

# I Will with God's Help

Psalms 127:1-2

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- “Unless the LORD builds the house, They labor in vain who build it; Unless the LORD guards the city, The watchman stays awake in vain. 2 It is vain for you to rise up early, To sit up late, To eat the bread of sorrows; For so He gives His beloved sleep.”

# Things In Life Most Honorable People Seek:

- A good family life
- Protection from violence
- Success in work
- Victory when there is war
- Worship that pleases God
- Churches that flourish and grow

# Things In Life Most Honorable People Seek:

- People spend a great deal of time, effort, and yearning for these things.
- But human effort alone will not ensure that they will acquire them.
- “Human enterprises only succeed by Divine blessing.” (*Jameison-Fausset-Brown Commentary*)

# In Our Families

- Good homes are desirable.
- Good homes require God's blessing.
  - Psalm 127:3-5 - “Behold, children are a heritage from the LORD, The fruit of the womb is a reward. 4 Like arrows in the hand of a warrior, So are the children of one's youth. 5 Happy is the man who has his quiver full of them; They shall not be ashamed, But shall speak with their enemies in the gate.”

# In Our Families

- There may be times when it is God's will that one be single or have a small family.
  - 1Cor. 7:7, 32-35 - "For I wish that all men were even as I myself. But each one has his own gift from God, one in this manner and another in that... 32 But I want you to be without care. He who is unmarried cares for the things of the Lord--how he may please the Lord. 33 But he who is married cares about the things of the world--how he may please his wife. 34 There is a difference between a wife and a virgin. The unmarried woman cares about the things of the Lord, that she may be holy both in body and in spirit. But she who is married cares about the things of the world--how she may please her husband."

# In Our Families

- Yet without God's approval and involvement, our efforts will fail.
- This also requires that we do not put our families before God.
  - Matt. 10:37 - “He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me.”
  - Matt. 22:37 - “Jesus said to him, ‘You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.’”

# In Our Safety

- Providing security is part of providing for one's family.
  - 1Tim. 5:8 - “But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.”



# In Our Safety

- True security requires God's protection.
  - Psalm 121:1-8 - "I will lift up my eyes to the hills-From whence comes my help? 2 My help comes from the LORD, Who made heaven and earth. 3 He will not allow your foot to be moved; He who keeps you will not slumber. 4 Behold, He who keeps Israel Shall neither slumber nor sleep. 5 The LORD is your keeper; The LORD is your shade at your right hand. 6 The sun shall not strike you by day, Nor the moon by night. 7 The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; He shall preserve your soul. 8 The LORD shall preserve your going out and your coming in From this time forth, and even forevermore."

# At Work

- God wants us work with our hands.
  - 1Thes. 4:11-12 - “You also aspire to lead a quiet life, to mind your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you, 12 that you may walk properly toward those who are outside, and that you may lack nothing.”
  - Eph. 4:28 - “Let him who stole steal no longer, but rather let him labor, working with his hands what is good, that he may have something to give him who has need.”
  - Gen. 2:15 - “Then the LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to tend and keep it.”

# At Work

- True success requires God's favor.
  - Ecc. 2:26 - "For God gives wisdom and knowledge and joy to a man who is good in His sight; but to the sinner He gives the work of gathering and collecting, that he may give to him who is good before God. This also is vanity and grasping for the wind."
- We must never put our jobs before God if we want His approval and blessing at work.
  - Matt. 6:33 - "But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you."

# In Conflict

- Victory does not depend upon might alone.
  - Prov. 21:31 - “The horse is prepared for the day of battle, But deliverance is of the LORD.”
  - Psalm 33:16-17 - “No king is saved by the multitude of an army; A mighty man is not delivered by great strength. 17 A horse is a vain hope for safety; Neither shall it deliver any by its great strength.”

# In Conflict

- Victory does not depend upon might alone.
  - Psalm 33:18-22 - “Behold, the eye of the LORD is on those who fear Him, On those who hope in His mercy, 19 To deliver their soul from death, And to keep them alive in famine. 20 Our soul waits for the LORD; He is our help and our shield. 21 For our heart shall rejoice in Him, Because we have trusted in His holy name. 22 Let Your mercy, O LORD, be upon us, Just as we hope in You.”

# In Worship

- God desires that we worship Him.
  - John 4:23 - “But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him.”
  - 1Peter 2:9 - “But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.”

# In Worship

- But not all worship is approved.
  - Prov. 15:8 - “The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to the LORD, But the prayer of the upright is His delight.”
  - Matt. 15:9 - “And in vain they worship Me, Teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.”

# In The Local Congregation

- We are encouraged to labor for the Lord.
  - 1Cor. 15:58 - “Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.”
  - Heb. 6:10 - “For God is not unjust to forget your work and labor of love which you have shown toward His name, in that you have ministered to the saints, and do minister.”



# In The Local Congregation

- Success does not come from labor alone, nor from following all of the rules.
  - 1Cor. 3:6-7 - “I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase. 7 So then neither he who plants is anything, nor he who waters, but God who gives the increase.”
  - 2Cor. 3:5-6 - “Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think of anything as being from ourselves, but our sufficiency is from God, 6 who also made us sufficient as ministers of the new covenant...”
  - We work as though it all depends on us; we must pray as though it all depends on God.

# I Will with God's Help

- Whatever our endeavor, it will fail unless God approves and is involved.
  - Psalms 127:1-2 - “Unless the LORD builds the house, They labor in vain who build it; Unless the LORD guards the city, The watchman stays awake in vain. 2 It is vain for you to rise up early, To sit up late, To eat the bread of sorrows; For so He gives His beloved sleep.”
  - Psalm 90:17 - “And let the beauty of the LORD our God be upon us, And establish the work of our hands for us; Yes, establish the work of our hands.”