

Do You Need a Miracle?

Dr. Sheila Hamlin

Written Words Publishing LLC
14189 E Dickinson Drive, Unit F
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www.writtenwordspublishing.com

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*Dedicated to my Lord Jesus,
my husband, and my daughters.*

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CHAPTER 1

A LOVING DAD

*“Behold, I am the LORD, the God of all flesh:
is there any thing too hard for me?”*
(Jeremiah 32:27)

So, is your back against the wall? Are you in desperate need of a miracle? Did you pick up this book as a last-ditch grasp of hope? Have you tried all your relatives and friends and finally—with nowhere else to turn—you have turned to God? Well, welcome! The Father greets you with open arms. You have come to the right place!

What?... Are you still standing at the threshold, afraid to come close? I understand. Truly, I do. You are looking at yourself, your flaws, mistakes, your laziness, or even sin. That focus can keep you from coming closer to get help from a Holy God. That’s absolutely true, but just for a moment think of God as a loving Father, a parent.

Do you have children? Or are you the child of a loving parent? Stop and remember the last time your child was in trouble. NOTHING ELSE IN THE WORLD MATTERS WHEN YOUR CHILD IS IN TROUBLE! I heard a minister tell the story of her son being bullied by a neighboring kid. This son also had a chart on his bedroom door of the chores he needed to complete each week. However, when this boy was outside playing and the bully came around, he would holler for his dad. Guess what? Dad did not stop to check

the chore-chart before hurrying outside to help his son. He did not say, “Well, Johnny, you did not make your bed yesterday morning, so I am going to let the bully pound on your head a while before I come to your rescue.” No, no, a thousand times NO! Can’t you see this dad bursting through the doorway accompanied with a loud shout saying, “Take your hands off my child!”

All Johnny had to do was cry out and he had the attention, power, and might of a loving father coming to his aid. You have a loving Father who is a very present help in time of trouble (Psalm 46:1).

So, you have not done everything right—nobody has. That’s why Jesus came. In later chapters, we will examine our lives and make any needed adjustments but for now I want you to turn your eyes to a God that will rescue you in spite of yourself.

Psalm 107 paints a wonderful picture of God’s heart toward his children. Over and over, it states the children of Israel cried unto the LORD and He delivered them.

“Then they cried unto the LORD in their trouble, and he delivered them out of their distresses” (Psalm 107:6).

“Then they cried unto the LORD in their trouble, and he saved them out of their distresses” (Psalm 107:13).

“Then they cry unto the LORD in their trouble, and he saveth them out of their distresses” (Psalm 107:19).

“Then they cry unto the LORD in their trouble, and he bringeth them out of their distresses” (Psalm 107:28).

There are other lessons in chapter 107 that we can expound upon, but I think the main message is clear. Again and again, there was trouble, and again and again there was deliverance from a loving God. The chapter closes with a great summary. The New Living Translation states, *“Those who are wise will take all this to heart; they will see in our history the faithful love of the LORD”* (Psalm 107:43 NLT).

God has a history of faithful love, a history of miracles. Is there a miracle for you? What’s your answer? You do have a part to play in this. Right now, that part is hope. Hope is our starting point. It is not our end point. But, for the next few chapters, I want to get your hope up as high as a Georgia pine. Then will come faith. Next will come victory! Let’s get started.