

PSALMS: DIARIES OF GODLY OLD TESTAMENT SAINTS

Psalm One Hundred And Twenty-Seven - God's "Must-Have" Workman's Insurance Policy (Psalm 127:1-5)

I. Introduction

- A. To a man (or a woman if no man can be there to fill that role) who heads a household, a big concern is that of the stability of that party's income and the security needed to keep that household existing!
- B. God has a workmen's insurance policy for such parties that is a "must-have" as offered in Psalm 127:1-5:

II. God's "Must-Have" Workmen's Insurance Policy, Psalm 127:1-5.

- A. This psalm is directed toward *male* heads of households as the Hebrew text reveals:
 1. The word "you" in verse 2 speaks of the hearer of the psalm, and is written in the 2nd person **masculine** plural, Biblia Hebraica, p. 1089 (lit. *lakem*; the 2nd per. **feminine** pl. would have been *laken* instead!)
 2. Also, the word "man" in verse 5 is from *geber*, meaning a "**male at the height of his powers**" in **contrast** to more general words for man (Loc. cit., Bib. Heb.; Theol. Wrdbk. of the O. T., v. I, p. 148).
 3. Further, since Psalm 127 is a **pilgrim** psalm, it psalm holds particular application for **males** in Israel:
 - a. The psalm says it is a song of "ascents" in v. 1, meaning it was a **pilgrim** psalm (cf. former lessons).
 - b. The Mosaic Law ordered all **men** (lit. *zeker*, meaning **male** of man or animal, Ibid., Biblia Hebraica, p. 290; Anal. Heb. & Chal. Lex., p. 238) in Israel to visit the temple **three times a year**, Deut. 16:16.
 - c. Thus, such convocations of heads of households obviously brought to mind and to topics of conversation by such pilgrims of the welfare of their jobs and security of their homelands.
- B. Thus, by way of application, Psalm 127:1-5 addresses the concerns of heads of households in today's era!
- C. The **lesson** of the psalm is that of the head of household needs God's workman's insurance policy:
 1. Heads of households must keep in mind that without the **Lord** both constructing and then keeping watch over a man's household and the city walls of his home's town that protect that house from invaders of the Ancient Near East, it was **vain** for them to labor to build and protect that household, 1.
 2. Indeed, it was vain to rise early and stay up late in such a toil, doing the **best** a head of household could do to insure the security of his household if the **Lord** was not involved, Ps. 127:2a.
 3. When one trusts in God and is loved by Him, God grants a head of household **sleep** -- implying both the sense of security he desires for his household, and freedom from being overworked at the job trying to nail down his livelihood and household security, Ps. 127:2b.
 4. It is **God** who gives a head of household sons to carry on his line and name as a **reward**, Ps. 127:3.
 5. These offspring act as defenders of a head of household in his waning years as his sons pick up the burden of producing a livelihood for him much like sharp arrows extend the impact of a warrior, 127:4.
 6. Indeed, God blesses a man who has such a developing family as his descendants can bring income and stand up to protect the city from invaders and be the man's own defense in his waning years, Ps. 127:5!

Lesson: *When a head-of-household pays the CASHLESS premiums of trusting and obeying the Lord, he (or she, as the case may be) is loved of the Lord (John 14:21, 23), and God gives security for that one in every way: namely, that one (a) can get proper SLEEP in being SECURE and NOT having to become a WORKAHOLIC to succeed; (b) that party finds PROTECTION from those who could ruin the party's household security either by crime or financial ruin; (c) that party finds PROVISION for the FUTURE so the party can have children who grow up to be STRONG and provide SECURITY for the party in that party's waning years of life on earth!*

Application: *(1) God's Workman's Insurance Policy covers the worker's welfare AND that of that party's family welfare, and adds INCOME and FUTURE SECURITY to both, and ALL for the CASHLESS premiums of the head of household's trust and obedience toward God! Thus, a head of household simply cannot afford to be without this wonderful insurance policy coverage! (2) Keep in mind that the Church era allows for trials for spiritual advancement for believers, and that there may be exceptions at times to Ps. 127's blessings for us who are no longer under Law!*