



05 JULY 2026 AM

Psalm 127

SHORT SUMMER PSALMS: TAPESTRY

= a woven fabric showing pictures or designs

Except the LORD build the house, they labor in vain that build it: except the LORD keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain.

Psalm 127:1

INTRODUCTION

- this morning, we conclude our series of messages under the heading **SHORT SUMMER PSALMS**

we have looked at **Psalm 43, 70, 93,** and **125**

- this morning, we will look at **Psalm 127**

notice this is also **A Song Of Degrees**

the authorship is attributed to Solomon

1 Kings 4:32

And he spake three thousand proverbs:
and his songs were a thousand and five.

like most of his other writings, this psalm seems to reflect the old maxim: *Do as I say, not as I do*

- the sermon title carries the idea that God weaves our lives, days that are varied and dynamic, into a tapestry for His glory

Psalm 90:12 So teach us to number our days,
that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.

Ephesians 2:10

For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

1. BUILDING A HOUSE **verses 1-2**

Except the LORD build the house, they labor in vain that build it: except the LORD keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain. It is vain for you to rise up early, to sit up late, to eat the bread of sorrows: for so he giveth his beloved sleep.

EXCEPT THE LORD...

nisi dominus frustra

Solomon had many various building projects throughout his 40-year reign

Ecclesiastes 2:4-6

I made me great works; I builded houses; I planted vineyards: I made gardens and orchards, and I planted trees in them of all kind of fruits: I made pools of water, to water therewith the wood that bringeth forth trees:

most important of all his works was the Temple, designed by his father David

it took seven years to build the Temple

it took thirteen years to build his palace

later in his life, Solomon learned through his many mistakes that he could do nothing of importance without God's hand being involved

Ecclesiastes 12:13

Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.

Jesus reminded His disciples of this same principle

John 15:5

I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.

Philippians 2:13

For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.

can you trace God's hand in your life?

EMPTY LABOR

NOTE: *vain* is used **3x** in two verses

if we are not walking in the will of God, then
everything we do will result in emptiness

whether it be a house, a city, a family, etc.

Genesis 3:19

In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.

Adam and Eve faced a lifetime of struggle
because they failed to heed God's warning

Matthew 6:19-20

Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal:

likewise, **verse 2** tells us it is of no use to worry or fret over things out of our control

why do you stay up late worrying?

why do you struggle so much
against circumstances?

Ecclesiastes 3:11-13

He hath made every thing beautiful in his time: also he hath set the world in their heart, so that no man can find out the work that God maketh from the beginning to the end. I know that there is no good in them, but for a man to rejoice, and to do good in his life. And also that every man should eat and drink, and enjoy the good of all his labor, it is the gift of God.

Psalms 103:2

Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and forget not all his benefits:

2. BLUEPRINT OF HERITAGE **verses 3-5**

Lo, children are an heritage of the LORD: and the fruit of the womb is his reward. As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man; so are children of the youth. Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them: they shall not be ashamed, but they shall speak with the enemies in the gate.

FRUIT AND ARROWS

lo = look, behold something important

heritage = something inherited, something left behind to indicate a presence

Solomon had many wives, so no doubt he had many children...although the Bible really only focuses on **Rehoboam**

in biblical times, many children were a sign of strength for the family...the ability to work hard and produce a livelihood for the family, etc.

fruit is what plants produce...it is through the seeds of that fruit that the plants continue

Matthew 7:17

Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit...

Deuteronomy 28:11

And the LORD shall make thee plenteous in goods, in the fruit of thy body, and in the fruit of thy cattle, and in the fruit of thy ground...

Matthew 12:33

...for the tree is known by his fruit.

arrows, on the other hand, are a means of provision and defense

arrows were used to hunt game and bring meat home to the family

they also were used to defend against invaders and enemies

in that way, children are the future of the family:

ideally, they produce good behavior and extend the faith of the parents beyond their lifetimes

they also defend against bad behavior and poor ideals

Deuteronomy 7:9

Know therefore that the LORD thy God, he is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations;

Proverbs 13:22

A good man leaveth an inheritance to his children's children: and the wealth of the sinner is laid up for the just.

but keep in mind this idea about arrows:

they are *handcrafted* so as to fly straight and true

they are *skillfully* sent out into the world

FULL & ACCOMPLISHED

Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them: they shall not be ashamed, but they shall speak with the enemies in the gate

the word *full* does not carry the idea of 'as many as possible,' but rather 'complete and satisfied'

it is possible to have too many children, if you are not willing to properly raise each of them

Proverbs 22:6

Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

train = from a root word meaning 'to make narrow'

to train a child indicates a willingness to constantly narrow his field

to sit in the gate and speak with enemies gives us the idea that our future generations will make an impact on the well-being of society

in the Bible, the gate was the place where business was conducted and justice was meted out

NOTE: in Hebrew, the word for *son* (ben) and *daughter* (bath) are derived from the word for *build* (banah)

3 John 4

I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth.

2 Corinthians 6:11-13

O ye Corinthians, our mouth is open unto you, our heart is enlarged. Ye are not straitened in us, but ye are straitened in your own bowels. Now for a recompense in the same, (I speak as unto my children,) be ye also enlarged.

Paul, writing to the church where he brought most of them to the Lord, challenged the church to open their hearts and follow his example