

# Psalms 128:4

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Behold, that thus shall the man be blessed that feareth the LORD.

## Analysis

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The blessing is confirmed with certainty: 'Behold, that thus shall the man be blessed that feareth the LORD.' The word 'behold' calls attention to what has been described - commanding notice and reflection. The phrase 'that thus' points back to verses 2-3, summarizing the blessings enumerated. The affirmation 'shall the man be blessed' restates the opening (v. 1) with emphasis - this is certain, not merely possible. The repetition of 'feareth the LORD' as the qualifying condition reinforces that blessing flows from right relationship with God, not human merit or effort alone. This verse functions as a capstone to the first half of the psalm, asserting confidently that what has been described is the typical pattern for God-fearers. While not absolute promise that precludes suffering, it establishes the general principle of covenant blessing.

## Historical Context

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The certainty expressed here reflects covenant theology where obedience produces blessing as promised pattern (Deuteronomy 28). The psalm assumes corporate, multi-generational perspective - blessing might not appear immediately but unfolds over time and across generations. The wisdom tradition teaches this as general rule while acknowledging exceptions (Job, Ecclesiastes).

## Related Passages

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**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

**Psalms 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

## Study Questions

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1. Why does the psalm repeat the condition 'feareth the LORD' rather than assuming it's understood?
2. How do we reconcile this certain promise with biblical examples of God-fearers who suffered (Job, Jeremiah, Paul)?
3. What does 'thus' (in this manner) suggest about the nature of blessing - is it always exactly this form?
4. How does the 'behold' function to fix our attention on this pattern as worthy of notice?
5. In what ways is blessing both immediate/individual and delayed/corporate?

## Interlinear Text

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הֵן ה	כִּי	כִּי	יְבָרֵךְ	גַּם בָּר	יִרְאֶה
H2009	H3588	H3651	<b>be blessed</b>	<b>Behold that thus shall the man</b>	<b>that feareth</b>
			H1288	H1397	H3373
יְהוָה:					
<b>the LORD</b>					
H3068					