

Valuables & Vanities

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Texts/Readings:

Psa 127:1 Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the LORD keep the city, the watchman waketh *but* in vain.

Psa 127:2 *It is vain* for you to rise up early, to sit up late, to eat the bread of sorrows: *for* so he giveth his beloved sleep.

Psa 127:3 Lo, children *are* an heritage of the LORD: *and* the fruit of the womb *is* his reward.

Psa 127:4 As arrows *are* in the hand of a mighty man; so *are* children of the youth.

Psa 127:5 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.

Psalms chapter 27 is a psalm written by Solomon. Five-verse chapter which can be divided into two parts. The first two verses are the “vanities”, and the next three verses are the valuables of life.

With King Solomon’s experiences, we can say that he is qualified to speak of the vanities and the valuables of life; In this chapter he is talking about the important and not important things.

Verse 1 & 2	Verse. 3, 4 & 5
House	Home
Deals that are vain	Deals that are valuables
House built on vanity	Home built on value
Focus on building structure	Focusing on building people

- The greatest Influence for good and bad happens in the home.

- 16% of a child’s time happens in school, 1% at best is at Sunday School, 83% of a child’s time is spent at home.

Noteworthy Values to Stay Out-Of-Focus on Vanities:

1. **Reject empty activities** - learning the difference between vanities and valuables are very important. Two things that are mentioned in verses 1 & 2, “House and city”, while a house needs building, a city which was already built needs guarding. Solomon built his house and God’s house for twenty years.

1Ki 9:10 And it came to pass at the end of **twenty years**, when Solomon had built the two houses, the house of the LORD, and the king’s house. Twenty years for his house **1Ki 7:1** But Solomon was building his own house thirteen years, and he finished all his house.

And God’s house for **7 years**. **1Ki 6:38**was the house finished throughout all the parts thereof, and according to all the fashion of it. So was he seven years in building it.

2. **Avoid Unnecessary Worrying** - There is a reason why the bible says, “Don’t worry about anything, but PRAY about everything...” (Phil. 4:6) : “University of Wisconsin” had a finding about what people worry about:

- a. 40% - most people worry about would never happen
- b. 30% - most people worry about are things regarding the past that cannot be changed anyway.

- c. 12% - are worries others labels at us that most of them are untrue.
- d. 10% - people worry about are health issues w/c worry cannot improve anyway.
- e. 8% - only are legitimate concerns and would most likely occur.

Solomon in verse 2 wrote, that worry is an unhealthy diet, it is like eating the “bread” of sorrow; But worrying is also an unbecoming of a child of God, for it is God who giveth his beloved sleep.

3. Prioritize Building Relationship - When God created all in six days the Lord said everything was good or very good, until he saw man being alone. Then the Lord said it is not good that the man should be alone (Gen.2:18). Men are designed to be interdependent. Gen.3:8 mentioned about God walking in the cool of the day, but Adam and Eve have hid themselves from the presence of God. Seems like, God walking in the cool of the day is an indicator that God has a regular, deeper, and amazing relationship with man.

God calls us to relationship building. ~We need to build relationship with our family. Solomon mentioned in verses 3, 4 & 5.

Vs. 3, Children are heritage of the Lord, in some translation it says, children are the Lord’s best gift.

Vs. 4, As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man. - There are two methods of making an arrow and nine steps or six of making an arrow work; but Three major components are the stick or shaft, the point that can be made of rock or metal or other materials,

and feathers to be fletched for a good aerodynamics.

Three Important Things to do for arrows to work:

- 1.) **Fashioned** - Like the shaft of arrow we need to be fashioned straight. Being straight and faithful in serving and in our walk with God. **Pro 25:19** Confidence in an unfaithful man in time of trouble *is like* a broken tooth, and a foot out of joint. It is like integrity, “It may be sharp but without integrity, it would not reach its destination.”
- 2.) **Sharpened** - Like the iron head or point of the arrow we need to be sharpened. **Ecc 10:10** If the iron be blunt, and he do not whet the edge, then must he put to more strength: but wisdom *is* profitable to direct. “Without sharpness, it may fly but would never stick!”
- 3.) **Stabilized** - Stability is like an peace and order in our life, it is a balance life, it is someone who walks by faith and not by sight. It is someone whose steps are ordered by the Lord; a man or woman who is submitted to the authority of God and spiritual leadership. A man who is mightily founded in the word of God and sound doctrine, is a well stable man, a man of great faith. “A man unstable would also not reach its destination but worst it would most likely fall at the middle of the flight.”

Our children same with the church and newborn saints need to be trained in the

way they should go and when they're old they would not depart from it.

~ Training assures the future launch to go smoothly, and avoid unnecessary painful and hurtful experiences.

Summary:

Taking Jesus out of the picture in the beginning or process of building life is a big mistake. Vanities come in when we think we can do life without Him. We need to rededicate our life, recommit ourselves, and let Jesus know once again that without Him we can't do nothing; that we are totally dependent and reliant on God. Apart from Jesus all is vanity! Activities, projects, building and preserving what we built without building the relationship with the people who lives in our houses and cities is vanity. But walking and working with Jesus and by seeking God's kingdom first, family, church, community, lost souls, this is value!