

THE FOUNDATION FOR THE FAMILY

Psalm 127

“Useless,” Boice tells that this is the word RC Sproul hated the most. He would work hard, even long hours and forego pleasures or benefits, but not if it was useless. “Because if what I do is useless, then I am useless.”

Yet, “useless” or “vanity” is what our life is if we leave God out of the picture. This is true for our families. We must build our families upon the Lord, living with a total dependency upon Him. Unless the Lord blesses our family our greatest efforts are in useless.

Psalm 127 is a wisdom psalm emphasizing the need for God’s blessing on all undertakings. “Without the Lord, frustration,” is the motto of the city of Edinburgh, Scotland. Also true for all who try to live without the Lord.

TWO INSIGHTS CALLING US TO BUILD OUR LIVES, OUR FAMILIES UPON THE LORD.

For we really are totally and utterly dependant upon Him for everything!

I. The Things We Do To Support Our Families Are Vain If God Is Absent From The Process. (vv1-2)

A. Three times Solomon used the word “vain.” This is emphasized so that we will not miss it.
Don’t build your life on a faulty foundation. Many do.

B. Solomon tells that success depends on more than hard work and honest endeavor. The unseen and all-important thing is that God must bless what we do. In three ways:

1. If you attempt to build your house for your family...useless without God.
2. If you attempt to provide security and safety for your family...useless without God.
In the old days, the walls of a city provided protection for the families within.
3. Even if you attempt to spend long hours working to provide for your family, we are told that even that is “vain.” (v.2)

The thought is that long continuous activity without any thought of needing God’s help in the matter is vain.

C. If the Lord is invited to help, He becomes active helping us while we are sleeping. (v.2b)

1. The verse is better read: “He grants, even while sleeping, to those He loves.”
2. The point here is not sleep, but God’s blessing upon you and yours.
3. The Lord gives His help to our activity, at a time when our participation is ruled out!
He works behind the scene while we are disengaged from the process. Sleeping!

