

Sermon Title: "A Missionary Psalm"

Sermon Text: Psalm 67

Pre-Sermon: This is to help you prepare for hearing from God's Word.

- Please take some time to pray that God would strengthen the preacher to speak accurately and you to listen eagerly to His Word.
- Quickly read Psalm 65 - 68. What are some ideas that are repeated in these psalms?
- Read Psalm 67 again out loud. What are some of the words that are repeated in this psalm? What do you think might be the main point?

Sermon Discussion Questions: This will help you think through the passage and what you heard in the message.

- What passage would you go to if you were going to talk about missions from the New Testament?
- What about if you were going to talk about missions from the Old Testament?
- What passage in Luke indicates that Jesus believed the church's mission to the nations was founded on the Old Testament?
- In what "book" of the Psalms is this Psalm located? What is happening in that particular "book" of the Psalms?
- When was this Psalm often read?
- What are the writers doing in the Psalms that we can miss if we rush too quickly to apply it to our own situation?
- What is a chiasm and what does it have to do with this psalm?
- What text of the Old Testament is he paraphrasing in verse 1? What did you learn about that text and its connection to this psalm?
- What is the significance of the word 'that' in verse 2?
- What is the covenant that verse 2 is expanding and explaining?
- What does he want Israel to want?
- What is one of the big differences between the way mission in the Old Testament worked for Israel and how it does for us?
- Why does he bring up the earth in verse 6? What is the connection between this and the book of Deuteronomy? How would a good harvest given Israel hope for the future?
- Living when we do now, we know Israel failed to keep their end of the covenant. But does that mean this psalm has 'failed?' What evidence do we have that God actually has shown mercy and answered this prayer? And how does that give us hope for the future?

- We ended the message by thinking about the mission of the church and its connection to the mission of Israel. What did we say was the reason the church exists?

Sermon Outline: **A sermon is much more than an outline, but perhaps this outline will help you follow the sermon.**

I want us to look at a passage of Scripture today where the author sought to help Israel understand and remember their role in God's mission and to pray for the salvation of the nations.

1. Verses 1,2: The purpose for Israel
2. Verses 3-5: The hope for the nations
3. Verses 6-7: The future for the planet

Sermon Goal: This is a VERY short explanation of what this message is about and what I'm praying God will achieve through this message.

I want to encourage and challenge and excite you about the mission God's given us as a church by helping you understand God's plan for Israel.

Sermon Flow: This is a basic summary to help you understand what this sermon is doing and where it is going.

1. Introduce the topic
 - a. Does God have a plan for the nations in the Old Testament?
 - b. What was Israel's mission?
2. Read the text
 - a. Psalm 67
3. Give some background information for the Psalm
 - a. Who wrote it
 - b. Where it is placed
 - c. Psalm 65-68
 - d. The history of this psalm
 - e. The purpose of the psalms
4. Identify the main points of the message and the goal
 - a. Israel
 - b. The nations
 - c. The earth
5. Walk through the main points.
 - a. Israel
 - i. What made them unique
 1. Verse 1
 - a. Selah
 - b. May

- c. Us
 - i. The Aaronic blessing
 - 1. The story of Israel
 - 2. Leviticus 9:6
 - 3. Numbers 6:22ff
 - d. God
 - i. Elohim and YHWH
 - e. Gracious
 - f. Bless
 - g. Make his face shine upon us
 - i. Exodus 34:29-35
 - h. What this blessing was
 - ii. Their purpose
 - 1. Verse 2
 - a. That
 - b. On earth and among all the nations
 - i. Numbers 6:27 and Exodus 19:4-6
 - ii. Genesis 12:1ff
 - c. Your way
 - d. Your saving power
 - b. The nations
 - i. Who he is talking about
 - 1. The peoples
 - ii. What these verses are
 - 1. Let
 - iii. The request
 - 1. Praise
 - 2. Gladness
 - 3. Sing for Joy
 - 4. The role Israel was to play in making that happen
 - iv. The reason
 - 1. For you...
 - 2. Judge
 - 3. Guide
 - a. Present/Future?
 - b. Isaiah 2:1ff
 - 4. The ultimate motivation for mission
 - c. The earth
 - i. Why is he talking about the earth?
 - ii. God's plan, Israel and the problems on this planet
 - iii. The Mosaic covenant and Deuteronomy and the Garden of Eden
 - iv. Isaiah 65:17-25
6. Apply the message to us as a church
 - a. Israel's failure and why we exist
 - b. Acts 1:8

Application Questions: **We can't just read these passages, study them. It's vital we respond.**

- How did this message cause you to worship God?
- How were you encouraged about God's salvation plan?
- In what way does this psalm motivate you regarding missions?

Sermon Notes: **This is a place you can record your own notes and thoughts as you listen to the message today so that you can think about them later.**