

September 13, 2026

Psalm 67

May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us, *Selah*

² that your way may be known on earth, your saving power among all nations. ³ Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you! ⁴ Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth. *Selah*

⁵ Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you! ⁶ The earth has yielded its increase; God, our God, shall bless us. ⁷ God shall bless us; let all the ends of the earth fear him!

Scriptures for further
study:
Psalm 25:4-5

Luke 1:76, 79

Acts 16:17

John 14:6

“Missions exists because
worship doesn’t.”
-John Piper



Blessed to Bless the Nations **Psalm 67**

BIG IDEA: If God’s plan is for His glory to fill the earth, let the Church seek His blessing not as an end but a means to bless the nations.

Or to say it differently, my abundance is to be leveraged towards global missions for the sake of global worship.

OUTLINE

Our Abundance (verse 1, 6)
Global Missions (verse 2, 7)
Global Worship (verses 3-5)

DISCIPLESHIP DURING THE WEEK

These “Sermon Discussion Questions” are designed for study during the week for believers in a wide variety of ages & stages in their walk with Christ.

1. Sometimes the details right in front of us keep us from seeing the bigger picture. Psalm 67 asks us to zoom out — to see our own blessings not as the end of the story, but as part of a much bigger, global one. The phrase “you can’t see the forest for the trees” describes someone so fixated on small details that they miss the larger picture. In what ways might that apply to how we sometimes think about God’s blessings in our own lives?
2. What picture of God do the words of the psalmist in verses 1 and 6 create? What reason does the psalmist give for God’s blessings? List some of the ways the Lord has blessed you. Why does God bless His people?
3. Read verses 2 and 7 again. How does this psalm challenge the way you think about God’s blessings in your own life?
4. Brainstorm some ways that God’s blessings to you might be leveraged to point others to Jesus.

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Psalm 67 is a prayer that God will bless his people Israel so that the rest of the world may come to know the true God. Singing this helps Israel keep its own calling in view: their blessing is not simply for themselves but for the Gentiles too (cf. Gen. 12:2–3). Each Israelite is a player in a grand story that stretches far beyond the boundaries of his own life, or even his own land.

— ESV Study Bible

"If a psalm was ever written round the promises to Abraham, that he would be both blessed and made a blessing, it could well have been such as this. The song begins at home and returns to pause there a moment before the end; but its thought always flies to the distant peoples and to what awaits them when the blessing that has reached 'us' reaches all."

— Derek Kidner

Praise to Jesus – Praise the Lord, who has made His face to shine upon us through the person and work of Jesus Christ. We have every need met, and so much more. Truly, Lord, You are a good, good Father — You provide abundantly for Your people, in order to bless the nations with the knowledge of You and to give us the joy of life with You. We praise You for grace poured out on us though we did nothing to earn it. May all the nations join us in praising You, Lord!

Repent through Jesus –Take time today in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to lead you into a time of confession and repentance. Confess the times you have taken the Lord's blessings for granted. Confess thinking and acting as if the Lord's blessings were only for you and your family. Confess the times you have lost sight of God's plan for the nations to worship Him.

Consecration for Jesus –Church, if God's plan is for His glory to fill the earth, let the Church seek His blessing not as an end but a means to bless the nations. May our abundance be leveraged toward global missions for the sake of global worship, this day and all of our days, through Christ and by the power of the Spirit!

FOR FAMILIES AND YOUNG CHILDREN

These questions are written to aid parents in leading family devotions with their children.

1. What does it mean for God to bless us? (This psalm mentions God's blessing repeatedly. To be blessed by God is to have His favor and to have God's best for us. It doesn't mean an easy life. Make sure to point out that in verse 1 the author wrote that God would be gracious to us. This is an important reminder that we don't deserve His blessing.)

2. What do we read in this psalm about the purpose of God blessing His people? (One purpose is that we would be blessed in order to bless others by telling them of God's way and telling them of the saving power of God. Another purpose is that all peoples would worship God. We live according to God's purpose when we live for His glory and worship Him in all areas of life. In our sin we think God should serve us, but when we are blessed by God then we see that we are made to serve Him and His purposes.)

3. In verses 3 and 5, who does the Psalmist want to praise God? (All the peoples, not just Israel. This psalm is often called a Missions Psalm since it has the world in view and not only Israel. This is not how we think of the Old Testament.)

4. What blessings has God given you? How can you share those blessings with others today?

5. Pray this psalm over your family each day this week.

Scriptures for further study:

Genesis 12:1-3

Numbers 6:24-26

Habakkuk 2:14

Matthew 28:18-20

Revelation 7:9-10

FOR STUDENTS

Scriptures for further study:

Genesis 12:1-3

Numbers 6:24-26

Galatians 3:8-9

Romans 10:14-17

Matthew 28:18-20

Revelation 7:9-10

1. Read verse 1 alongside Genesis 12:1-3. God told Abraham he would be blessed so that all peoples on earth would be blessed through him. That same logic runs through Psalm 67. When you think about the blessings in your life - family, safety, faith, education, money - do you think of them as yours to enjoy, or as resources with a direction? Be honest. What would it look like to hold them the second way?

