

In that day

*O let the nations be glad and sing for joy: for thou shalt judge the people righteously,
and govern the nations upon earth. Selah.*

Psalm 67:4

This psalm looks forward to the mercy and blessing of God upon His people, which will be fully manifested over all the earth in that day of His return and reign. In the first two verses, the psalmist understands that his prayer for God to “be merciful unto us, and bless us” would be answered in them making His ways and saving health known among all the nations of the earth. Jesus instructed that our prayer to the Father should include the element of “Thy kingdom come.” Isaiah’s prophecy abounds with the phrase “in that day,” looking forward to that kingdom age when the Lord will reign over all the earth, having put down all evil human governments. If we belong to Him, we also look forward to that blessed hope and glorious appearing of the great God and our Savior Jesus Christ (Titus 2:13).

As we may view with grief the clamor of our present world’s self-centered and misguided demands for human government to solve all ills, we have a greater expectation for the Lord of heaven to bring true peace and prosperity on earth. With the psalmist, we can ask God to bless us, not for our own benefit, but so that ours and all nations will know the blessing and benefit of His gracious presence. Therefore, as we pray for His kingdom to come and His will to be done in earth as in heaven, let us be willing for that kingdom work to begin in the reign of His Spirit in our own lives, with a motive to transfer His blessing toward us outward to the nations, that they would know His saving health for and in their souls. Even as Jesus answered those demanding the appearance of the kingdom on earth in His day, let us demonstrate indeed that “the kingdom of God is within you,” as we manifest His grace daily, to direct others to faith in Him now, and to the final fulfillment that He will bring to earth in that day.

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