



# Benediction

*A Thanksgiving Poem Based on Psalm 67*

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This is how many today treat GOD....  
They seek the hand and not the face.  
They seek the luxury but not the culture,  
the food but not the appetite, the house but not the home,  
the medicine but not the health, the bed but not the rest.  
They would rather use GOD...than live [in] GOD....<sup>1</sup>

The Lord bless us and keep us;  
The Lord make His face to shine upon us  
and be gracious to us;  
The Lord look upon us with favor and give us peace.<sup>2</sup>  
Amen.  
Amen.

God, mark us with grace and blessing! Smile!  
The whole gathering of believers will see how You work,  
And all the unbelievers will see how you save.<sup>3</sup>  
Have mercy, mercy, Lord, on us  
And grant Thy blessed grace;  
Direct us in the way of life  
By the sunshine of Thy face.  
So all the nations on the earth  
Shall praise my God and king,  
And when they see Thy saving health  
Shall in a chorus sing:  
“Have mercy, mercy, Lord, on us,  
And grant Thy blessed grace.”<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> KRS-One, *The Gospel of Hip Hop: The First Instrument*, © 2009, p. 10, altered (alt.).

<sup>2</sup> Numbers 6:24-26, alt.

<sup>3</sup> *The Message* (Bible paraphrase) by Eugene Peterson, © 2003, Ps. 67:1-2, alt.

<sup>4</sup> Thomas Parnell (1679-1718), “Psalm 67,” alt.

God! Let people thank and enjoy You.

Let all people thank and enjoy You.

Let all far-flung people become happy

and shout their happiness because

You judge them fair and square,

you tend the far-flung peoples.

God! Let people thank and enjoy You.

Let all people thank and enjoy You.<sup>5</sup>

“Have mercy, mercy, Lord, on us,

And grant Thy blessed grace.”<sup>6</sup>

God is good to us, He is blessing us,

The face of God is shining down on us,

His way is shown in every place,

His healing touch has come to every people.

So let the nations thank the Lord our God

And all His people praise His holy Name.

God, as good as His Word, is blessing us.

He is blessing us

He is always blessing us

And end to end of the earth ought to give Him thanks.<sup>7</sup>

So all the nations on the earth

Shall in a chorus sing:

“Have mercy, mercy, Lord, on us,

And grant Thy blessed grace.”<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> *The Message*, Psalm 67:3-5, alt.

<sup>6</sup> Parnell.

<sup>7</sup> Gordon Jackson, *The Lincoln Psalter*, © 1993, alt.

<sup>8</sup> Parnell, alt.

Praise to Thee, the faithful Lord:  
Let all tongues in glad accord  
Learn the good thanksgiving word,  
    Ever praising Thee.

Praise to Thee, all faithful Lord;  
Let all tongues in glad accord  
Speak the good thanksgiving word,  
    Heart-rejoicing praise:<sup>9</sup>

“Have mercy, mercy, Lord, on us,  
    And grant Thy blessed grace.”<sup>10</sup>

The land will yield its harvest,  
    And God, our God, will bless us.<sup>11</sup>  
The earth is ripening into harvest.<sup>12</sup>  
So the fruitful earth’s increase,  
Bounty of the God of peace,  
Never in its course shall cease  
    Through the length of days.<sup>13</sup>  
And God shall open heaven’s gates  
    And pour down all His store;  
He shall bless you with great increase  
    And you shall Him adore.<sup>14</sup>  
Earth, display your exuberance!  
    You mark us with blessing, O God, our God.  
You mark us with blessing, O God.  
    Earth’s four corners—honor Him!<sup>15</sup>  
Earth, display your exuberance:<sup>16</sup>

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<sup>9</sup> Edward Churton (1800-1874), “Psalm 67,” alt.

<sup>10</sup> Parnell.

<sup>11</sup> New International Version (1984), alt.

<sup>12</sup> Jackson.

<sup>13</sup> Churton.

<sup>14</sup> Parnell.

<sup>15</sup> *The Message*, Psalm 67:5-7.

<sup>16</sup> *The Message*, Psalm 67:5.

“Have mercy, mercy, Lord, on us,  
And grant Thy blessed grace.”<sup>17</sup>  
Let all Thy people praise Thy Name  
And lift their voice on high,  
Let them extol it so with shouts  
That heav’n may ring with Joy.<sup>18</sup>

Amen.

Amen.

Earth and people and voices and heav’n ring with Joy  
With the sound of the Name of Jesus.

Jesus bless us and keep us;  
Jesus make Your face to shine upon us  
and be gracious to us;  
Jesus look upon us with favor and give us peace.

