

Studying the Psalms

Children Are A Heritage

Psalms 127

February 5, 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 psalm 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 psalm – 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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- On the other hand, man attempts to build all sorts of things without God. In time, such things are destined to doom!
 - The tower of Babel – Genesis 11:1-9.
 - Haman built gallows to hang Mordecai. (Esther 5:14, 7:9-10).
- When God created this world (Hebrews 3:4), He knew exactly what He was doing! The laws He gives us in His word are for our good (Deuteronomy 6:24). Even when I do not know WHY.

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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.
 - cf. 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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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