

**Psalm 67 — “The Meaning of Missions: Let All Rejoice In God!”**

The Spirit of Christ is the spirit of missions, and the nearer we get to Him the more intensely missionary we must become. (Henry Martyn)

I’ve heard people say, “I want more of a heart for missions.” I always respond, “Jesus tells you exactly how to get it. Put your money in missions – and in your church and the poor – and your heart will follow.” (Randy Alcorn)

**4 priorities of God centered missions (By Dave Doran)**

1. Focus on faithfulness to God and his Word — NOT fruitfulness.
2. Ambition for God and His glory — NOT man’s needs.
3. Controlled by Scripture alone — NOT traditions or trends.
4. Power for missions must be divine — NOT human abilities.

• **THE GOAL OF MISSIONS IS GOD.** It is: The glory of God. The greatness of God. The gladness in God! It is for *ALL to rejoice in GOD!*

• **Biblical Missions ...**

- ★Exists because of the Depravity & Lostness of Men, &
- ★Demands Believers to Go & Proclaim the Gospel, &
- ★Trusts in God’s Decree to Gather His Elect, &
- ★Requires Every Believer to Engage & Serve & Give, &
- ★Is the Heartbeat of God for His Glory to be Known!

**THESIS — Ps 67 is “God’s Missionary Psalm” - God passionately yearns for the nations to *KNOW HIM, REJOICE* in him and *FEAR HIM!***

>>> the (1) **foundation** [1-2] (2) **intention** [3-7] of missions

**I. THE FOUNDATION OF MISSIONS (1-2)**

“If God blesses his people for the sake of the nations; then God is most likely to bless us when we are planning and longing and praying to bless the nations. If God wants his goods to get to the nations, then he will fill the truck that’s driving toward the nations. He will bless the church that’s pouring itself out for unreached peoples of the world. And this blessing is not payment for a service rendered; it’s power and joy for a mission to accomplish. When we move toward the unreached peoples, we are not earning God’s blessings, we are leaping into the river of blessings that is already flowing to the nations” (John Piper)

## II. THE INTENTION OF MISSIONS (3-7)

Worship, therefore, is the fuel and goal of missions. It's the goal of missions because in missions we simply aim to bring the nations into the white-hot enjoyment of God's glory. The goal of missions is the gladness of the peoples in the greatness of God. . . . (Ps. 67:3-4) (John Piper).

When God blesses us materially, it's not so that we can squander it on selfish living. Rather, we should use God's material blessings to bless the nations by sending and supporting those that take the message of His salvation to those who have yet to hear. To invest in the gospel for the nations is to invest in eternal joy for them and for yourself. It is to glorify God by spreading your joy in Him to all the earth. (Randy Alcorn)

### **Consider The Book of Acts:**

- Acts 1.8
  - the people = you
  - the power = you will receive power
  - the promise = you will be my witnesses/Spirit comes upon you
  - the places = to the ends of the earth
- Acts 13: 1-3 and 14:27-28 = 1st missionary journey of Paul
  - missionaries should be sent by local churches (1-2)
  - missionaries must engage in work that God has given (2b)
  - missionaries should be serving, gifted and holy (2-3)
  - missionaries return to give updates on the work (14:27-28)
- THE DUTIES
  - they proclaim the word (13.5, 14-15; 13.44; 14.1; 14.7)
  - they face opposition (13.8; 13.45; 14.2; 14.19)
  - they persevere though personnel/circumstantial changes (13.13; 14.6)
  - they trust God saves by His power, thru the Word (13.48-49; 14.21-22)

Steve Lawson is correct when he writes: an exalted view of God should compel the believer to do great things for God!”

All Christians must engage! (1) Go! or (2) Send!

---

## some world-missions points to consider

### I. MOTIVATION

- THE GREAT GOAL = God’s purpose in human history is to gather a people for himself from every corner of humanity! Jesus Christ’s command to his church is to be his AGENTS/AMBASSADORS/HERALDS to go out and do the gathering! That is the heart of missions.
  - GOD guarantees the ultimate success of missions.
  - Ours is the opportunity to obey and go and proclaim!

