

SERMON OUTLINE

SERMON TITLE: God's Plan for the Man

SERMON REFERENCE: Psalm 128:1-6

LWF SERMON NUMBER: #1782

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1) INTRODUCTION

- a) Not everyone who is a male is a real man, a godly man.
 - i) A person can be born a male, but it takes maturity to be a man.
 - (1) We are young only once, but we can be immature forever.
 - ii) We are talking today about real, masculine, godly, and Biblical men.
- b) If there is anything in shortage today, it is real men.
 - i) Real men who will say, "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."
 - (1) Joshua 24:15
- c) It is better to marry a man who is poor and doesn't have a cent but who is worth a million than to marry a man who has a million and not worth a cent.
- d) A person has to develop to be a man, a real man of value.
- e) Psalm 128:1-6
- f) What is real manliness, and what is God's plan for the man?
 - i) Just like we receive a book of instructions when we purchase a new refrigerator, God has given us a book of instructions as well.
 - (1) It is the Word of God, and from the Word of God we are going to find God's plan for the man.
- g) There is a basic fundamental difference between men and women.
 - i) The devil is doing all that he can do to blur that distinction.
 - ii) Genesis 1:27
 - iii) There are those who are trying to tell us that there is no fundamental difference between men and women, and they are doing this in the name of equality.
 - iv) Men and women are equal, but they are not the same.
 - (1) Equality and worth are not sameness of function.
 - v) Men and women are different in many ways.
 - (1) Their bodies are different.
 - (2) Their minds are different.
 - (3) They are different from the composition of their blood to the development of their brains.
 - (a) This means that they think and experience life differently.
 - (4) It has been said that men and women differ in every cell of their bodies, and the chromosome combination is the basic cause of the development into male and female.
 - vi) God made them different, and He made them different for a purpose.
- h) In today's message, we will look at Psalm 128 to find out what a real man should be according to Scripture.

2) A REAL MAN WILL HAVE A FAITHFUL WALK (PSALM 128:1)

- a) Psalm 128:1
 - i) This talks about the pattern that a father is to set before his children.
 - ii) He is to be a worshipping father and a godly husband.
 - iii) He should have a personal walk with Almighty God.
 - (1) His wife and children need to see him walking with God.

- b) In the home, the man is a figure and a picture of Almighty God.
 - i) Jesus taught us to call God, "Our Father."
 - (1) If a child has a father, then the child will think that God is like daddy.
 - ii) We are taught to pray to God our Father.
 - iii) The husband represents Almighty God to his children and the Lord Jesus Christ to his wife.
 - iv) The Bible says that God sent His Spirit into our hearts crying, "Abba Father."
 - (1) "Abba Father" means "Daddy Father."
 - (2) Romans 8:15
 - v) Ephesians 5:22
 - (1) Wives are to submit to their own husbands as unto the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - vi) The reason men ought to live godly lives is that they are modeling before their families what Almighty God is like and what the Lord Jesus Christ is like.
- c) 1 Corinthians 11:3, 7
 - i) This passage tells us that while God the Father and God the Son are co-equal and co-eternal, God the Father is the head of God the Son.
 - (1) While the husband and the wife are of equal worth, the husband is the head of the wife.
 - ii) The man is the image and glory of God, and the woman is the glory of the man.
 - (1) In the home, the man pictures Almighty God.
 - (2) The woman pictures the church, which is the bride of Christ.
- d) The man should never get the idea that religion and spirituality are primarily for women and children.
 - i) God demands more spirituality from the man than He does from the woman.
 - ii) If the home is not right, then the man shares the primary responsibility.
 - (1) The man is the head of the home.
 - (a) And if he represents God in that home, then he should walk in His way.
- e) One of the chief characteristics of Almighty God is faithfulness.
 - i) One of the chief problems in America today is the unfaithfulness of men.
 - (1) Many men have become dropout dads and failing fathers.
 - (a) Many children are not living with their natural fathers, and some grow up in homes without any fathers.
 - (b) A majority of men in prison grew up without a father.
 - ii) God's faithfulness includes promise making and promise keeping.
 - (1) Our God is a covenant God.
 - (2) All of the Bible hangs upon the faithfulness and promises of God.
 - (3) When a father makes a promise, he has created a small sanctuary of trust within the jungle of unpredictability.

- (4) Stu Weber has said that fathers and husbands need to learn faithfulness and to stand by their promises.
 - (a) When marriage is not fun, stay in it.
 - (b) When parenting is over your head, stay at it.
 - (c) When work is crushing your spirit, don't let it beat you.
 - (d) He also says that the heart of staying power is sacrifice; giving one's self up for the good of another.
 - (i) The Lord Jesus Christ is the ultimate example of this.
 - 1. The Lord Jesus Christ could have turned away from the cross, but He stayed the course all the way to Calvary.
 - 2. When He could have come down from the cross and sidestepped the suffering, He stayed.
 - 3. When He could have called armies of angels to deliver Him, He stayed.
 - a. He stayed all the way, until the moment He cried out that it was finished.
 - i. John 19:30
 - f) A real man is one who has a faithful walk before Almighty God.
- 3) A REAL MAN IS KNOWN BY HIS FRUITFUL WORK (PSALM 128:2-3)
 - a) Psalm 128:2
 - b) God's plan for the man is to provide for his family.
 - i) Genesis 3:19
 - (1) God is speaking to the man in this passage.
 - (2) God is not saying that it's going to be easy, which is why He gave men a tough exterior.
 - ii) God made the woman to be the nurturer.
 - (1) Titus 2:4
 - iii) Provision goes beyond food, clothing, and housing.
 - (1) If a man thinks that he has done his job just by giving his kids things and putting his wife in a beautiful house, then he is wrong.
 - (a) He is to provide the emotional and spiritual security of the home.
 - iv) A husband is not only to be a provider but to also be a provisionary.
 - (1) He is to consider what his family really needs.
 - (a) He is to pray for, hope for, and work towards those needs.
 - c) A man's fruitful work is to be both a provider and a protector.
 - d) Psalm 128:3
 - i) A man is to have a sense of well-being when his wife and children are dwelling securely.
 - (1) This is why God made a chromosomal difference in male and female.
 - (a) Men tend to be tough and strong; women tend to be gentle and tender.
 - (b) The man tends toward logic and linear thinking; the woman tends toward emotion and verbal communication.

