

Psalm 67

Title: Praise God for His Blessings

Author and Date: Unknown

Key Verses: Psalm 67:3-5

Type: Praise

Outline

- A. Praise God for his merciful favor (verse 1).
- B. Praise God for his universal salvation (verses 2-4).
- C. Praise God for his bountiful harvest (verses 5-7).

Notes

Title: “For the Chief Musician: on stringed instruments. A Psalm, a Song.” See the notes on the title of Psalm 65. For “stringed instruments”, see the notes on the title of Psalm 4, 6, 54, and 55.

Summary: Psalm 67 is a call or exhortation to praise God because he blesses the people. God is to be praised because he blesses with a merciful favor (verse 1). He is to be praised because he blesses with universal salvation (verse 2), fair judgment and guidance (verses 3-4). Furthermore, God is to be praised (verse 5) because he blesses with a bountiful harvest (verse 6). God’s blessings will cause all men to fear him (verse 7).

Verse 1: God causing his face to “shine upon” his people is found in the priestly blessing of Numbers 6:25. It is a poetic way of saying that God takes pleasure and delight in his people. He will be gracious and bless his people with good favor (Psa. 31:16; 119:135; Dan. 9:17; compare Prov. 16:15). For “Selah”, see the notes on Psalm 3.

Verse 2: The psalmist anticipates a time when God’s salvation will be for “all nations” and “all the people” (verses 3 and 5), not just for the Jews. God’s universal salvation is fulfilled in the coming of Jesus the Christ and the preaching of the gospel.

Verses 3-5: The theme of this psalm is found in these verses: praise God! The wording of verse 3 is also repeated in verse 5.

The call to “praise” (give give honor and thanks to) God is often found in the psalms. Look back over the psalms that have been studied previously and consider the many things that God does for mankind that deserves and demands our praise. For example, God is to be praised for his help (30:10-12; 42:4, 5, 11; 43:4-5, 63:5-7), his kingship (47:6-7), his righteousness (48:10), his word (56:4, 10), his loving-kindness (57:7-11;

63:3), his protection (59:17), his prolonging of life (61:6-8), his answered prayer (65:1-2), his awesome works (66:1-4), his preservation of life (66:8-9), his fair judgment (67:3-5), and his blessings (67:1-2, 6-7).

Verse 4: God judges “righteously” (KJV). He judges “with equity” (ASV) or fairness.

Questions

1. What does the psalmist wish for himself and his people concerning God (verse 1)?
2. What does the psalmist want to be known concerning God (verse 2)?
3. What does the psalmist exhort the people to do (verses 3 and 5)?
4. Why are the nations to be glad and sing for joy (verse 4)?
5. What has the earth yielded that shows God’s blessing (verse 6)?
6. What is the result of God’s blessings (verse 7)?

Applications for Today

1. God will bless us (verses 1, 6, and 7). What blessings do Christians have from God through Jesus Christ (Acts 3:26; Eph. 1:3)?
2. God’s way of salvation is known among all the nations (verse 2). Where has God’s gospel of salvation been proclaimed (Mt. 28:19-20; Mk. 16:15-16; Lk. 24:47; Col. 1:23)? What did Paul proclaim in Philippi (Acts 16:17)?

3. Praise God (verses 3-5). What do Christians glorify and praise God for (Rom. 15:8-11; Eph. 1:6)? What are Christians to offer up continually (Heb. 13:15)? What do Christians sing (Jas. 5:13)?

4. God is a righteous judge. He judges and governs the nations with equity (verse 4). How does God judge all mankind (Rom. 2:5; 2 Thess. 1:5; Rev. 16:7; 19:2)?

5. Fearing God is one of the best things a person can do (verse 7). What is the whole of man (Eccl. 12:13)? What are Christians to perfect (2 Cor. 7:1)? What brief admonition does Peter give to Christians (1 Pet. 2:17)? What admonition does the angel give to John (Rev. 14:7)?