

# Elements Class: Psalm 107

Choir Room: Sunday, July 24th 10:45am

God's Commitment to the Lost Sheep



**This Psalm describes:**

**The extent to  
which God will go  
to *replenish*, to *rescue*,  
to *restore* and to *revive*  
his redeemed.**



**This Psalm illustrates in detail the parable  
of the lost sheep found in Luke 15:4-6**



What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it? And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.'

**Luke 15:4-6**

**Verse 1 gives us the  
*intended purpose* of the Psalm:**

**Oh *give thanks* to the LORD,  
for he is good, *for his steadfast  
love endures forever!***

**Verse 2-3 gives us the  
*intended audience of the Psalm:***

***Let the redeemed of the LORD say so,  
whom he has redeemed from trouble  
and gathered in from the lands, from  
the east and from the west, from the  
north and from the south.***

**The Psalm therefore will:**

**(1) Remind the redeemed  
why they should give thanks  
to the Lord (*for his steadfast,  
enduring love*)**

**The Psalm therefore will:**

**(2) Reveal to the redeemed  
how God's never-ending love  
has reached them.**



**This Psalm is about:**

**The eternal securing love of God  
for those who are saved.  
(Among his already redeemed)**

**This Psalm is not about:**

**The extent of God's very great,  
saving love for the lost.  
(Those not yet redeemed)**

**This Psalm describes:**

**Four types of children of  
God who are *struggling* in  
various *situations*.**

**This Psalm is meant to:**

**Encourage all types of  
believers *regardless* of their  
*struggle* or *situation*  
that God's enduring love  
will find them.**

**Let's examine these  
four types of struggling  
children of God.**



*Keep in mind that in each situation  
the people being described are  
believers. Albeit stumbling,  
struggling and sinning; they are  
among the redeemed.*

# Group 1

## The Wandering & Worldly

(v3-9)



Some **wandered** in desert wastes,  
**finding** no way to a city to dwell in;  
**hungry** and **thirsty**, their soul fainted  
within them. Then they cried to the LORD  
in their **trouble**, and he delivered them  
from their **distress**. (4-6)

**The first group** are those who have a deep spiritual longing in their heart but try to fill it through the world's system.

They search & search with no real results... and during their search they find themselves in desolation, trouble & distress.

Their search for significance and satisfaction came in the form of seeking earthly cities and trying to find lasting pleasure apart from God... and what it resulted in was desert wastelands & unfulfilled longings.



**The first group ‘cried to the LORD in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress.’ (v6)**



**God responded:**

He led them by a straight way till they  
reached a city to dwell in... **he satisfies  
the longing soul, and the hungry soul he  
fills with good things.**

**(7-9)**

God replenished the  
wandering & worldly:  
*(to fill up again)*

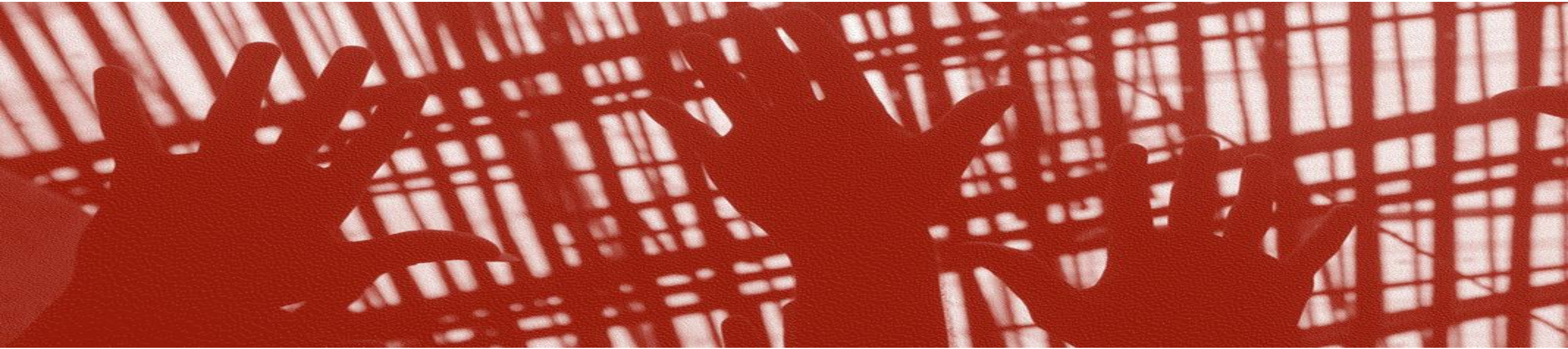
He satisfies the longing soul.  
He fills the hungry soul with good things.



