

Psalm 128:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Yea, thou shalt see thy children's children, and peace upon Israel.

Analysis

The psalm concludes with multi-generational blessing: 'Yea, thou shalt see thy children's children, and peace upon Israel.' The word 'yea' adds emphasis, building on verse 5. The phrase 'see thy children's children' promises longevity and generational continuity - living long enough to know grandchildren was considered great blessing (Genesis 50:23; Job 42:16; Proverbs 17:6). This extends the family imagery (v. 3) across multiple generations, demonstrating covenant continuity. Children's children mean legacy, memory, and covenant promises extending forward. The final phrase 'peace upon Israel' concludes with corporate blessing - shalom (peace, wholeness, flourishing) resting on the entire covenant community. Personal blessing (seeing grandchildren) and national blessing (peace on Israel) are held together. The psalm ends with vision of multi-generational family and peaceful nation - comprehensive well-being flowing from fearing the LORD.

Historical Context

In ancient culture, grandchildren represented success in fulfilling the creation mandate (Genesis 1:28) and covenant promises to Abraham (Genesis 12:2; 15:5). Seeing multiple generations meant one's line would continue and covenant identity would be preserved. The connection to Israel's peace reflects how individual families flourished best in stable, peaceful national context.

Related Passages

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. Why is seeing 'children's children' considered such significant blessing?
2. How does the emphasis on generations encourage long-term, sustained faithfulness rather than short-term gain?
3. What is the relationship between personal longevity (seeing grandchildren) and national peace?
4. How does this ending challenge modern individualism that disconnects personal life from community welfare?
5. In what ways do Christians experience multi-generational blessing and participate in the peace of God's people?

Interlinear Text

וְרָאָה	לְבָנִים	לְבָנִים	שֶׁלֶם	עַל	ישָׁבָאֵל:
Yea thou shalt see	children	children	and peace	H5921	upon Israel
H7200	H1121	H1121	H7965		H3478

Additional Cross-References

Job 42:16 (Parallel theme): After this lived Job an hundred and forty years, and saw his sons, and his sons' sons, even four generations.

Genesis 50:23 (Parallel theme): And Joseph saw Ephraim's children of the third generation: the children also of Machir the son of Manasseh were brought up upon Joseph's knees.

Psalms 125:5 (Peace): As for such as turn aside unto their crooked ways, the LORD shall lead them forth with the workers of iniquity: but peace shall be upon Israel.

Isaiah 66:12 (Peace): For thus saith the LORD, Behold, I will extend peace to her like a river, and the glory of the Gentiles like a flowing stream: then shall ye suck, ye shall be borne upon her sides, and be dandled upon her knees.

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

Galatians 1:16 (Parallel theme): To reveal his Son in me, that I might preach him among the heathen; immediately I conferred not with flesh and blood:

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