

Psalms 127:4

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man; so are children of the youth.

Analysis

As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man; so are children of the youth.

Arrows extend a warrior's reach; require strength to draw; achieve what the warrior alone cannot. Children born in youth are especially valuable—young parents have energy, and children reach maturity while parents are active.

Historical Context

Ancient warfare relied on archery. A skilled warrior with arrows could defend effectively. Young parents with many children could defend family interests and extend covenant influence.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. How does the arrow metaphor shape understanding raising children with purpose?
2. In what ways are children "weapons" in spiritual warfare?
3. How might parents "aim" children toward kingdom purposes?

Interlinear Text

כְּחֶצֶץ יִם	בְּיָד	גִּבּוֹר	כִּי	בְנֵי י	הַנְּעוּרִים:
As arrows	are in the hand	of a mighty man	H3651	so are children	of the youth
H2671	H3027	H1368		H1121	H5271

Additional Cross-References

Proverbs 17:6 (Parallel theme): Children's children are the crown of old men; and the glory of children are their fathers.

Proverbs 31:28 (Parallel theme): Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her.

Jeremiah 50:9 (Parallel theme): For, lo, I will raise and cause to come up against Babylon an assembly of great nations from the north country: and they shall set themselves in array against her; from thence she shall be taken: their arrows shall be as of a mighty expert man; none shall return in vain.

Psalms 120:4 (Parallel theme): Sharp arrows of the mighty, with coals of juniper.