



## Lesson #8: Building Strong Homes (Psalm 127)

As we know, the Psalms of Ascent were most likely sung as the Israelites were journeying up to Jerusalem for the yearly feasts. Sandwiched in the middle of these 15 Psalms are two particular Psalms that show the importance of Israel placed on having a godly home.

1. **Psalm 127** teaches us that **a strong home is based on God's \_\_\_\_\_**
2. **Psalm 128** teaches us that **a strong home is based upon the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Lord**

Someone has once said that a nation is only as strong as the families that make up that nation. But more importantly, the \_\_\_\_\_ is only as strong as the families that make it up. Psalm 127 is one of two Psalms attributed to Solomon (the other being Psalm 72). What set Solomon's reign apart was that he was the one selected to build the \_\_\_\_\_ in the Old Testament. Clearly he was a man who understood what was involved in building a strong building. So here Solomon, the builder, is teaching us through Scripture how we are to build strong homes.

### A STRONG HOME IS \_\_\_\_\_ ORIENTED (127:1-2)

This Psalm begins with an acute understanding that none of this is possible without God. There are basically two directions you can go: (1) You can turn to the \_\_\_\_\_ around you, or (2) You can turn to the \_\_\_\_\_ in Scripture.

- A. Without God all your \_\_\_\_\_ will not bring \_\_\_\_\_**  
Solomon was very familiar with building. He oversaw many projects that were meant to bring about wealth. But when he stepped back and looked at everything he had done and accomplished this was his verdict: "\_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ all his \_\_\_\_\_" (Ecclesiastes 1:2). So Solomon makes a strong point. Laboring and toiling to build your home without God is in vain.
- B. Without God all your \_\_\_\_\_ will not bring \_\_\_\_\_**  
In ancient times each city had a watchman to guard it. Yet, the Psalmist says that the watchman's job is in vain if the Lord doesn't keep the city. Only God offers stabilizing \_\_\_\_\_ (127:2).

- C. Without God all your \_\_\_\_\_ will not bring \_\_\_\_\_**  
Solomon is not saying we should stop building and watching. He is saying we should do all this while \_\_\_\_\_ God at all times. "He gives his beloved \_\_\_\_\_" (127:2). What a wonderful truth. True peace in this world is offered freely but only through God.

### A STRONG HOME IS \_\_\_\_\_ ORIENTED (127:3)

Verse 3 references the gift or reward bestowed upon families – \_\_\_\_\_ are that gift. But in order to enjoy that gift we have to have a purpose in mind.

- A. Christians homes refuse to separate the secular from the \_\_\_\_\_**  
Notice what this Psalm celebrates. It doesn't celebrate building the temple or full-time work for God. There are Psalms that celebrate that but this particular Psalm celebrates building cities and raising families. This is a glorious affirmation of God's calling. It is teaching that all your endeavors are \_\_\_\_\_ from the Lord to \_\_\_\_\_ Him.
- B. Christians homes \_\_\_\_\_ God's sovereign hand**  
This is the point of the second half of this Psalm – the full quiver part. Children are a "heritage," a \_\_\_\_\_ from the Lord. In His great wisdom God sovereignly allows certain couples the privilege of raising children. This "heritage" should not be taken lightly.

### A STRONG HOME IS \_\_\_\_\_ ORIENTED (127:4-5)

Solomon now compares children to "arrows in the hands of a warrior." This simile suggests \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. The aim of the godly home is to be \_\_\_\_\_ out**  
Solomon says that children are like arrows. Arrows must be shaped and sharpened and sent out. Arrows must be aimed and \_\_\_\_\_. The point of rearing children is not to keep them for ourselves but to let them go. Scripture is very clear. The parent's goal should be to aim their children at the target – Satan's kingdom of darkness – and release them. Likewise, children must \_\_\_\_\_ to be sent out.
- B. The action of the godly home is to be \_\_\_\_\_ messengers**  
Now Solomon goes a step further. He says that a father who has his quiver full of sharp arrows, ready to be sent off, will not be \_\_\_\_\_ when he speaks with his enemies at the gate. The idea here is that a man with exemplary children will not be ridiculed by his opponents because his children will be a living \_\_\_\_\_ of the man's uprightness and integrity.

### Concluding Thoughts

The family in America is in serious trouble. The biblical blueprints we just observed are not to be followed. But because God has a \_\_\_\_\_ for your home, you need to \_\_\_\_\_ it His way. If you want to build a family with a firm biblical foundation you should consider listening to the master building Solomon as he gives God's blueprint for strong families.