

The **Frustrated** House The **Blessed** House The Difference When the Lord Builds

'ASONGOT ASCENTS'

Psalms 127 and 128

'ASGING OF ASCENTS'

Psalms 127 and 128

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

Psalm 127:1

'ASONGOT ASCENTS'

Psalms 127 and 128

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

Psalm 127:1



The Frustrated House

A Uain Struggle?

Dusting is a good example of the futility of trying to put things right. As soon as you dust, the fact of your next dusting has already been established.

– George Carlin

"How many times do I have to tell you . . .?"

"No! I JUST cleaned that!"

"We have to find a way to cut back our spending this month . . . again."

"Honey, I love you, but we can't keep having this same argument."

"I just don't know if I can do it anymore."

I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.

John 15:5
English Standard Version

I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.

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Building a House

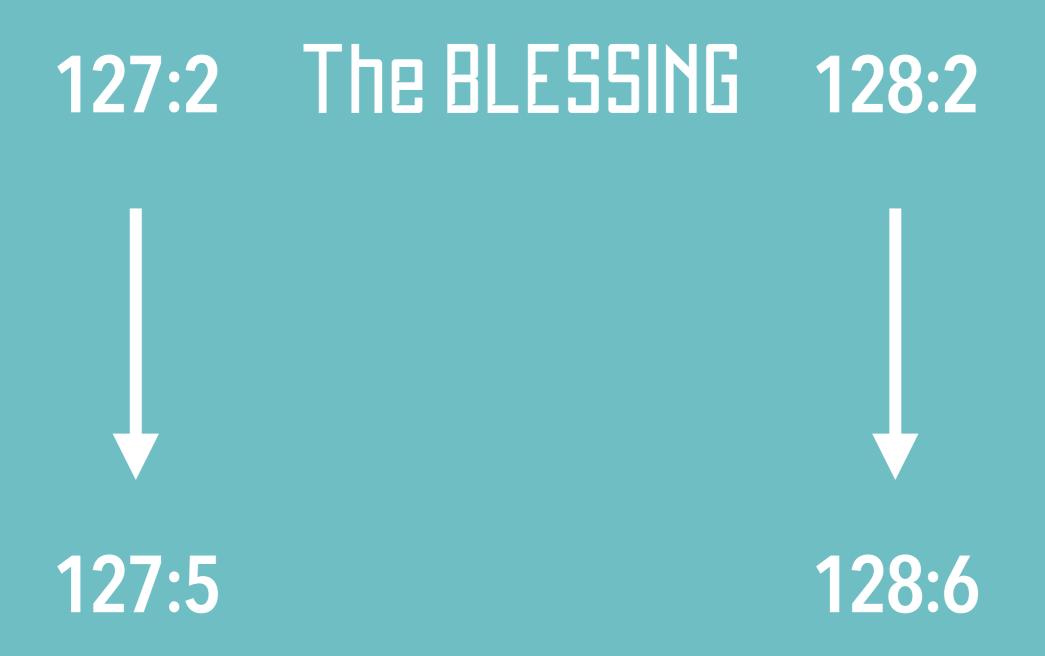
Psalm 127:1

The Elusive Ideal



2 The Blessed House

127:1 The CONDITION 128:1



What is the Blessing?

- * Fruitfulness (128:2) and peace (127:2; 128:6)
- * Mostly (in these Psalms) it is the simple gift of a thriving family (127:3-5; 128:3)
- * There is more to family than marriage & kids, and "God settles the solitary in a home" (68:6)

God's Blessing:

FHUIF ULNESS

God's Blessing:

FAUITFULNESS

Meaningful Accomplishment
The Opposite of Vanity I "Eat the Fruit" of Your Labor I Not Put to Shame

"Godly Offspring" (Mal. 2:15) Arrows I Fruit I Heritage I Olive Shoots Around Table I Children's Children

> Blessing in Your Marriage Your Wife Like a Fruitful Vine

God's Blessing:

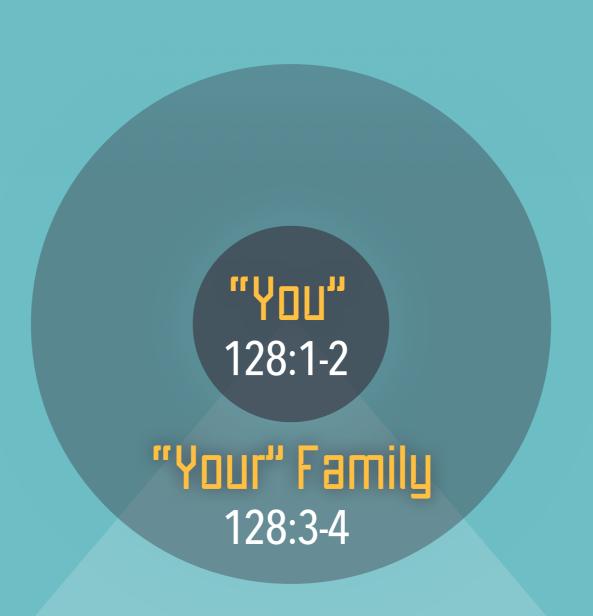
FRATEULNESS PERCE

Opposite of Anxious Toil I The Gift of Restful Sleep
SHALOM Be Upon You! I "It Shall Be Well With You"
Your Wife Will Be "Within Your House"

The Blessing that Began in a God—Fearing Man...



The Blessing that Began in a God—Fearing Man...



The Blessing that Began in a God—Fearing Man... Changes the Family, which Blesses the World.

"Yпц" 128:1-2

"Your" Family

128:3-4

The City and Nation 128:5-6

UNPRETENTIOUS, PROVIDENTIAL DISGUISED AS RESPONSIBILITIES OPPORTUNITIES TO BUILD WITH GOD

But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me.

1 Corinthians 15:10

English Standard Version



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3 The Difference

127:1 The CONDITION 128:1



Isaiah 8:12-14

English Standard Versior



Isaiah 8:12-14

English Standard Versior



Isaiah 8:12-14

English Standard Versior



...do not be troubled, but sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts...

1 Peter 3:14-15

Isaiah 8:12-14





Who is Lord of Your House?



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Order Determines Outcome

BEDTIME | OFFERING THANKS | VIDEO GAMES PERSONAL GROWTH | DISCIPLINING CHILDREN COMMUNITY SERVICE | HOMEWORK | BUDGET VISITING SHUT-IN CHRISTIANS | EATING OUT CHOIR PERFORMANCE | DEBT | SOCCER PRACTICE WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE CLASS | VACATIONS FAMILY GAME NIGHT | INVITING NEIGHBORS HOUSEHOLD CHORES | COACHING THE TEAM OVERTIME | HOBBIES | DIAPERS | IN-LAWS | TV SHOPPING | DATE NIGHT | MORNING COMMUTE CAR TROUBLES | NEW BABY | STRESS | LAUGHTER RETIREMENT | ROMANCE | MOURNING | HOLIDAY

We each have our hobbies, preferences, and commitments and we work it out from there.

(We build the house.)

The calendar gets filled up, the money gets spent, and we survive another day.

(Somehow, life just builds the house.)

We habitually ask each other how God's priorities, precepts, and purposes for our family should shape our next step.

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