

Psalms 127:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them: they shall not be ashamed, but they shall speak with the enemies in the gate.

Analysis

Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them. They shall not be ashamed, but they shall speak with the enemies in the gate. A full quiver means many children. The blessing isn't just private joy but public strength—they won't be shamed when confronting enemies in the gate (law courts). Many sons meant advocates, defenders. This challenges small-family preferences.

Historical Context

City gates were where legal cases were heard (Genesis 23:10, Ruth 4). A man with many sons had representatives to defend family interests, providing social capital and security.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How does this challenge views that large families are irresponsible?
2. What would "full quiver" mean for those called to spiritual parenting?
3. How does family strength in public square connect to church's cultural engagement?

Interlinear Text

אֲשֶׁר יֵ	הֵגֶּבֶר	אֲשֶׁר	מֵלֵא	אֶת	אֲשַׁפֵּת וְ	לֹא	מִן הָ
Happy	is the man	H834	full	H853	that hath his quiver		H1992
H835	H1397		H4390		H827		H3808
	יִבְשׁוּ		כִּי	יִדְבַּר וְ	אֶת	אֹיְבָיו	
	of them they shall not be ashamed		H3588	but they shall speak	H854	with the enemies	
	H954			H1696		H341	
בַּשַּׁעַר:							
in the gate							
H8179							

Additional Cross-References

Proverbs 27:11 (Parallel theme): My son, be wise, and make my heart glad, that I may answer him that reproacheth me.

Job 5:4 (Parallel theme): His children are far from safety, and they are crushed in the gate, neither is there any to deliver them.