

Psalm 67 – For the Joy of All Peoples

I. The Meaning of God's Blessing

1. That God would be gracious to us.
2. That God would make His face to shine upon us.
3. Christ has fulfilled this Priestly blessing so that we might know that God now looks on us with all of His grace and favor. Ephesians 1:3 captures the implications of this blessing.

II. The Purpose of God's Blessing

1. God blesses us so that we might be a blessing to the world.
2. The purpose of God's blessing is so that:
 - a. God's **saving power** might be known among all the nations.
 - b. God's **ways** might be known on all the earth.
 - c. God might be praised by all peoples.
 - d. All peoples should be made glad.
3. Praising (glorifying) God and being glad in Him always go together. As Piper says, *God is most glorified in us when we are most satisfied in Him and we are most satisfied in Him when He is most glorified in us.*

III. The Assurance of God's Blessing

1. The basis of our confident assurance of God's blessing is the harvest that He is giving.
2. Harvest means:
 - a. God's physical provisions for His children.
 - b. God's salvation among the nations (a harvest of men coming to faith)
3. God is blessing us with a harvest so that the whole earth might fear Him. To fear is to live in reverent (but joyous!) submission to the true King.

Application:

1. If this is a prayer for world missions, we must be gripped with God's global purposes for the nations and learn to pray faithfully for them.
2. If we are lethargic in our zeal for God's glory among all peoples, we must return to the fountainhead from which all blessings flow--Christ.
3. We must never lose sight of our purpose as a church--to make disciples of all nations.