

Elementary Sunday School Lesson  
April 25, 2010

Northern Lights Baptist Church  
Pastor Gregg Clark

**=Story Behind the Psalm=  
Psalm 125-129**

**NOTE:** *These lessons are designed simply as a guideline. As a Sunday School teacher part of your job is to study the lesson and develop it for the pupils in your class according to their age and spiritual development.*

**Scripture:** Psalms 125-129

**AUTHORS:** Mainly David and Solomon

**The Story Behind the Psalms**

These are called "Psalms of ascension." They were basically travel Psalms. They were used specifically for the three annual feasts. As the Jews would march to Jerusalem for the feast, they would sing these Psalms of ascension. From anywhere in the promised land, it was always "up" to Jerusalem, for Jerusalem was the highest point in the land. So as the people would ascend to Jerusalem, they would sing these songs one after another.

When they arrived at Jerusalem, they would go to the temple. These Psalms were sung on the steps of the temple. Psalm 120 would be sung on the first step, Psalm 121 on the second step, etc. until each Psalm had been sung (there were 15 steps ascending to the temple). Since these were sung going up the steps, they were called "Psalms of ascension." As they are read it should be kept in mind that these were travelers going to the holy city for a feast. Read carefully Psalm 128 and imagine a great group of pilgrims journeying for a time of worship in the beloved city.

**The Way They Were Used by God's People**

Not only were they used for trips to the feasts and to Jerusalem, these were Psalms used for any journey. What a tremendous thing it would be for a Christian family to claim Psalm 128 as they leave on vacation or for a Christian businessman to claim its promises as he leaves for a business trip! In these days of advanced travel, these Psalms should be used over and over again as we journey to and fro.

**LESSON:**

Each of these Psalms has a main subject the Jews would sing about. These are all subjects worthy of lifting our voices unto God and ought to be regular themes of the heart.

### **1. God will bless the children.**

It's often said that if you ever want to get a prayer answered, go to a child or go to a widow for the Lord will hear their prayer. And it's true, the Bible specifically said that God will hear the children's prayer, but only if you are doing what the Lord wants you to do.

Remember Josiah, one of Israel's greatest kings? He was the king at the age of 8 and he grew up in the house of the Lord (church). And he was one of the very few good kings after a very long line of wicked Kings. His father was so wicked that God killed before his time. But God remembered Josiah and He let this king to reign for several decades.

So if you ever want anything, just remember that God will hear your prayer before he will an adult.

### **2. Once you become older, you have to maintain your relationship.**

When the kids get older, they will no longer have a curfew, or they won't be told what, when, and how they eat. And they will slowly drift away from their parents because they are going to become they own individual. But, whenever you want to you can always come back to your parents as a teenager or adult and renew that relationship and bond.

Likewise with God, as we grew older we start to drift away from God and become more self-sufficient and less lenient on God. But we need to realize that we need God all the time, whether we can do an obstacle without him.

### **3. Children are a great display for God and your parents to watch.**

Psalms 128:3 says, "they children like olive plants round about thy tables. You see you don't eat olive plants, we eat the olives. But what that verse is saying is that mom and dad will see you grow up and become your own individual, as a preacher, missionary, doctor, evangelist, lawyer, or full-time Christian worker. And they can just sit back and watch the "olive plant" (the children) as who and what they have become.

We must always have God in the center of our lives because one day He's going to sit back and watch what he has made.

If you continue to come to church and server God, then He'll be pleased and happy with you, but if you go astray God will have to look at you with a disgusted look on His face. SO LETS TRY TO PLEASE GOD

**Memory Verse:**