# **Group 2**

## **The Disobedient & Detained**

**(v10-16)**



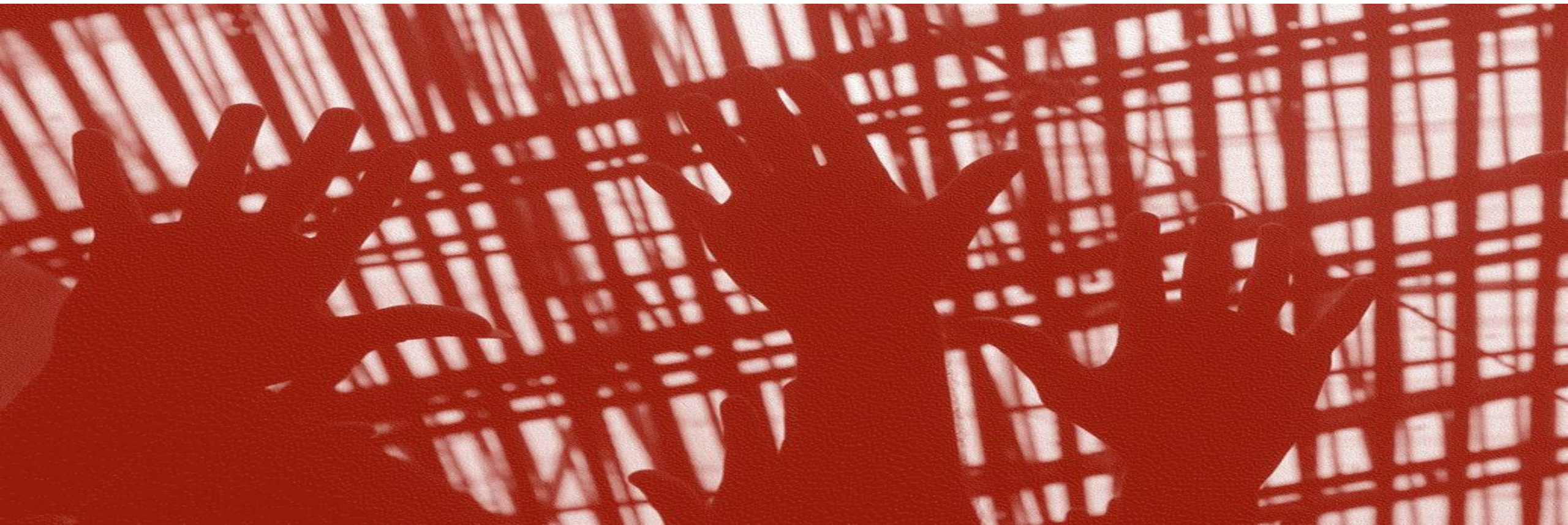
Some sat in darkness and in the shadow of death, **prisoners in affliction** and in irons, for they had **rebelled against the words of God**, and spurned the counsel of the Most High. So he bowed their hearts down with hard labor; they fell down, with none to help.(10-12)



**The second group** are those who have disregarded & disobeyed the instruction of God and as a result they have found themselves in prison, hard labor and even near death.

