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**BIBLE STUDY**

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**“GOD SHALL BLESS US”**

**Psalms 67:1-7**

**{To the chief Musician on Neginoth, A Psalm [or] Song.}**

***Psalms 67:1 "God be merciful unto us, and bless us; [and] cause his face to shine upon us; Selah."***

This psalm was to be sung with the accompaniment of stringed instruments. Structurally and thematically this psalm is organized in a beautifully chiastic fashion. The central element(s) is emphatic, here the sovereignty of God over the world expressed as His right to bless and judge them. This structure underscores that this is not only a picture of what the nations should ideally do, but also what they will one day really do when God establishes His kingdom on earth. The psalmist adopted the wording of the priestly (“Aaronic”) benediction.

***Numbers 6:24-26***

***24 The Lord bless thee, and keep thee:***

***25 The Lord make his face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee:***

***26 The Lord lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace.***

In verse one, the key expressions “be merciful unto us”, “bless us”, and “cause His face to shine upon us” all specifically signify both physical and spiritual provision regardless of outer circumstances. “Selah” which is the last word of the verse means to pause and think on these things.

***Psalms 67:2 "That thy way may be known upon earth, thy saving health among all nations."***

The psalmist requests that God’s way be known (manifested or revealed) upon earth. But what is the reason for this request? Is it so that they could enjoy material prosperity? Is it so that they might have glory and power? No, he desires the Lord’s favor so that [His] way may be known on the earth and [his] salvation among the nations. God’s ways are higher than our ways because His ways are always part of a bigger plan. We see only our small piece of the puzzle; God sees the finished work. We see a portion of the jumbled back of the tapestry; God is the Weaver at the loom. God’s infinite thoughts are far greater than our limited ability to comprehend them. [God’s thoughts](https://www.gotquestions.org/my-thoughts-are-higher-than-your-thoughts.html) and His ways don’t always make sense to us, but we can rest in the knowledge that He is always good, and, therefore, everything He does is for our good and His glory! The only way that “God’s Way” can be known on earth is by revelation. It is only by the mercy of God that any of us come to know God or His ways.

***Isaiah 55:8-9***

***8 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord.***

***9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.***

***Romans 8:28 “And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.”***

***1 Corinthians 2:9-10***

***9 But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.***

***10 But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.***

***John 6:44 "No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day."***

The word that was translated health, here, means salvation. It, also, can mean deliverance. Salvation is offered to the peoples of all nations.

***Mark 16:15 "And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature."***

We see that God's mercy came to us, to save us from our unrighteousness. We have no righteousness of our own. It is the righteousness the Lord Jesus clothed us in that we have if we are Christians. He took our sin upon His body and in return gave us His righteousness.

***Hebrews 8:12 "For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more."***

***Romans 5:8 "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."***

***II Corinthians 4:6 "For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to [give] the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ."***

God’s covenant faithfulness in spiritually redeeming Israel is intended that His way may be known on the earth, that is, His salvation among all nations, in fulfillment of God’s greatest promise to Abraham to bless the world through his Seed, the promised Messiah. When God delivers his people and showers them with blessings, his goal is that he would receive glory and that other people would experience salvation and discipleship. God wants all people everywhere to know him, and this should be our desire, as well. He does not bless you merely for your own sake. He blesses you so that you may be a blessing to others, leading them to put their faith in Jesus Christ, to glorify God, and to live their lives in joyful obedience to him.

***Psalms 67:3 "Let the people praise thee, O God; let all the people praise thee."***

Even our praise to God must be by His permission. Notice, the word, let. We must praise God in the name of Jesus, just as we pray in the name of Jesus. In the final Psalm we are commanded, not just encouraged to Praise God. We have so much to praise God for!

