

Longing for Fullness

February 2, 2020 | Psalm 67 | Pastor Roger Williams

**As those who have tasted of the coming age in Jesus,
we long for this fullness to come everywhere to everyone.**

Psalm 67 *To the choirmaster: with stringed instruments. A Psalm. A Song.*

¹ May God be gracious to us and bless us
and make his face to shine upon us, *(Selah)*

² that your way may be known on earth,
your saving power among all nations.

³ Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you!

⁴ Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for you judge* the peoples with equity
and guide the nations upon earth. *(Selah)*

⁵ Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you!

⁶ The earth has yielded its increase;
God, our God, shall bless us.

⁷ God shall bless us;
let all the ends of the earth fear[†] him!

* make right decisions which settles all disputes with fairness
[†] deep reverential awe

Genesis 12:1-3

¹ Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. ² And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³ I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."



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1. If the church is to be a “come and join us” people who embody the coming kingdom of God in the midst of the world, of necessity their lives must exhibit a redemptive tension with and a challenge to the idolatrous cultures of the world, including Western culture...The early Christians understood themselves to be different from others in their culture, and lived together as an alternative community nourished by an alternative story.
-Michael Goheen, *A Light to the Nations*, 6-7

2. But the gospel is more than simply a message and a truth claim--it is a matter of power. The End of history breaking into the middle is the advent of God's power in the Holy spirit to renew all things.
-Michael Goheen, *The Church and Its Vocation*

3. “God invites us to [pray] and promises to answer prayers—because he is good and our loving heavenly Father. Also, God often *waits* to give a blessing until you have prayed for it. Why? Good things that we do not ask for will usually be interpreted by our hearts as *the fruit of our own wisdom and diligence*. Gifts from God that are not acknowledged as such are deadly to the soul, because they thicken *the illusion of self-sufficiency* that leads to overconfidence and sets us up for failure.
...There are many goods that God will not give us unless we honor him and *make our hearts safe* to receive them through prayer.
-Tim Keller, *Prayer*, 102.

4. Just as men spontaneously praise whatever they value, so they spontaneously urge us to join them in praising it... I think we delight to praise what we enjoy because the praise not merely expresses but completes the enjoyment; it is its appointed consummation...
-C.S. Lewis, *Reflections on the Psalms*

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