Their search for significance and satisfaction came in the form of disobedience and trying to find lasting pleasure apart from God... and what it resulted in was imprisonment & punishment.

**The second group ‘cried to the LORD in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress.’ (v13)**



**God responded:**

He brought them out of darkness and the shadow of death, and burst their bonds apart... **he shatters the doors of bronze** and cuts in two the bars of iron. (14-16)

**God rescued the  
disobedient & detained:  
*(to save from danger)***

He brought them out of darkness/death.

He burst their shackles open.

He shattered the doors & bars.



# Group 3

## The Sinful & Sick

(v17-22)



Some were fools through their **sinful ways**, and **because of their iniquities suffered affliction**; they loathed any kind of food, and they drew near to the gates of death. (17-18)

**The third group** are those who have deliberately sinned and gone against what is right. Because of their sinfulness great illness and affliction has come upon them.

Their search for significance and satisfaction came in the form of sinful lusts and trying to find lasting pleasure apart from God... and like the prodigal son, what it resulted in was illness, misfortune and the brink of death.

**The third group ‘cried to the LORD in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress.’ (v19)**



**God responded:**

He sent out his word and healed them,  
and delivered them from their  
destruction... **let them offer sacrifices of  
thanksgiving, and tell of his deeds in  
songs of joy! (20-22)**

God restored the  
sinful & sick:  
*(to return to a former position)*

He healed them.  
He delivered them from destruction.  
He let them offer sacrifices & sing songs  
of praise once again.



# Group 4

# The Corporate & Cunning

(v22-32)



Some went down to the sea in ships, **doing business** on the great waters; They mounted up to heaven; they went down to the depths; their courage melted away in **their evil plight**; they reeled and staggered like drunken men and were at their wits' end. (23, 26-27)

**The fourth group** are those who like Jonah have ignored the mission of God (to redeem the lost) and instead took on their own business and attempts to be great. In their evil (self-center) schemes they found their plans smashed.

Their search for significance and satisfaction came in the form of great business ventures and trying to find lasting pleasure apart from God... and what it resulted in was wicked schemes, calamity and the brink of total loss.

**The fourth group ‘cried to the LORD in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress.’ (v28)**



# **God responded:**

He made the storm be still,

and the waves of the sea were hushed. Then they were glad that the waters were quiet and he brought them to their desired haven.

**Let them extol him in the congregation of the people, and praise him in the assembly of the elders. (29-20)**

God revived the  
corporate & cunning:  
*(to regain life and strength)*

He calmed the storms.

He brought them to safety.

He let them partake in ministry again.



# SUMMARY



# APPLY NOW

1. *Even as redeemed children of God, we are all prone to wander. We must be very aware of this propensity.*

 **APPLY NOW**

***Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,  
prone to leave the God I love***



# APPLY NOW

2. *Struggling to obey, slipping into sin & wandering off the path does not make someone unredeemed or change God's commitment.*

 **APPLY NOW**

Not all who wander are lost.

J.R.R. Tolkien

 **APPLY NOW**

*3. We must understand that our soul's longing will never be satisfied outside of God. No amount of wandering will ever pay off & will always lead to pain & misery.*



 **APPLY NOW**



**“Our hearts are restless  
until they rest in You.”  
-Augustine**

 **APPLY NOW**

*4. We must cry out to God to rescue us from sin & unbelief and restore us to fellowship. We must ask him to replenish our joy and revive our passion.*

 **APPLY NOW**



**PSALMS 51:10**

**"Create in me a pure heart  
O God, and renew a steadfast  
spirit within me."**

# APPLY NOW

5. *We must be confident that God will always go looking for his wandering redeemed and he is eternally faithful to them, even when they are unfaithful.*



# APPLY NOW

neither HEIGHT  
nor DEPTH,  
nor ANYTHING else  
in all CREATION,

will be ABLE to SEPARATE  
us from the LOVE  
of GOD that is in  
Christ Jesus our LORD.

*Romans 8:39*