

Studying the Psalms

Children Are A Heritage

Psalms 127

February 12, 2023

Children Are A Heritage – Psalms 127

Psalms 127:1, *“Except Jehovah build the house, they labor in vain that build it: except Jehovah keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain.”*

- In the midst of the Psalms of Ascents, we find the only Psalms attributed to Solomon. As they journeyed toward and within the city, they would see the place that God gave His instructions to build.
- The premise of this Psalms – whatever we do, ought to be done with His blessing, i.e. by His authority. Colossians 3:17; 1 Thessalonians 2:13

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- **Our homes** – Psalms 127:3-5, The family shapes a society.
- **The church** – Consider context (Psalms of Ascent). cf. Matthew 16:18; Ephesians 3:11; Isaiah 2:2
 - Ephesians 5:24 reminds us that the church is to be subject to Christ (as a wife is subject to her husband).
- **Our character** – Romans 12:1-2; Ephesians 4:17ff
- **A nation** – Proverbs 14:34, *“Righteousness exalts a nation, But sin is a reproach to any people.”*

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- Begins with ... **Preparation**
 - Commitment to God. **Genesis 18:19; Luke 1:5-6**
 - Commitment to marriage. **Genesis 2:18ff; Matthew 19:3-9**
- Takes *“know how.”* (cf. 1 Timothy 3:5; 1 Corinthians 11:3)
 - Man’s role.
 - Woman’s role.
 - Child’s role.
- Fruits of commitment to the family.

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- Essential Elements:
 - Puts Christ first. **Matthew 6:33**
 - Represents Christ. **Galatians 2:20**
 - Studies, worships, and gives of his resources. **2 Timothy 2:15; John 4:24; 1 Corinthians 16:1f**
 - Practices what he teaches. **Matthew 5:13ff**

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Psalms 127:2, *“It is vain for you to rise up early, to take rest late, to eat the bread of toil; (for) so he giveth unto his beloved sleep.”*

- Vain attempts – to rise early, stay up late, eat bread of sorrows – toiling, etc. It matters not how much you do or how hard you try; you cannot defeat the Lord.
- He gives His beloved sleep – those who belong to Him (in trust) will sleep.

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Psalms 127:3, *“Lo, children are a heritage of Jehovah; (and) the fruit of the womb is (his) reward.”*

- Children are a blessing – they are a reward from God. Proverbs 23:24, *“The father of the righteous will greatly rejoice; And he that begetteth a wise child will have joy of him.”* (cf. Proverbs 10:1; 29:17)
 - Elizabeth – Luke 1:24-25
 - Hannah – 1 Samuel 1:19-20
- Grievous is the child who is unappreciative of his/her parents and lives in rebellion.
 - Proverbs 17:25, *“A foolish son is a grief to his father, And bitterness to her that bare him.”*

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- Proverbs 10:1, *“The proverbs of Solomon. A wise son maketh a glad father; But a foolish son is the heaviness of his mother.”*
- Proverbs 13:1, *“A wise son (heareth) his father's instruction; But a scoffer heareth not rebuke.”*
- Proverbs 15:5, *“A fool despiseth his father's correction; But he that regardeth reproof getteth prudence.”*
- Proverbs 15:20, *“A wise son maketh a glad father; But a foolish man despiseth his mother.”*
- Proverbs 17:2, *“A servant that dealeth wisely shall have rule over a son that causeth shame, And shall have part in the inheritance among the brethren.”*

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- Proverbs 17:21, *“He that begetteth a fool (doeth it) to his sorrow; And the father of a fool hath no joy.”*
- Proverbs 17:25, *“A foolish son is a grief to his father, And bitterness to her that bare him.”*
- Proverbs 19:13, *“A foolish son is the calamity of his father; And the contentions of a wife are a continual dropping.”*
- Proverbs 19:26, *“He that doeth violence to his father, and chaseth away his mother, Is a son that causeth shame and bringeth reproach.”*
- Proverbs 20:20, *“Whoso curseth his father or his mother, His lamp shall be put out in blackness of darkness.”*

