

October 27, 2019
The Bridge Bible Fellowship
Pastor Paul S. Brown
Psalm 67

“The Fuel of Missions – Part 1”

Discussion & Application:

1. Look at the structure of Psalm 67. What parallel statements do you see in these 7 verses? Note the change in pronouns from “Him” to “You” (verses 1, 6-7 compared to verses 2-5). Why does the psalmist change the pronouns? Who is he speaking to when he says “Him” instead of “You”? How does this help you interpret the message of this Psalm?
2. Psalm 67:1 is a partial quote from Numbers 6:24-26 (“the Aaronic blessing or benediction”). How familiar would the worshipers be with that particular passage? What fleshly ideas might come to their minds when they think of God’s blessings? Where might their thoughts go during the musical interlude (“selah”)?
3. What comes to your mind when you think of God’s blessings in your life? What kind of blessings do you most frequently ask God to provide for you? Why do you ask for those things?
4. What does it mean for God to be “gracious” to us and “cause His face to shine upon us”? What are some synonyms to these words? What are some antonyms? What word picture is the psalmist creating?
5. What is the reason for God’s blessings on Israel according to verse 2? How shocking might this interpretation be to those who primarily think selfishly about God’s blessings? What other Old Testament passages speak of this being the reason for God’s blessings? [See Gen. 12:1-3; Ex. 14:4; Joshua 4:23-24; 1 Sam. 17:46-47; Ps. 46:10; Ezekiel 36-39 to get started] The nation of Israel often failed to apply this truth and became more inward focused than outward focused. They often despised unsaved people instead of longing for them to worship the only true God with them. How is Jesus the perfect example of living out what Israel failed to do?
6. In verse 4 the psalmist wants unsaved peoples to be glad and sing for joy to the only true God. He wants them to look forward to God’s **judgment, righteousness, and sovereign rule**. What is the typical attitude of unbelievers to those three things? What was your attitude before God graciously saved you?
7. Psalm 67:6 narrows the focus of verse 1 to that of physical blessings (the harvest). Again, what is the reason for God’s physical / financial blessings in our lives?
8. Psalm 67 should be the heart of all true worshipers; those who have been transformed by the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Do you earnestly believe that God continues to bless you so you can impact the world for Christ?
 - Does your daily, growing understanding of God’s grace and favor in your life impact unsaved people in a positive way? Give examples of how this shows up in your lifestyle.
 - God’s “way” is His manner or course of conduct. How are you using God’s blessings in your life to tell people about God’s grace in your life (His way of salvation)?
 - When unsaved people observe your life, do they see evidence of God’s salvation? How specifically is God’s grace on display in an attractive way?
 - Is the passion of your life that the whole world would praise and worship the only true and living God? Is this evident in your prayers? In other areas of your lifestyle?
 - How could you better use God’s material / financial blessings in your life to reach the whole world with the gospel?