

Labour of Grace

工作本乎恩

Psalm 詩篇 127

The most **valuable**
things in life
are not **earned** by hard work
but given by God's **grace**

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Israel from Exodus to Exile

- Egypt to **Canaan** (ca 1660-1445 BC)
- The **Judges** (ca 1445-1050 BC)
- The **Kingdom** of David (ca 1050-930 BC)
- The **Divided** Kingdom (ca 930-586 BC)
- The **Exile** (ca 586-457 BC)

1 Unless the Lord **builds** the house,
the builders **labor** in vain.

若不是耶和華**建造**房屋，
建造的人就枉然**勞力**；

Unless the Lord **watches** over the city,
the guards **stand watch** in vain.

若不是耶和華**看守**城池，
看守的人就枉然**警醒**。

2 In vain you **rise early** and **stay up** late,
toiling for food to eat –
for he **grants sleep** to those he loves.

你們清晨**早起**，**夜晚**安歇，
吃**勞碌**得來的飯，本是枉然；
唯有耶和華所親愛的，
必**叫他安然睡覺**。

Psalm 詩篇 127:2 (NIV/和合本) (p.2/4)

3 Children are a **heritage** from the Lord,
offspring a **reward** from him.

兒女是耶和華所賜的**產業**，
所懷的胎是他所給的**賞賜**。

4 Like **arrows** in the hands of a **warrior**
are children born in one's youth.

少年時所生的兒女，
好像**勇士**手中的**箭**。

5 **Blessed** is the man
whose quiver is full of them.

They will not be put to **shame**
when they **contend**
with their opponents in court.

箭袋充滿的人便為**有福**！
他們在城門口和仇敵說話的時候，
必不至於**羞愧**。



Psalm 詩篇 127

1. **Success** / Security

成功與保障 (v1)

2. **Sleep**

睡眠 (v2)

3. **Sons** / Daughters

兒子與女兒 (v3-5)

Unless the Lord **builds** the house,
the builders **labor** in vain.

若不是耶和華**建造**房屋，
建造的人就枉然**勞力**；

Psalm 詩篇 127:1a (NIV/和合本)

1 After **David** was settled in his **palace**,
he said to Nathan the prophet,

“Here I am, living in a **house of cedar**,
while the **ark** of the covenant of the Lord
is under a **tent**.”

大衛住在自己**宮**中，對先知拿單
說：

「看哪，我住在**香柏木**的宮中，
耶和華的**約櫃**反在**幔子**裡！」

4 **You are not** the one
to build Me a house to dwell in.

****你不可****建造殿宇給我居住。

7 **I took you** from the pasture, [...] and appointed you **ruler** over My people Israel.

****我****從羊圈中****將你****召來，[...] 立你做我民以色列的****君****。

1 Chronicles 歷代志上 17:4,7 (NIV/和合本) (p.2/3)

10 I declare to you that
the Lord will build a house for you:

我耶和華應許你，必為你**建立**家室。

11 I will raise up your **offspring** to succeed you,
one of your own **sons**,
and I will establish **his kingdom**.

我必使你的**後裔**接續你的位，
我也必堅定**他的國**。

1 Chronicles 歷代志上 17:10-11 (NIV/和合本) (p.3/3)

Unless the Lord **watches** over the city,
the guards **stand watch** in vain.

若不是耶和華**看守**城池，
看守的人就枉然**警醒**。

Psalm 詩篇 127:1b (NIV/和合本)

So **do not worry**, saying,
‘What shall we **eat?**’
or ‘What shall we **drink?**’
or ‘What shall we **wear?**’

所以，**不要憂慮**說**吃**什麼、
喝什麼、**穿**什麼。

Matthew 馬太福音 6:31 (NIV/和合本) (p.1/3)

For the **pagans** run after all these things,
and your **heavenly Father**
knows that you need them.

這都是**外邦**人所求的。
你們需用的這一切東西，
你們的**天父**是知道的。

Matthew 馬太福音 6:32 (NIV/和合本) (p.2/3)

But seek first **his kingdom**
and **his righteousness**,

and all these things
will be given to you as well.

你們要先求**他的國**和**他的義**，
這些東西都要加給你們了。

Matthew 馬太福音 6:33 (NIV/和合本) (p.3/3)

What defines my
success?

What is my source
of **security?**

Psalm 詩篇 127

1. Success / Security

成功與保障 (v1)

2. **Sleep**

睡眠 (v2)

3. Sons / Daughters

兒子與女兒 (v3-5)

In vain you **rise early**
and **stay up** late,
toiling for food to eat

你們清晨**早起**，**夜晚**安歇，
吃**勞碌**得來的飯，本是枉然；

Psalm 詩篇 127:2a (NIV/和合本)

Cursed is the ground because of you;
through **painful toil**
you will eat **food** from it
all the days of your life.

地必為你的緣故受**咒詛**，
你必終身**勞苦**，才能從地裡得吃的。

Genesis 創世記 3:17 (NIV/和合本)

God gives some people
wealth, possessions and **honor**,
so that they **lack nothing** their hearts desire, ...

就是人蒙神賜他**資財**、**豐富**、**
尊榮**，

以致他心裡所願的一樣**都不缺**， ...

Ecclesiastes 傳道書 6:2a (NIV/和合本) (p.1/2)

... but God does not grant them
the ability to **enjoy** them,
and **strangers** enjoy them instead.

This is **meaningless**, a grievous evil.

... 只是神使他**不能享用**，

反有**外人**來享用。

這是**虛空**，也是禍患。

Ecclesiastes 傳道書 6:2b (NIV/和合本) (p.2/2)

Blessed are all who **fear the Lord**,
who walk in **obedience** to him.

You will eat the **fruit** of your **labor**;
blessings and **prosperity** will be yours.

凡**敬畏**耶和華、
遵行他道的人便為有福！
你要吃**勞碌**得來的，
你要**享福**，事情順利。

Psalm 詩篇 128:1-2 (NIV/和合本)

for he **grants sleep** to those he **loves**.

唯有耶和華所親愛的，
必**叫他安然睡覺**。

Psalm 詩篇 127:2b (NIV/和合本)

The **sleep** of a **laborer** is sweet,
whether they eat **little** or much,

but as for the **rich**,
their abundance permits them **no sleep**.

勞碌的人不拘吃多吃少，**睡得香甜**
**；

富足人的豐滿，卻**不容他睡覺**。

Ecclesiastes 傳道書 5:12 (NIV/和合本)

Do I view **sleep** as
God's **grace**, or
a necessary **evil**?

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Psalm 詩篇 127:3 (NIV/和合本)

4 Like **arrows** in the hands of a **warrior**
are children born in one's youth.

少年時所生的兒女，
好像**勇士**手中的**箭**。

5 **Blessed** is the man
whose quiver is full of them.

箭袋充滿的人便為**有福**！

Psalm 詩篇 127:4-5 (NIV/和合本)

A man in a red and blue plaid shirt is walking away from the camera on a sandy beach, carrying a young child on his back. The background shows a calm sea and a clear sky.

A **wise son** brings **joy** to his father,
but a **foolish son** brings **grief** to his mother.

智慧之子使父親**歡樂**，
愚昧之子叫母親**擔憂**。

Proverbs 箴言 10:1 (NIV/和合本)

Why does God give
us **children?**

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the builders **labor** in vain.

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Psalm 詩篇 127:5 (NIV/和合本) (p.4/4)

