

Psalm 67 - Notes

Background:

1. The author is not known, though the Septuagint attributes it to David. This is perhaps because of its placement with other psalms in Book II. .
2. It is the third of three great hymns of praise (65-67).
3. It is a Thanksgiving Psalm and a Praise Psalm.
4. It is a chiasm psalm. Logos has it paired in 5 sections (1&7, 2&6, 3&5, 4a&4c, 4b)
 1. I would pair 1&7, 2&6; 3&5, 4 - Clearly the point of this psalm is verse 4.
 2. Deaver divides it as Way (1-3), Judgement (4-5), and Blessings (6-7).
5. Key word in this Psalm: God (elohim) 6x; People (am) 5x; Earth (eres) 4x; Praise (ydh) 4x; Bless (another praise word) (brk) 3x; Nations (leom) 2x.
 1. People and Nations of all the Earth Praise and Bless God!

VV. 1&7 - THE LORD BLESSES

1. Notice verse one's **Synonymous Parallelism**: God...
 1. Be gracious to us and bless us
 2. Cause His face to shine upon us
2. Because all we have comes from Him, we should stand in awe of and fear the Lord!

VV. 2&6 - THE EARTH BLESSED

1. Salvation known because of God's blessing:
 1. Notice verse two's **Synonymous Parallelism**:
 1. Your way - on the earth
 2. Salvation - among all nations
2. Produce yielded because of God's blessing.
 1. He is God - OUR God!

VV. 3&5 - THE PEOPLE PRAISE

1. When all understand it is the Lord who blesses, and how blessed we are because of Him, Thanksgiving and Praise are the necessary result!
2. Verses 3 & 5 are identical.
 1. The repetition forms a refrain in the song.
 2. It also emphasizes the main point of the psalm (v.4).

V. 4 - THE LORD REIGNS

1. The nations will:
 1. Be GLAD!
 2. Sing for JOY!
2. Why? Because the Lord who blesses, the Lord worthy of our Thanksgiving and Praise, He reigns!
 1. Notice the **Synonymous Parallelism**:
 1. Judge - The People
 2. Guide - The Nations on the Earth
 2. He does so with Uprightness - a word that's root means on a level place.
 1. This describes a place free from obstacle - a place of safety, comfort, and prosperity (Brown-Driver-Briggs).
 2. The uprightness of the Lord describes the way He leads - with justice and faithfulness He would save, rule, and sustain them!