

Sunday Night Message

August 10, 2014

Psalm 67 –

Series – The Psalms

Text – Psalm 67

Introduction

"To the chief Musician on Neginoth, A Psalm or Song."

In the introductory information to this Psalm – we read “To the chief Musician on Neginoth”

The phrase “to the chief musician” appears in 55 of the Psalms, and again also in Habakkuk 3:19 (“to the chief singer”)

Neginoth – most likely means stringed instruments. In Habakkuk 3:19, the word, Neginoth is not transliterated; but is rather translated into the phrase “stringed instruments”:

"The LORD God is my strength, and he will make my feet like hinds' feet, and he will make me to walk upon mine high places. To the chief singer on my stringed instruments." - (Habakkuk 3:19)

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

Compare this verse to Numbers 6:24 – 27:

Dr. McGee says:

This verse is a reference to the Trinity. It is a reference to the great threefold Trinitarian blessing that God gave the nation of Israel when He prepared them for the wilderness march. That blessing is found in Numbers 6:24–26, which says: “The LORD bless thee, and keep thee [refers to the Father]: The LORD make his face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee [refers to Jesus]: The

LORD lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace [the work of the Holy Spirit]."¹

The blessing spoken of in this psalm will not be fulfilled until the Millennium. You will notice in this psalm the references to the nations. Nations here does not refer to Israel, but rather to the nations of the world. During the Millennium all nations will worship and serve the Lord.

The psalmist is asking God to bless them to the extent that they will be blessed in the Millennium.

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

When God fulfills all His promises to Israel, the rest of the world will praise the Lord.

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

This exact phrase is repeated here and in v. 5.

God has a lot to say about praise:

"Praise ye the LORD: for it is good to sing praises unto our God; for it is pleasant; and praise is comely." (Psalms 147:1)

"But thou art holy, O thou that inhabitest the praises of Israel." (Psalms 22:3)

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

God promised Abraham that he would be a blessing to all people, not just Israel. (see Genesis 12:1 – 3)

When God is ruling on the earth, for the first time there will be a righteous government. There will be no corruption.

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

¹ McGee, J. V. (1997). *Thru the Bible commentary* (electronic ed., Vol. 2, p. 784). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

The chief end of everything that we do is to glorify the Lord – magnify Him – make Him look good. (See Ephesians 1:3 – 14)

Why should we praise the Lord:

For Who He Is

For What He Has Done

For What He Promises To Do

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

Notice the cycle here. We praise Him because of who He is, what He has done, and what He will do; and He blesses us because we praise Him.

The earth will bring forth her increase because the curse of sin will be removed.

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

And when He blesses us, we draw the rest of the world to Him.