

Studying the Psalms

BLESSED IS HE WHO FEARS THE LORD

Psalms 128

February 19, 2023

Psalms 128

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

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.

Psalms 128

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

- Proverbs 23:17, *“Let not thy heart envy sinners; But (be thou) in the fear of Jehovah all the day long”*
- Ecclesiastes 8:12-13, *“Though a sinner do evil a hundred times, and prolong his (days), yet surely I know that it shall be well with them that fear God, that fear before him; but it shall not be well with the wicked, neither shall he prolong (his) days, (which are) as a shadow; because he feareth not before God.”*

Psalms 128

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This cannot be separated from “the fear of the Lord.”

- 1 John 2:4-6 – He who professes to know Him and does not keep His commandments is a liar. We seek to walk as He walked.
- 1 John 5:2-3 – we must love God and keep His commandments.
 - This is how we show that we “fear” Him and love Him.
- 3 John 3-4 – John found joy in knowing that his “children” were walking in truth.

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

“Blessed” – one upon whom the LORD shows favor.

NOTE: This is the rule. While there are exceptions, when we genuinely seek the Lord in our homes, it will be a place of blessing.

- Happiness when you eat the labor of your hands and all shall be well with you – contentment, and perhaps abundance.
- Proverbs 15:16, *“Better is little, with the fear of Jehovah, Than great treasure and trouble therewith.”*
- 1 Timothy 6:6 reminds us that godliness with contentment is great gain.

Psalms 128

Psalms 128:1-2, *“Blessed is every one that feareth Jehovah, that walketh in his ways. For thou shalt eat the labor of thy hands: happy shalt thou be, and it shall be well with thee.”*

“Blessed” – one upon whom the LORD shows favor.

- In the godly home, man is happy with little or much, as long as his family is fine. (Again, remember Psalms 127:3-5).
- Faithfulness! Proverbs 5:18, *“Let thy fountain be blessed; And rejoice in the wife of thy youth. (As) a loving hind and a pleasant doe, Let her breasts satisfy thee at all times; And be thou ravished always with her love.”*
- Furthermore, if you trust in God, it will be well with you in the end (Romans 8:31).

Psalms 128

Psalms 128:3, *“Thy wife shall be as a fruitful vine, in the innermost parts of thy house”*

- **Your wife will be like a fruitful vine – a happy relationship.**
 - The Bible is clear in presenting the roles of both husband and wife. While not acceptable by many in our society, we must accept that God knows best in these things.
 - A godly wife fulfills her role and enhances the home (as the husband fulfills his role). Both treat each other with dignity and honor (1 Peter 3:1-2, 7; cf. 1 Timothy 2:15, etc.; cf. Proverbs 31). This IS how God intends the home to be!

Psalms 128

Psalms 128:3, *“Thy children like olive plants, round about thy table.”*

Your children like olive plants – Young olive plants spring up around their “parent” and begin to produce themselves. This is the picture of this Psalm AND the goal within a family. (see verse 6).

- Children are to honor their parents (Ephesians 6:1-3; Proverbs 6:20, 31:28, etc.).
- Parents are to rear godly children (Ephesians 6:4; cf. 2 Timothy 1:5, 3:15, etc.). Proverbs 22:6, *“Train up a child in the way he should go, And when he is old he will not depart from it.”*
- This is the home that the LORD has built, based upon the fear of the Lord and walking in His ways.

Psalms 128

Psalms 128:3, *“Thy children like olive plants, round about thy table.”*

Your children like olive plants –

- All *“around the table”* – the exact meaning of this could be related to an abundance of offspring (cf. 127:5).
- Compare the need for *“the table”* today. We need that time when we meet together as a family and just talk about our day. Sadly, this has been replaced far too often with the TV tray in front of the TV or everyone just grabbing something on the way out the door to whatever busyness they are involved in. **We need family time.**
- cf. Psalms 128:4 *“Behold, thus shall the man be blessed that feareth Jehovah.”* repetition of verse 1.