***Psalm 150***

***1 Praise ye the Lord. Praise God in his sanctuary: praise him in the firmament of his power.***

***2 Praise him for his mighty acts: praise him according to his excellent greatness.***

***3 Praise him with the sound of the trumpet: praise him with the psaltery and harp.***

***4 Praise him with the timbrel and dance: praise him with stringed instruments and organs.***

***5 Praise him upon the loud cymbals: praise him upon the high sounding cymbals.***

***6 Let every thing that hath breath praise the Lord. Praise ye the Lord.***

***Psalms 67:4 "O let the nations be glad and sing for joy: for thou shalt judge the people righteously, and govern the nations upon earth. Selah."***

Jesus is the Judge of all the earth. His judgment is righteous. We, also, know that Jesus is to rule as King of kings and Lord of lords on the earth for a 1000-year period of time. All the people of the earth will rejoice at this because there will be peace. Jesus is the King of Peace. The 20th chapter of Revelation goes into great detail about these 1000 years, and about those who will reign with Jesus Christ. One of the main reasons the people of all nations will be rejoicing, is because the devil will be chained for the thousand years and will not be able to cause problems for the people during that time. Probably, the greatest reason for them being so joyful is because they are the redeemed. Christians will be joyful because they will not taste of the second death. Nations will not govern themselves as they did before, but all will be under the rule of Christ.

***Psalms 67:5 Let the people praise thee, O God; let all the people praise thee.***

We see this, again, and now there is more reason than ever to praise. There will be no depressions or recessions. There will be no threat of war. There will be no starving children, or shortages of any kind. The King of all the earth will be in charge. It will not be left up to the minds of mortal man to figure all of this out. The Creator of the universe will be on His throne. The praise will be so spontaneous that it will ring from the mouths of every individual, and the governments of the world will rejoice, as well. The weapons will be made into plows, and there will be no life-threatening war hanging overhead.

***Psalms 67:6 "[Then] shall the earth yield her increase; [and] God, [even] our own God, shall bless us."***

Now there is a constant worry about the ozone layer disappearing and all the crops failing. There is already famine around the world. That will not be a problem for Jesus. God rained food from heaven for 40 years to feed the estimated three million Israelites on their journey to the promised land. It would be no problem to feed all the people in the world. The weather will be perfect, and the rain will come just when it is needed, and the crops will all be bumper crops. This earth will be like the garden of Eden. There is perfect harmony in all of nature when the Creator of it all is there. One of the blessings of God is plenty to eat. The land was cursed by sin, and now there will be no sin, so there will be no curse, only blessings. This earth will be full of the goodness of God, and there will be plenty. The Lord will turn the whole earth into a fruitful land. I love the statement {our own God}. He is our own personal God.

***Psalms 67:7 "God shall bless us; and all the ends of the earth shall fear him."***

The psalmist acknowledges how God has blessed them with a bountiful harvest. And once again, he proclaims the purpose of this rich blessing: so that all the ends of the earth will fear God. God does not bless you so that you can kick back, enjoy your blessings, and be self-absorbed. He blesses you so that you will make his priorities your own.

***Matthew 6:33 “But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.”***

He blesses you so that you will give him public praise and use his blessings in such a way that others will see him for who he is and be compelled to take him seriously. The greatest blessing of all is that He has saved us. Jesus is the Savior.

***I Timothy 4:10 "For therefore we both labour and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God, who is the Saviour of all men, specially of those that believe."***

This is a peculiar statement, but Jesus did give His body on the cross that all might live. Some do not accept that wonderful gift. Salvation is for whosoever will.

***Revelation 22:17 "And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely."***

The fear, in verse 7 above, is really saying, and all the ends of the earth shall reverence Him. At this time, the scales will be removed from our eyes, and we shall see Him as He really is. We will be full of praise and adoration for Him, and He will bless us.

**QUESTIONS**

1. This psalm was to be sung with the accompaniment of stringed \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
2. Verse 1 specifically signify both \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ provision regardless of outer circumstances.
3. What is the only way that “God’s Way” can be known on earth?
4. In Hebrews chapter 8 verse 12, God will be merciful to what?
5. What condition were we all in when Christ died for us?
6. He took our \_\_\_ upon His body, and He clothed us in His \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
7. What does the word that was translated health, in verse 2, mean?
8. Who was salvation offered to?
9. How do we know that even our praising God is by His permission and command?
10. Who is the Judge of the earth?
11. How long will Jesus rule on the earth?
12. What chapter of Revelation gives us more information on His rule?
13. What is the main reason people of all nations will be rejoicing during this time?
14. How many years did God rain food from heaven for the Israelites?
15. Approximately how many Israelites were fed miraculously?
16. There will be no \_\_\_\_\_ on the earth, just blessings.
17. The Lord will turn the whole earth into a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_.
18. Who is Jesus Saviour of?
19. From Revelation chapter 22, who say come?
20. What is the fear, in verse 7?