

**“God-Fearing Man”
Psalms 128:1-6
Fathers Day June 17, 2018**

Jesus taught us to pray, **Matthew 6:9** – “Pray, then, in this way: ‘Our Father’”

1 Corinthians 11:7 – “... he (Man) is the image and glory of God;”

Psalm 127-128 – sung by Israel, as they would travel to the annual feasts.

Psalm 128 is called the “Marriage Prayer” because it is sung at Jewish weddings.

Psalm 127:3-5 – Children are described as a rich heritage and as arrows for defeating your enemies.

Psalm 128 – Children are described in agricultural image to describe God’s blessings. Wife is a vine, children olive trees.

The Psalm speaks generally to all that fear the Lord: **Psalms 128:1.**

The Psalm is especially addressing Husbands/Fathers: **Psalms 128:3.**

The Thought Of The Passage: “Fearing God And Walking In His Ways Makes For A Blessed Life In Marriage, Labor, Children, And Legacy.”

1. Verse 1 – God-Blessed Fear

2. Verse 2 – God-Blessed Labor

3. Verses 3-6 – God-Blessed Legacy

1. Verse 1 – God-Blessed Fear:

Psalms 128:1 – “How blessed” – The key word “Bless” is used 4X.

Verses 1-2 – “Bless” – Hebrew word “Asher” – translated “Happy;” “The good that comes from those who please the Lord.”

Verses 4-5 – “Blessed” – Hebrew word “Barak” – Blessed of the Lord; “When the Lord blesses His people.”

Psalm 1:1 – “How blessed is the man”

Matthew 5:3-10 – The Beatitudes; Jesus said “Blessed” 8X.

“How blessed is everyone” – Psalm 128 is called the “Marriage Prayer.”

But the focus is really on the Man, the Husband and Father then Grandfather, Psalms 128:3.

There Are 2 Conditions To God's Blessings: Fear God, Obey God.

Balance of Psalm 127 and Psalm 128:

Psalm 127 Teaches that all blessings are the result of God.

Psalm 128 Teaches the human responsibility of Fearing God, Walking in His Ways.

- 1. Fear God:** "who fears the LORD," – The word "fears" – "to reverence Him, reverential awe of Him;" idea of seeking to please Him by obeying His Word.

Psalms 128:4 – "Who fears the LORD."

Secular – Latin word "saeculum" – "this age;" "People whose mental boundaries are limited by this place and time."
(Worldly)

"who fears the LORD" – thinking about God, what would be pleasing to Him.

- 2. Obey God:** "Who walks in His ways."

Walks – speaks of our lifestyle; our character as we become holy people.

"God Wants His People Thinking And Acting Biblically."

Israel had been instructed to live it out! Leviticus 26;
Deuteronomy 27-30.

Matthew 6:33

- 1. Fear God, 2. Obey God:** You Will Be Blessed By God!

2. Verse 2 – God-Blessed Labor:

Psalms 128:2

The Husband/Father Is The Provider: "your hands," – Man, Husband, Father, Genesis 3:19; 1 Timothy 5:8.

"When you shall eat of the fruit of your hands," – He speaks of the rewards of our labors, Deuteronomy 8:18.

Notice that the fruit of our labors are due to God's blessing, not us, Psalms 127:1-2.

Physical Blessings: Matthew 6:11 – "Bread" – a broad term meaning "all of man's physical needs;" clothes, housing, transportation, medical needs.

Psalm 33:18-19

Spiritual Blessings: That our fear, obedience to God in serving Him will bring an increase.

1 Corinthians 15:58 – "always abounding in the work of the Lord,"

"You will be happy" – (Blessed) "The good that comes to those who please the Lord."

Contentment: "and it will be well with you." – We all want peace of mind!

Leviticus 26; Deuteronomy 28:15-68 – Talking about hard times.

3. Verses 3-6 – God-Blessed Legacy:

Psalms 128:3

Verses 3-6 Reveal 4 Blessings upon the God-fearing Man:

- 1. Blessed Marriage:** "Your wife shall be like a fruitful vine," – The vine – Speaks of refreshment, enjoyment.

"fruitful vine," – A Blessed Marriage.

Husbands Responsibility: "fruitful vine," – Blessings, great joy.

The vine is a weak and tender plant. A vine must have support. Guess what that support is? The Husband as the wall/trellis.

- 2. Blessed Children:** "Your children like olive plants" – a source of food, oil, and wood for manufacturing.

Olive trees keep living and reproducing. Some say, "Olive trees never die!" (Redwoods never die).

Psalm 52:8

Father's Responsibility: "Around your table." – With Israel, a large family was referred to as the blessing of the Lord, Psalm 127:3-5.

Ephesians 6:4

Psalms 128:4

Blessed Father: "the man be blessed" – "When the Lord blesses His people."

"Who fears the LORD." – "fears" – "reverence Him, to seek to please Him by obeying His Word."

Psalms 128:5

3. Blessed Citizens: "The LORD bless you from Zion,"

Zion – Prophetic name for Jerusalem. Represents God's rule. "prosperity of Jerusalem all the days of your life." – Many of the Psalms end with a prayer for the land and the city.

Psalms 128:6

4. Blessed Grandparent: "your children's children. Peace be upon Israel!" Verse 1 – Bride & Groom; Verse 6 – Grandparents; in just six verses.

Application:

1. "God-Blessed Fear Is Thinking And Dwelling Upon The Thoughts Of God, As To What Would Be Pleasing To Him, Then Walking In His Ways."
2. "God-Blessed Labor Is The Results Of Our Fear Of The Lord, Our Obedience To God In Serving Him That Brings Increase In Our Work."
3. "God-Blessed Legacy Is God's Blessings Upon Marriage, Family, Society, And The Next Generation."