

Psalms 67:0 ¶ To the chief Musician on Neginoth, A Psalm or Song.

Another psalm for which the author is not identified. The term “Neginoth” appears to indicate that it is to be played on stringed instruments.

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

This psalm opens with a petition for God’s mercy and blessing upon His people. To “cause His face to shine upon” them is a word picture giving emphasis to the petition of the psalmist. It finds its source in the priestly blessing.

Numbers 6:24–26 “The Lord bless thee, and keep thee: The Lord make his face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee: The Lord lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace.”

It is interesting that the psalmist calls for a pause in the middle of a thought—probably a pause (from Hebrew for “Selah”) meant to allow opportunity to reflect on how God had already blessed them.

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

With this verse, the psalmist declares the motivation of his petition to be that God’s ways may be known upon the earth—that the nations would recognize the benefits of yielding to His authority.

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

The psalmist calls for all people to praise God and rejoice in the truth that God judges all people rightly as He governs the nations on earth.

Spurgeon: “Some sing for form, others for show, some as a duty, others as an amusement, but to sing from the heart, because overflowing joy must find a vent, this is to sing indeed.”

Selah – another pause and opportunity for meditation

**Psalms 67:5 Let the people praise thee, O God; let all the people praise thee.
Psalms 67:6 Then shall the earth yield her increase; and God, even our own God, shall bless us.
Psalms 67:7 God shall bless us; and all the ends of the earth shall fear him.**

The psalmist seems to direct his address to the people of Israel in this section. He calls for the people of Israel to praise God and reap the benefits of His blessing with an abundant harvest. He hopes that the nations will respond in reverential fear of God as

they witness the care He takes of His people. That would fulfill the very purpose for which the LORD set Israel apart among the nations in the first place.

*Genesis 12:1–3 “Now the Lord had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father’s house, unto a land that I will shew thee: And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and **in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.**”*

Good application from Guzik: “It’s worth looking at our lives and seeing if we have broken the circle anywhere. Have we stopped believing that God blesses? Have we stopped seeking to extend that blessing? Have we stopped seeing God’s heart in it all?”