- (c) The man tends to be a risk taker; the woman prefers security and order.
 - (d) The man is more insensitive; the woman is more sensitive.
 - (e) The man looks toward the future; the woman is concerned with here and now.
 - (f) The man tends to be more skeptical and suspicious.
 - (i) This is the protector in him.
 - (g) The woman tends to be more believing.
 - (i) This is the nurturer in her.
 - (2) All of the above attributes are right because that is the way God made them.
 - (a) This doesn't mean that a man is to be rude and crude; he can be a man and be tender.
 - (i) The Lord Jesus ran the money changers out of the temple.
 - 1. Matthew 21:12-13
 - (ii) The Lord Jesus was also meek, tender, and gentle.
 - 1. The little children could come and sit in His lap.
 - a. Mark 10:13-14
 - e) God made the man to be the provider and the protector.
 - i) Psalm 128:2-3
- 4) A REAL MAN IS KNOWN BY HIS FAMILY WORSHIP (PSALM 128:4-5)
- a) Psalm 128:4-5
 - i) He is a man who seeks God's blessing; therefore, he becomes God's blessing.
 - ii) The blessing goes beyond his own family and to the nation.
 - (1) America will never be right until our homes are right, and our homes will never be right until the fathers get right.
 - b) The fathers are the ones who are to lead their family to worship the Lord.
 - c) God has made the man to see the big picture, and to say, "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."
 - i) Joshua 24:15
 - d) Psalm 128:3
 - i) The picture here compares the wife to a tender vine and the children to olive plants.
 - (1) They both need to be cared for and cultivated.
 - (2) A vine is very fruitful, but it needs support.
 - (a) It needs something to lean upon.
 - (3) In the Middle East, olive trees are a source of productivity and wealth.
 - (a) But the olive trees need to be cultivated.
 - (4) How are we to cultivate our children?
 - (a) Ephesians 6:4
 - (i) Don't provoke them.

1. This means that we are not to exasperate, frustrate, wound, or humiliate our children.
 2. It has been said that rules without relationships make rebellion.
 - (ii) The opposite of provocation is nurture.
 - (iii) The word for “nurture” in this verse gives the idea of tending a garden.
 1. This takes discipline, instruction, demonstration, and time.
 2. Psychologists tell us that if a father does not spend time with his daughter, then her chances of becoming frigid or promiscuous are greatly increased.
 - a. We may say that we don't have time, but duties do not conflict.
 - e) The husband's chief assignment from God concerning his wife is to make her a more radiantly beautiful Christian.
 - f) The husband is to be the pastor in the home.
 - i) He is the head of the wife, just as Christ is the head of the church.
 - (1) Ephesians 5:23
 - (2) Mutual submission is a contradiction in terms.
 - (a) In general, Christians are to mutually submit; but in the home, there is headship.
 - (b) Anything with no head is dead, and anything with two heads is a freak.
 - (3) If this is concerning to the wife, then it is due to both her sin nature and the husband's sin nature.
 - (a) Her sin nature wants to rebel.
 - (b) His sin nature wants to rule.
 - (4) God made the husband to love his wife as Christ loves the church and died for the church.
 - (a) Most women do not mind submitting to a man who loves his wife enough to die for her and who shows it by the way he lives for her.
 - g) A great problem in America is not primarily rebellious women, but it is failing men.
 - i) Men failing to be the men that they ought to be.
- 5) A REAL MAN AND HIS FUTURE WEALTH (PSALM 128:6)
- a) Psalm 128:6
 - b) Real wealth is not a fancy car or a big house.
 - i) Real wealth is our children and grandchildren.
 - (1) And if they love Jesus, then we'll have them for all eternity.
 - ii) Psalm 128:5-6
 - (1) This is our future wealth.
 - c) Many people don't want to have children so that they can afford more things.
 - i) Children do not make a rich man poor; they make a poor man rich.

- (1) The rich man cannot take his money to Heaven, but a Christian can take his saved children to Heaven.
 - (a) This is his wealth.
- d) Psalm 78:5-7
 - i) Our faith is to be carried on from fathers to sons to grandchildren.

6) CONCLUSION

- a) In America today, we need some real men.
 - i) Men who will love God with all of their hearts.
 - ii) Men who will be faithful and who will stick it out through the hard times in life.
 - (1) Men who will stay to the end.
 - iii) Men who will be providers and protectors for their families, as God enables them.
 - iv) Men who will teach their children to walk in the ways of God.
- b) We need to ask God to give us Christian homes.
- c) The only way to have a Christian home and the only way to be a real man as God intended is to first surrender to the Lordship of Jesus Christ.
- d) Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
- e) Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
 - i) Romans 3:23
 - ii) Romans 10:9-10
 - iii) Romans 10:13
 - iv) Acts 16:31
 - v) John 3:16