boaz had spoken, came by. So Boaz said, **“Turn aside**, so and so; sit down here.” And he turned aside and sat down. 2 And he took ten men of the elders of the city and said, “Sit down here.” So they sat down. 3 Then he said to the redeemer, “Naomi, who has come back from the country of Moab, is selling the **parcel (chalaq) of land (sadeh)**  that belonged to our relative Elimelech. 4 So I thought I would tell you of it and say, ‘Buy it in the presence of those sitting here and in the presence of the elders of my people.’ If you will redeem it, redeem it. But if you will not, tell me, that I may know, for there is no one besides you to redeem it, and I come after you.” And he said, “I will redeem it.” 5 Then Boaz said, “The day you buy the field from the hand of Naomi, you also acquire Ruth the Moabite, the widow of the dead, in order to perpetuate the name of the dead in his inheritance.” 6 Then the redeemer said, “I cannot redeem it for myself, lest I impair my own inheritance. Take my right of redemption yourself, for I cannot redeem it.”  7 Now this was the custom in former times in Israel concerning redeeming and exchanging: to confirm a transaction, the one drew off his sandal and gave it to the other, and this was the manner of attesting in Israel. 8 So when the redeemer said to Boaz, “Buy it for yourself,” he drew off his sandal. 9 Then Boaz said to the elders and all the people, “You are witnesses this day that I have bought from the hand of Naomi all that belonged to Elimelech and all that belonged to Chilion and to Mahlon.

Genesis

(1) Genesis 29-30 The births of the children of **Leah and Rachel**

(2) **Now these are the generations of** Adam, …Noah, …Shem, …Terah (Gen. 5 and 11).

 (3) Abraham comes to the **gate of the city** (of the Hethites) to purchase **land (sadeh)** as a burial plot for Sarah (Gen. 23.

(4) Genesis 38 The story of the levirate marriage between **Judah** and **Tamar**, and the birth of **Perez**.

(5) Lot, at the **gate** (of Sodom), says to the two men/angels, “**Turn aside**” (Gen. 19:1-2).

(6) When the **LORD** saw that Leah was not loved, he opened her womb…and she **conceived**…**and she bore a son**

(7)(Gen. 29:31-35).

He **called (qara) his name (shem)** Noah (Gen. 5:29).

(8) Jacob, at the city of Shechem, buys a **parcel (chalaq) of land (sadeh)** (Gen. 33:19)

10 Also Ruth the Moabite, the widow of Mahlon, I have bought to be my wife, to perpetuate the name of the dead in his inheritance, that the name of the dead may not be cut off from among his brothers and from the gate of his native place. You are witnesses this day.” 11 Then all the people who were at the gate and the elders said, “We are witnesses. May the LORD make the woman, who is coming into your house, like **Rachel and Leah,** who together built up the house of Israel. May you act worthily in Ephrathah and be renowned in Bethlehem, 12 and may your house be like the house of **Perez,** whom **Tamar** bore to **Judah**, because of the offspring that the LORD will give you by this young woman.”  13 So Boaz took Ruth, and she became his wife. And he went in to her, and **the LORD gave her conception, and she bore a son.** 14 Then the women said to Naomi, “Blessed be the LORD, who has not left you this day without a redeemer, and may his name be renowned in Israel! 15 He shall be to you a restorer of life and a nourisher of your old age, for your daughter-in-law who loves you, who is more to you than seven sons, has given birth to him.” 16 Then Naomi took the child and laid him on her lap and became his nurse. 17 And the women of the neighborhood gave him a name (**called /qara his name/shem**), saying, “A son has been born to Naomi.” They named him Obed. He was the father of Jesse, the father of David. 18 **Now these are the generations of** Perez: Perez fathered Hezron, 19 Hezron fathered Ram, Ram fathered Amminadab, 20 Amminadab fathered Nahshon, Nahshon fathered Salmon, 21 Salmon fathered Boaz, Boaz fathered Obed, 22 Obed fathered Jesse, and Jesse fathered David.

Deuteronomy 25:5-10

5 When brothers live together and one of them dies and has no son, the wife of the deceased shall not be married outside the family to a strange man. Her husband’s brother shall go in to her and take her to himself as wife and perform the duty of a husband’s brother to her.

6 It shall be that the firstborn whom she bears shall assume the name of his dead brother, so that his name will not be blotted out from Israel.

7 But if the man does not desire to take his brother’s wife, then his brother’s wife shall go up to the gate to the elders and say, “My husband’s brother refuses to establish a name for his brother in Israel; he is not willing to perform the duty of a husband’s brother to me.” 8 Then the elders of his city shall summon him and speak to him. And if he persists and says, “I do not desire to take her,

9 then his brother’s wife shall come to him in the sight of the elders, and pull his sandal off his foot and spit in his face; and she shall declare, “Thus it is done to the man who does not build up his brother’s house.” 10 In Israel his name shall be called, “The house of him whose sandal is removed.”

Genesis 38:6-11

6 Now Judah took a wife for Er his firstborn, and her name was Tamar.

7 But Er, Judah’s firstborn, was evil in the sight of Yahweh, so Yahweh took his life. 8 Then Judah said to Onan, “Go in to your brother’s wife, and perform your duty as a brother-in-law to her, and raise up seed for your brother.” 9 Onan knew that the seed would not be his; so when he went in to his brother’s wife, he spilled his seed on the ground in order not to give seed to his brother. 10 But what he did was displeasing in the sight of Yahweh; so He took his life also. 11 Then Judah said to his daughter-in-law Tamar, “Remain a widow in your father’s house until my son Shelah grows up”; for he thought, “I am afraid that he too may die like his brothers” So Tamar went and lived in her father’s house.

Ruth 4:1-8

1 Now Boaz went up to the gate and sat down there, and behold, the close relative of whom Boaz spoke was passing by, so he said, “Turn aside, so and so.” And he turned aside and sat down. 2 Boaz took ten men of the elders of the city and said, “Sit down here.” 3 Then he said to the closest relative, “Naomi, who has come back from the land of Moab, has to sell the piece of land which belonged to our brother Elimelech. 4 So I thought to inform you, Buy it before those who are sitting here, and before the elders. If you will redeem it, redeem it; but if not, tell me…I am after you.’” And he said, “I will redeem it.” 5 Then Boaz said, “On the day you buy the field from the hand of Naomi, you must also acquire Ruth the Moabitess, the widow of the deceased, in order to raise up the name of the deceased on his inheritance.” 6 The closest relative said, “I cannot redeem it for myself, because I would jeopardize my own inheritance. Redeem it for yourself; you may have my right of redemption for I cannot redeem it.” 7 Now this was the custom in former times in Israel concerning the redemption and the exchange of land to confirm any matter: a man removed his sandal and gave it to another; and this was the manner of attestation in Israel. 8 So the closest relative said to Boaz, “Buy it for yourself.” And he removed his sandal.

Ruth is the story of two people—Ruth and Boaz—living during the deplorable time of the Judges, and Ruth and Boaz display God’s hesed to neighbor/brother and foreigner alike, bringing about the justice Yahweh calls for in Israel—justice commanded in the holiness code, which is central to the Law.