

Series: Striving Together as a Family

# EXCEPT THE LORD BUILD THE HOUSE

## PSALMS 127

Text: Psalms 127:1

### ***Psalm 127:1***

*<sup>1</sup> Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the LORD keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain.*

Introduction:

A happy and healthy home is one of the best places on earth, while an unhappy and unhealthy home is one of the most miserable places. So how can we have a happy and healthy home?

There are several steps we must take BUT turning to God is the first step. Somebody says, "Preacher, what can God do for my family?"

That's a good question and Psalm 127 gives a good answer.

It would seem that this Psalm was David's advice to his son Solomon.

The Psalmist gives some godly advice on starting a family.

Note briefly:

## **1. THE LORD'S POWER IS ESSENTIAL (VS. 1)**

### ***Psalm 127:1***

*<sup>1</sup> Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the LORD keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain.*

The Psalmist isn't talking about constructing a shelter. He's talking about establishing a family.

A Home Must Be Built By Someone.

Many claim to be builders, but there are few craftsmen.

When it comes to our homes being built there is only One who can build it as it should be built.

A. "Except the Lord Build the House"

We must labor, but God must build, and if this isn't the case all is done in vain.

Remember:

- Without God We're Nothing

### **John 15:5**

<sup>5</sup> *I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.*

#### B. "Except the Lord Keep the City

The Psalmist doesn't say or suggest that we just sit by and do nothing, but rather he is saying that we are to labor, but we are not to trust in what we have done understanding it is God who has made possible the results and it is God Who has been our protection.

Note not only is the "Lord's Power Essential" but also:

## **2. THE LORD'S PROMISES ARE ENCOURAGING (VS. 2)**

### **Psalm 127:2**

<sup>2</sup> *It is vain for you to rise up early, to sit up late, to eat the bread of sorrows: for so he giveth his beloved sleep.*

It is because that we are Resting in the Lord and Trusting in that which only He can do that make it possible for us not eat the bread of sorrows.

There are many today who are in families that are completely dysfunctional.

Children are left to themselves.

Parents try to shift the responsibility to raising their children to someone else.

Though we are dependent on the Lord to build our homes we must do our parts.

Notice lastly not only is The Lord Power Essential and the Lord's Promises Encouraging but also:

### **3. THE LORD'S PROVISIONS ARE ENJOYABLE (VS. 3-5)**

#### **Psalm 127:3-5**

<sup>3</sup> Lo, children *are* an heritage of the LORD: *and* the fruit of the womb *is his* reward. <sup>4</sup> As arrows *are* in the hand of a mighty man; so *are* children of the youth. <sup>5</sup> Happy *is* the man that hath his quiver full of them: they shall not be ashamed, but they shall speak with the enemies in the gate.

These verses deal with the family.

Verse 3 describes the value of children . . .

They are a heritage, not a hindrance; a blessing, not a burden. Dear people, there is no such thing as an unwanted child - only unfit parents.

The feminist movement says, "Children will cramp your style. They'll keep you from pursuing your career and being somebody."

And a lot of men argue, "Children are too expensive. If I have children, then I might not be able to drive the kind of car I want to, or live in the kind of house I want to, or take the kind of vacations I want to. After all, children make a rich man poor." Wait a second sir. You have it backwards. Children don't make a rich man poor. They make a poor man rich! You can't take any of your money to heaven, but you can take all of your children to heaven - if you'll lead them to Jesus. That's the value of children.

Verses 4 and 5 describe the values of children.

Somebody asks, "When should I start teaching values to my child?" The answer is when they are young and impressionable.

Verse 4 gives a good analogy. When does a warrior influence his arrow the most?

After he's shot it?

No.

When he holds it in his hand.

The best time to start teaching your child godly values is while they are very young(While in your hands) - while they'll still very impressionable.

Someone else asks, "What's the best way to teach values to my children?"

The best way to teach your child is by a godly example.

Teach your child the Bible with your lips and back it up with your life - and it will make an impression on their young hearts.

We should serve the Lord together as a family.

Nothing brings joy like a child who loves the Lord and has a heart for the things of God and serves Him with all their heart.

Close:

***Psalm 127:1***

*<sup>1</sup> Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the LORD keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain.*

As families today – May we pray Lord, I love my family and I need you to help my family. I put you first in my life and I ask you to help me build, protect, provide, and raise my family".