# <u>Let the Peoples Praise You, God</u> Psalm 67

## Introduction

In his book, Let the Nations Be Glad, John Piper begins by stating

Missions is not the ultimate goal of the church. Worship is. Missions exists because worship doesn't. Worship is ultimate, not missions, because God is ultimate, not man. When this age is over, and the countless millions of the redeemed fall on their faces before the throne of God, missions will be no more. It is a temporary necessity. But worship abides forever.

This morning, we are going to consider the role that we play as the people of God in this mission to see all peoples worship the one true God.

Read Psalm 67

## **Exposition**

#### I. The Prayer for Personal Pardon (Vv. 1-2)

These verses recalling the "blessing" of the High Priest from Numbers 6:22-27, which reinforces our need for forgiveness. The psalmist begins by highlighting our need for God to be gracious to us.

Do we recognize our need for God's grace this morning?

### II. The <u>Plea</u> for the <u>Peoples' Praise</u> (Vv. 3-5)

Verses 3-5 are the heart of Psalm 67. This language of "the peoples" refers to the nations. This is, to use the language of Revelation 5, the peoples from "every kindred, tongue, tribe, and nations." Thus, the prayer for personal pardon in verses 1-2 overflows into this plea for the peoples of the earth to praise the one true God. The psalmist prays that the peoples would know and praise God rightly!

Do we long for the day when others will praise our God with us?

#### III. The Purpose for God's Plentiful Provision (Vv. 6-7)

Verses 6-7 revisit the theme of God's blessing on His people, but the end, the goal of God's blessing is not so that God's people will grow proud and arrogant. No! The goal of God's blessing is "so that all the ends of the earth will fear Him." That is, that all the ends of the earth will know God and revere Him accordingly.

Do we pray that God would bless us so that we might be a blessing to others? That others might see God's plentiful provision in our church?

## Conclusion

The aim of missions is to see other come to know and love the one true God, who has revealed Himself in Jesus Christ. As the church, as we, know and enjoy God's blessing of grace and mercy, our lips should be filled with praise! Obviously, this includes the songs that we sing, but worship is more than music. Worship is about reflecting the worthiness of God through words and deeds as the people of God so that others might come to reflect His worth as well!