Amen.

Amen.

Jesus, mark us with grace and blessing! Smile!  
The whole gathering of believers will see how You work,  
And all the unbelievers will see  
how Jesus saves us by the cross. (msg, alt)<sup>19</sup>

Have mercy, mercy, Jesus, on us  
And grant Thy blessed grace;  
Direct us in the way of life  
By the sunshine of Thy face.  
So all the nations on the earth  
Shall praise my Jesus and king,  
And when they see Thy saving health  
Shall in a chorus sing:  
“Have mercy, mercy, Jesus, on us,  
And grant Thy blessed grace.”<sup>20</sup>

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<sup>17</sup> Parnell.

<sup>18</sup> Parnell.

<sup>19</sup> *The Message*, alt.

Jesus! Let people thank and enjoy You.

Let all people thank and enjoy You.

Let all far-flung people become happy  
and shout their happiness because

They are judged according to the holiness of Jesus,  
you tend the far-flung peoples

with compassion, love, mercy, and forgiveness.

Jesus! Let people thank and enjoy You.

Let all people thank and enjoy You.<sup>21</sup>

“Have mercy, mercy, Jesus, on us,

And grant Thy blessed grace.”<sup>22</sup>

Jesus is good to us, Jesus is blessing us,

The face of Jesus is shining down on us,

His way is shown in every place,

His healing touch has come to every people.

So let the nations thank Jesus the Lord,

And all His people praise His holy Name.

Jesus, as good as His Word, is blessing us.

Jesus is blessing us

Jesus is always blessing us

And end to end of the earth ought to give Jesus thanks.<sup>23</sup>

So all the nations on the earth

Shall in a chorus sing:

“Have mercy, mercy, Lord, on us,

And grant Thy blessed grace.”<sup>24</sup>

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<sup>20</sup> Parnell, alt.

<sup>21</sup> *The Message*, alt.

<sup>22</sup> Parnell, alt.

<sup>23</sup> Jackson, alt.

<sup>24</sup> Parnell, alt.

Praise to Thee, Jesus faithful Lord:  
Let all tongues in glad accord  
Learn the good thanksgiving Word,  
    Ever praising Thee.

Praise to Thee, Jesus faithful Lord;  
Let all tongues in glad accord  
Speak the good thanksgiving Word,  
    Heart-rejoicing praise:<sup>25</sup>

“Have mercy, mercy, Jesus, on us,  
    And grant Thy blessed grace.”<sup>26</sup>

The fields will yield their harvest,  
The Church will yield God’s harvest,  
The mission will yield people of God,  
    And Jesus, our God, will bless us.<sup>27</sup>

The earth is ripening into harvest.<sup>28</sup>  
The people of the earth are ripening into harvest.<sup>29</sup>

So the fruitful earth’s increase,  
Bounty of the God of peace,  
Never in its course shall cease  
    Through the length of days.<sup>30</sup>

And Jesus shall open heaven’s gates  
    And pour down all His store;  
        His Spirit, His grace, His power, His Word, His leading;  
Jesus shall bless the Church with great increase  
    And you shall Him adore.<sup>31</sup>

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<sup>25</sup> Churton, alt.

<sup>26</sup> Parnell, alt.

<sup>27</sup> NIV84, alt.

<sup>28</sup> Jackson.

<sup>29</sup> Jackson.

<sup>30</sup> Churton.

<sup>31</sup> Parnell, alt.

Church, display your exuberance!

You mark us with blessing, O Jesus, our God.  
You mark us with blessing, O Jesus.

The Church's four corners—honor Him!<sup>32</sup>

Church, display your exuberance:<sup>33</sup>

“Have mercy, mercy, Jesus, on us,  
And grant Thy blessed grace.”<sup>34</sup>

This is how the people of God treat Him with  
THANKSGIVING....

They seek His face.

They seek His culture,  
an appetite for Him, His home,  
health in Him, His rest.

They would rather live [in] GOD....<sup>35</sup>

So all the nations on the earth

Shall praise my Jesus and king,  
And when they see Thy saving health  
Shall in a chorus sing:

“Have mercy, mercy, Lord, on us,  
And grant Thy blessed grace.”<sup>36</sup>

The Lord bless you and keep you;  
The Lord make His face to shine upon you  
and be gracious to you;

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.<sup>37</sup>

Amen.

Amen.

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<sup>32</sup> *The Message*, alt.

<sup>33</sup> *The Message*, alt.

<sup>34</sup> Parnell, alt.

<sup>35</sup> Adapted from KRS-One.

<sup>36</sup> Parnell, alt.

<sup>37</sup> Numbers 6:24-26.