

## *PSALMS 127 and 128*

This psalm of Solomon emphasizes, first, the need of divine blessing for all undertakings, and second, that children are a gift from Yahweh, a blessing indeed.

Psalm 127

### **A Song of Ascents, of Solomon**

- 1 Unless YAHWEH builds the house, they labor in vain who build it;  
unless YAHWEH guards the city, the watchman keeps awake in vain.
- 2 It is vain for you to rise up early, to retire late, to eat the bread of painful labors;  
for He gives to His beloved *even in his sleep*.
- 3 Behold, children are a gift of YAHWEH, the fruit of the womb is a reward.
- 4 Like arrows in the hand of a warrior, so are the children of one's youth.
- 5 How blessed is the man whose quiver is full of them;  
they will not be ashamed when they speak with their enemies in the gate.

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Psalm 128

### **A Song of Ascents**

Here we have the blessings of family life that come as a reward for fearing Yahweh and walking in his commandments.

- 1 How blessed is everyone who fears YAHWEH, who walks in His ways.
- 2 When you shall eat of the fruit of your hands,  
you will be happy and it will be well with you.
- 3 Your wife shall be like a fruitful vine within your house,  
your children like olive plants around your table.
- 4 Behold, for thus shall the man be blessed who fears YAHWEH.
- 5 YAHWEH bless you from Zion,  
and may you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all the days of your life.
- 6 Indeed, may you see your children's children. Peace be upon Israel!

### PRAYER

*Heavenly Father, without your blessing all our endeavors are vain and all our possessions fleeting and unsatisfactory. Bless our children and our homes, that the good things of this life will be regarded as a gift and heritage from your bounteous providence. May we use them under the solemn recognition that we will one day have*

*to give an account for their use. And may your many earthly blessings stir up in us the greater desire for eternal blessings. Shower down upon our families your Holy Spirit, that we may lay aside those sins which so easily beset us and run with patience the race set before us, all the while giving glory to our great Savior and Advocate, the Lord Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.*