

Biblical Truths About Healthy Families
Psalm 127, 128
Father's Day – June 18, 2023

Psalm 127, our primary focus for Father's Day, is one in a collection of 15 songs referred to as Psalms of Ascent. These inspired expressions of truth in poetic form were sung, likely in sequence, by Hebrew fathers (Deut. 16:16), and later entire families, as they ascended to Jerusalem three times each year for the historic worship festivals. We know that later Jesus Himself, from an early age, also "went up" to Jerusalem for the annual feasts (Luke 2:41-42). Most came to know these *songs for the road* by heart, ensuring that the truths being expressed musically were reinforced and profoundly implanted in their thinking. Psalms 127 and 128 are two that highlight family relationships and responsibilities. Today we will examine four essential truths being affirmed from Psalm 127 related to having a healthy family and then conclude with an application from Psalm 128.

1. The absolute necessity of God's blessing (vs. 1)

(Note the affirmation of this truth in the other Psalms of Ascent, Psalms 120 – 134, along with Zachariah 4:6 and Hebrews 3:4)

2. The crucial role of parents as fellow builders (vs. 1)

(I Corinthians 3:9; II Corinthians 6:1; Ephesians 6:4; Colossians 3:21; Deuteronomy 6:4-8, 20-25)

3. The essential yet secondary role of work (vs. 2)

(Ecclesiastes 3:24-25; 3:22; 5:18-20; Colossians 3:23-24)

4. The gracious blessing of children in the home (vs. 3-5)

(Gifts, arrows, and olive plants)

(I Samuel 1:10-11, 26-28)

5. The resounding promise of God's blessing – Psalm 128)

Conclusion – Malachi 4:5-6