2. Make a list of specific ways God has blessed you - not in general terms, but real, concrete things. Now read verse 2. The psalm does not let the blessing stay with us - it immediately asks what the blessing is for. What is the gap between the length of your blessing list and the ways you are actually leveraging those blessings toward others?

3. The refrain - let the peoples praise you, O God, let all the peoples praise you - appears twice, framing everything else in the psalm. Global worship is not the background of God's plan; it is the goal. How does that reframe the purpose of your own life? What would it mean for you personally to live as someone who exists inside that story, not just alongside it?

4. The psalm says people cannot experience God's saving power unless his ways are made known to them. That is not a task reserved for missionaries or pastors. Think about the people in your daily life - school, work, your neighborhood - who do not know Jesus. What is one specific, non-theoretical thing you could do this week to make God's ways known to one of them?

5. Praying, giving, sending, going - these are the four ways the global church participates in missions. Which of those four is most accessible to you right now as a student? Is there one you have been ignoring? What would it look like to take one step in that direction before the end of this semester?

6. Jesus is the ultimate fulfillment of Psalm 67. He is the blessing of God made flesh - the one through whom all the families of the earth are blessed (Galatians 3:8-9). He came not to be served but to give his life as a ransom for many, and he sent his people out to carry that news to every nation. How does knowing that Jesus himself is the missionary - the one sent by the Father to seek and save the lost - change the way you think about your own role in that mission?

FOR NON-BELIEVERS OR NEW BELIEVERS

1. Psalm 67 certainly seems to be a reference to Genesis 12:1-3, in which God told Abraham that he would bless Abraham in order that all peoples on earth would be blessed through him. But throughout the OT Scriptures, it is clear that God's people by and large kept this blessing to themselves and neglected to share it with the surrounding peoples.

Question: How are we sometimes like this today as Christians? Happy to receive God's blessings, but reluctant or negligent to spread the blessings? Why do our blessings often become an end in themselves?

2. Notice, according to verse 2, that people cannot be saved unless God's ways are known.

Question: If you are not a believer, have you ever had anyone sit down with you to fully share the gospel? Would you be open to that?

Question: If you are a believer, what does this say to us about the importance of our role in proclaiming truth and making the gospel known to others? (See Romans 10:14-17)

3. If you are not yet a believer, what would you say is the ultimate goal of your life?

4. According to Psalm 67:3, 5, 7b, what would say is the ultimate goal of missions? The ultimate goal of life? The chief end of man?

5. In what ways are you currently involved in the work of global missions? (Praying, giving, sending, going, etc.) How might the Lord be calling you to participate with our church in the coming year(s) to share God's blessings with all the nations?

Scriptures for further study:

Numbers 6:24-26

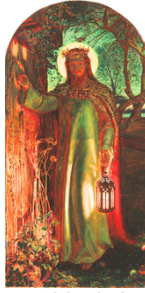
Genesis 12:1-3

Galatians 3:8-9;

Romans 10:14-17

Revelation 7:9-10

The Blessed Life: A Study of the Psalms



"The Light of the World" (1851-1853) by William Holman Hunt

Psalms Introduction

The Book of Psalms is the sacred place where the living God meets His people in the most intimate and personal of ways. He invites them to know Him not merely as an idea, but as their refuge, portion, shepherd, and King. From the opening doorway of blessedness in Psalm 1 to the climactic Hallelujahs of Psalm 150, the Psalter reveals that the truly happy life is one rooted in the person and work of Almighty God, whose steadfast love holds His people through every season of the soul. As the Psalter moves from anguish to adoration, from darkness to dawn, it becomes a mirror of the Christian life itself. It teaches us to pray honestly, to hope stubbornly, and to sing faithfully, even when night seems long. In the deepest valleys, the Psalms give voice to the church's groan; on the highest heights, they train the church's doxology. And in every line, every cry, and every hallelujah, Christ Himself comes near, revealing the light of the world in the dark night of the soul and leading His people into the blessedness that only His grace can give.

– Pastor Bill

About the artwork and artist.

The Light of the World, 1851-1853, is an iconic allegorical painting by William Holman Hunt. The painting depicts Jesus Christ as a regal figure in flowing robes, wearing a crown of thorns, holding a glowing lantern, and preparing to knock on a weed-overgrown wooden door with no external handle. This illustrates Revelation 3:20 from the Bible: "Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if any man hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him..." The artist William Holman Hunt is showing us that Jesus is the divine door to the living God who meets His people in the most intimate and personal ways. The closed, overgrown door → representing the human soul or "obstinately shut mind" that has long ignored spiritual calling. There is no handle on the outside → the door can only be opened from within, emphasizing free will and personal invitation to faith. The lantern → Christ as the light of the world (John 8:12), illuminating darkness and offering salvation. The work marked Hunt's deepening Christian faith (from earlier agnosticism) and became one of the most reproduced and devotional images of the Victorian era, inspiring oratorios, hymns, and widespread popular piety. It's often called a visual sermon on personal salvation.