



# PILGRIM SONGS:

✠ THE PSALMS OF ASCENT ✠





*1 Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain. Unless the Lord watches over the city, the watchman stays awake in vain. 2 It is in vain that you rise up early and go late to rest, eating the bread of anxious toil; for he gives to his beloved sleep. 3 Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward. 4 Like arrows in the hand of a warrior are the children of one's youth. 5 Blessed is the man who fills his quiver with them! He shall not be put to shame when he speaks with his enemies in the gate.*

*-Psalm 127:1-5*



# *Recap of Context: Psalms of Ascent*

- These Psalms (120-134) were sang by Jews on their pilgrimages back to the temple in Jerusalem
- Three festivals they back to Jerusalem for annually: Feast of Unleavened Bread (Passover), Feast of Weeks (Pentecost), & Feast of Booths





# *The Practical Lens.*

1 Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain. Unless the Lord watches over the city, the watchman stays awake in vain. 2 It is in vain *anxiety/worry = fruit of self-sufficiency* that you rise up early and go late to rest, eating the bread of anxious toil; for he gives to his beloved sleep. 3 Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward. 4 Like arrows in the hand of a warrior are the children of one's youth. 5 Blessed is the man who fills his quiver with them! He shall not be put to shame when he speaks with his enemies in the gate.

-Psalm 127:1-5

*We trust & rely in the Lord in our vocation & family life recognizing all grace is a gift of His hand. (vs. 1, 3)*





*Reliance = Prayerful life laced with gospel gratitude*

*6 Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by **prayer** and **supplication with thanksgiving** let your requests be made known to God.  
7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”*

*-Philippians 4:6-7*





# *The Theological Lens.*

*Author of Ps. 127 = Solomon*

*House = Household; Temple; Davidic Line*

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8 Now, therefore, thus you [Nathan] shall say to my servant **David**, *‘Thus says the Lord of hosts, I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, that you should be prince over my people Israel. 9 And I have been with you wherever you went and have cut off all your enemies from before you. And I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. 10 And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may dwell in their own place and be disturbed no more. And violent men shall afflict them no more, as formerly,*





*11 from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel. And I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the Lord declares to you that **the Lord will make you a house.** 12 When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. 13 He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. 14 I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son.*

*-2 Samuel 8:8-14*





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*Solomon's Father = David*

*House = Household; Temple; Davidic Line*

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*Jerusalem*

Lord watches over the city, the watchman stays awake in vain. 2 It is in vain

that you rise up early and go late to rest, eating the bread of anxious toil; for

*Israel*

he gives to his beloved sleep. 3 Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord,

the fruit of the womb a reward. 4 Like arrows in the hand of a warrior are the

children of one's youth. 5 Blessed is the man who fills his quiver with them! He

shall not be put to shame when he speaks with his enemies in the gate.

• *Who is the offspring that will God will establish his kingdom forever (2 Sam. 7)?*

*-Psalm 127:1-5*

*Solomon = self-indulgent*

*Jesus = self-sacrificing*

• *Solomon fails to meet conditions in 1 Kin. 6:12*





*“Concerning this house that you [Solomon] are building, if you will walk in my statutes and obey my rules and keep all my commandments and walk in them, then I will establish my word with you, which I spoke to David your father.”*

*-1 Kings 6:12*





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• *Who is the offspring that will God will establish his kingdom forever (2 Sam. 7)? -Psalm 127:1-5*

*Solomon = self-indulgent  
Jesus = self-sacrificing*

• *Solomon fails to meet conditions in 1 Kin. 6:12*





# *The Wedded (Gospel & Application) Lens.*

*Jesus = Cornerstone & Builder of the Temple*

1 Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain. Unless the

*Jesus is Lord*

*Jesus watches over the city*

Lord watches over the city, the watchman stays awake in vain. 2 It is in vain

*Work/Family are not condition for our blessing & rest; Christ is.*

that you rise up early and go late to rest, eating the bread of anxious toil; for

*Jesus is the One who gives rest*

*Jesus is the heritage from the Lord*

he gives to his beloved sleep. 3 Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord,

*Jesus is the reward*

the fruit of the womb a reward. 4 Like arrows in the hand of a warrior are the

children of one's youth. 5 Blessed is the man who fills his quiver with them! He

shall not be put to shame when he speaks with his enemies in the gate.

*"We are never nearer to Christ than when we find ourselves lost in a holy amazement at his unspeakable love." -John Owen*

**-Psalm 127:1-5**

*Our original commission that echoes Eden revolves around work & family*







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