

Studies in Psalms by [John T Polk II](#) For [The Fellowship Room](#)

Psalm 128

4/11/13

There is uncertainty regarding the author, time, or circumstances of these Psalms, but it is apparent [Psalms 120-134](#) work together, and are called the "Songs of Degrees," and sometimes "Songs of Ascension."

Psalm 128

What's In It For Me?

Verses 1-4 show wonderful blessings of a family that fears God;
Verses 5-6 show their hope for the future.

Verses 1-4: (Verse 1) The rule is "everyone who fears the LORD" is "blessed" (happy, contented), regardless of skin, salary, or social status. "Blessed *are those* whose lawless deeds are forgiven, And whose sins are covered; Blessed *is the* man to whom the LORD shall not impute sin" ([Romans 4:7-8](#)). "The memory of the righteous *is* blessed, But the name of the wicked will rot" ([Proverbs 10:7](#)). "Though a sinner does evil a hundred *times*, and his *days* are prolonged, yet I surely know that it will be well with those who fear God, who fear before Him" ([Ecclesiastes 8:12](#)). Everyone who "fears God" walks in His ways. "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep His commandments, For this is man's all" ([Ecclesiastes 12:13](#)).

(Verse 2) Honest work is rewarding, supporting, and satisfying. "The sleep of a laboring man is sweet, Whether he eats little or much; But the abundance of the rich will not permit him to sleep" ([Ecclesiastes 5:12](#)). "He who is slothful in his work Is a brother to him who is a great destroyer" ([Proverbs 18:9](#)). Those who live on government giveaways never know the true wealth of health that comes to those who earn their rewards. It is repeated of those who "will not work, neither shall he eat" ([2 Thessalonians 3:10](#)).

(Verse 3) "A fruitful vine" is one that produces something good, and is a good description of a good wife. She is considered the "very heart of your house." It is in husbands best interest to "to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself" ([Ephesians 5:28](#)). "An excellent wife *is* the crown of her husband, But she who causes shame *is* like rottenness in his bones" ([Proverbs 12:4](#)). "Olive plants" produce very useful oil, capable of many applications, so children add many moments of pleasure and happiness. A man whose wife and children sit around his table cannot be more satisfying.



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(Verse 4) A home that “fears God” cannot be improved upon for sheer joy.

Verses 5-6: (Verse 5) For Israelites under Moses, “Zion” was the Temple Mount in Jerusalem, the center of their worship, and from which their blessings originated. When individuals “fear God” and “walk in His ways,” it benefits their city for all of their lives. Obeying God is always good for our country, city, community.

(Verse 6) Those who serve God not only are blessed themselves, and their families, and their neighbors, but into the next generations, “children’s children.”

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