

# Psalm 128

This Psalm lays down the conditions for the joy-filled family of **Psalm 127**.

**Psalms 128:1** [NIV] *“Blessed are all who fear the LORD, who walk in his ways.”*

**The key to any success in our physical and spiritual life is the fear of the Triune God, this reverential respect of God should be the controlling motive of our lives, not merely the fear of His power and righteous retribution, but a wholesome dread of displeasing Him.**

A deep respectful fear will banish any terror that causes us to shrink from His presence, [**Romans 8:15; 1 John 4:18**]. **It is through the active presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives that the right reverent respect for our Creator God can be ours, for the love of the Triune God is one of His characteristics, [Galatians 5:22-25].**

The next condition is to *“walk in His ways.”* The commandments of God and His Word, the Christian Bible, clearly show us how our Creator God wishes we conduct our lives, which will in the end be a blessing for us.

**Psalms 128:2** [NIV] *“You will eat the fruit of your labour; blessings and prosperity will be yours.”*

*“Fruit of our labour”* in contrast to the fruitless toil of –

**Haggai 1:5-6, 9** [NIV] *“Now this is what the LORD Almighty says: ‘Give careful thought to your ways. You have planted much, but have harvested little. You eat, but never have enough. You drink, but never have your fill. You put on clothes, but are not warm. You earn wages, only to put them in a purse with holes in it.’” ... “You expected much, but see, it turned out to be little. What you brought home, I blew away. Why?’ declares the LORD Almighty. ‘Because of my house, which remains a ruin, while each of you is busy with his own house.’”*

**This was because they had left worship of the true God out of their lives.**

[Please download and study the article, ‘*A Life That Has Left God Out Of The Reckoning*’ listed under main heading ‘*Human Nature*’.]

The link between obedience and prosperity is unvaried in the Old Testament, [**Deuteronomy 28:1-14 and contrasting verses 15-45**].

**Psalms 128:3** [NIV] *“Your wife will be like a fruitful vine within your house; your sons will be like olive shoots round your table.”*

*“Fruitful vine”* is a happy choice of symbol for a loved wife, like a vine, needing support yet ever giving more than getting in providing joy for her husband, [**Proverbs 31:10-31**].

*“Olive shoots”* **wine and oil are two symbols of God’s unhindered blessing, [Deuteronomy 8:6-8; Hosea 2:21-22].** Also the olive symbolises vitality and continuance, [**Psalms 52:8**].

**Psalms 128:4** [NIV] *“Thus is the man blessed who fears the LORD.”*

**This repetition of Verse 1 emphasises that such blessing are only in the context of a right reverence of the Creator God.**

**Psalms 128:5-6** [NIV] *“May the LORD bless you from Zion all the days of your life; may you see the prosperity of Jerusalem, and may you live to see your children’s children. Peace be upon Israel.”*

It is **not** “*religion*” as such that will bring a person domestic and personal fulfilment. It comes only from a true God whose presence is symbolised in Zion.

Also **no** person is an island, their personal wellbeing is bound up with the good of God’s people as a whole.

[Please download and study the article on this website ‘*No-One Is An Island*’ as listed under the main heading ‘*Relationships*’.]