### II. EXPOSITION

- biblical missions
  - GOING (Matt 18.19); Acts 1.8
  - PREACHING (Luke 24.47; Acts 1.8; Rom 10.16-18)
  - DISCIPLE-MAKING (Matt 28.19-20; 2 Tim 2.2)
    - baptizing
    - teaching

### III. IMPLEMENTATION

- points for biblical missions
  - missionary should be sent by local churches (Acts 13.1-3)
  - missionaries should be among the most qualified/equipped people in the church (Acts 13.2)
  - missionaries should remain accountable to the church that sent them (Acts 14.26-27)
  - missionaries should be supported by churches through prayer and material support/assistance (Phil 4.15-16; Romans 16.1-2; 1 COR 16.10-11; 3 John 8)
  - responsibilities for missions resides at the level of leadership/elders of the local church (Acts 13.1). \*\*NOTE: the congregation is involved and takes a part in prayer, support, giving, encouragement, but the elders should champion and see that the missions effort is accomplished and implemented.
  - **missionaries should engage in the primary activities:**
    - preach the gospel publicly
    - plant churches
    - strengthen churches thru teaching/encouragement
    - train up more leaders
    - mercy ministry

### IV. COMMUNICATION

- part of our philosophy & global missions goals at CFBC is not to support a LARGE number of missionaries with a small dollar amount (e.g., have 50 missionaries and we give 50 dollars). Rather, we choose to support and know a smaller number of missionaries but with higher amounts (e.g., have a few missionaries with much larger financial support).

*Psalm 67 — “The Meaning of Missions: Let All Rejoice In God!”*

## COMPLETE IN THEE

Complete in Thee! No work of mine  
May take, dear Lord, the place of Thine;  
Thy blood hath pardon bought for me,  
And I am now complete in Thee!

*Yea, justified! O blessed thought!  
And sanctified! Salvation wrought!  
Thy blood hath pardon bought for me,  
And glorified, I too, shall be!*

Complete in Thee! No more shall sin,  
Thy grace hath conquered, reign within;  
Thy voice shall bid the tempter flee,  
And I shall stand complete in Thee!

Complete in Thee! Each want supplied,  
And no good thing to me denied;  
Since Thou my portion, Lord, wilt be,  
I ask no more, complete in Thee!

Dear Savior, when before Thy bar  
All tribes and tongues assembled are,  
Among Thy chosen will I be,  
At Thy right hand, complete in Thee!

**John Piper gives a pastoral plea >>>** “I do not appeal to you to screw up your courage and sacrifice for Christ. I appeal to you to renounce all you have to obtain life that satisfies your deepest longings. I appeal to you to count all things as rubbish for the surpassing value of standing in the service of the King of kings. I appeal to you to take off your store-bought rags and put on the garments of God’s ambassadors. I promise you persecutions and privations, but “remember the joy!” “Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven” (Mt. 5:10).”

## PSALM 67: Psalter

*Tune: The Church’s One Foundation, or  
Stand Up Stand Up For Jesus*

O God, to us show mercy  
and bless us in your grace;  
cause now to shine upon us  
the brightness of your face;  
that so your way most holy  
on earth may soon be known,  
and unto ev’ry people  
your saving grace be shown.

O God, let all men praise you,  
let all the nations sing;  
in ev’ry land let praises  
and songs of gladness ring;  
for you shall judge the people  
in truth and righteousness,  
and through the earth the nations  
shall your just rule confess.

O God, let people praise you,  
let all the nations sing,  
for earth in rich abundance  
to us her fruit shall bring.  
The Lord our God shall bless us,  
our God shall blessing send,  
and all the earth shall fear him  
to its remotest end.

### 3 Application Questions:

1. **PRAYING.** Are you seeking God’s blessing for yourself, your family, and this church?
2. **TEACHING.** Are you asking God to instill in your heart and in the hearts of your children a burning desire for the nations to be glad in Him?
3. **GIVING.** Are you being a good steward of God’s material blessings, so that you can use them to bless the nations?

### HOW TO SERVE IN MISSIONS FROM WHERE YOU ARE IN YOUR LOCAL CHURCH:

1. **GIVE** generously
2. **PRAY** persistently
3. **COMMUNICATE** encouragingly
4. **HOST** happily
5. **FOCUS** geographically [prayers/giving/study]
6. **TALK** intentionally

### SOME TAKE-AWAY POINTS:

- ✓ **KNOW** your missionaries! [email, zoom, call with some regularity]
- ✓ **STUDY** a region, country, people group in family worship/personal devotions
- ✓ **PRAY** for the unreached/unengaged people groups [The Joshua Project]
- ✓ **READ** good biographies [DesiringGod; Frontline Missions; TMAI]
- ✓ **GIVE** more, **INVEST** eternally, **STORE UP** treasures in heaven!