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- Proverbs 22:15, *“Foolishness is bound up in the heart of a child; (But) the rod of correction shall drive it far from him.”*
- Proverbs 23:22, *“Hearken unto thy father that begat thee, And despise not thy mother when she is old.”*
- Proverbs 28:7, *“Whoso keepeth the law is a wise son; But he that is a companion of gluttons shameth his father.”*
- Proverbs 28:24, *“Whoso robbeth his father or his mother, and saith, It is no transgression, The same is the companion of a destroyer.”*
- Proverbs 30:11, *“There is a generation that curse their father, And bless not their mother.”*
- Proverbs 30:17, *“The eye that mocketh at his father, And despiseth to obey his mother, The ravens of the valley shall pick it out, And the young eagles shall eat it.”*

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Psalms 127:4, *“As arrows in the hand of a mighty man, so are the children of youth.”*

- If it is properly “trained” it will hit its target.
- So it is with our children. cf. Proverbs 22:6; Ephesians 6:4; Deuteronomy 6:4-9; Exodus 12:24-48; Joshua 4:20-24; Judges 2:10
- Discipline. Proverbs 13:24; 19:18; 29:15, 17; Proverbs 23:13-14; 1 Samuel 3:11-14

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Psalms 127:5, *“Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them: they shall not be put to shame, when they speak with their enemies in the gate.”*

- Proverbs 27:11, *“My son, be wise, and make my heart glad, That I may answer him that reproacheth me.”*
- Ephesians 6:1-3 (cf. 1 Timothy 5:8, 16).

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"A child left to himself causeth shame to his mother."
(Proverbs 29:15; cf. Ephesians 6:4)

- Subjection. Colossians 3:20; Proverbs 6:20; Romans 1:30; Ephesians 6:1
- Learner. Proverbs 13:1; 15:5, 10; cf. 1 Kings. 12; Lamentations 3:27, *"It is good for a man that he bear the yoke in his youth."*
- To give honor. Ephesians 6:2-3; 1 Timothy 5:4; Matthew 15:4-6.

Studying the Psalms BLESSED IS HE WHO FEARS THE LORD

Psalms 128

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Psalms 128 – Introduction

- This continues the Psalms of ascents, a group of fifteen Psalms believed to be sung as Israelites journeyed toward Jerusalem for various festive occasions.
- In our last Psalm (127) we observed the need for the LORD to build the house and how children are a heritage from the LORD.
- Psalms 128 is believed to be a companion to that Psalm as it addresses the home in its more mature state. It describes the blessedness of those who fear the LORD.

Psalms 128

Psalms 128:1, *"Blessed is every one that feareth Jehovah, that walketh in his ways."*

- **We need to fear the LORD – what does that mean?**
 - Be reminded that to fear the Lord means that we render to Him the reverence He is due. We exalt Him to the place He deserves in our lives (first place).
 - **Romans 3:18, "There is no fear of God before their eyes." NOTE CONTEXT**

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The fear of the LORD is a frequent theme of scripture.

- Psalms 19:9, The fear of the LORD is related to His law and described as, *"clean, enduring forever"*
- Psalms 111:9-10, *"He hath sent redemption unto his people; He hath commanded his covenant for ever: Holy and reverend is his name. The fear of Jehovah is the beginning of wisdom; a good understanding have all they that do (his commandments): His praise endureth for ever"*
- Proverbs 1:7, *"The fear of Jehovah is the beginning of knowledge; (But) the foolish despise wisdom and instruction."*

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The fear of the LORD is a frequent theme of scripture.

- Proverbs 8:13, *"The fear of Jehovah is to hate evil: Pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, And the perverse mouth, do I hate."*
- Proverbs 10:27, it prolongs our days; 14:26-27 – brings strong confidence and is a fountain of life.
- The conclusion of the whole matter: Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 – Solomon concluded that our purpose in life is to fear God and keep His commandments, for this is man's all.