**R803 – Father’s Day Rumination for June 21, 2020 by K.C. Ung**

The **T**heme: **God-Fearing Fathers** berita-bethel-ung.com

The **T**ext: *thy children like olive plants round about thy table.* Psa. 128:3b

The **T**hots:

1. **The Blessedness of all God-Fearing Followers.** Psa. 128:1, 4
2. Promised General**ly** to **G**od-**F**earing **F**ollowers - *every one* 128:1

 *How happy is everyone who fears the LORD,*

*Fear* (Heb. yārēʾ) from (yare') = fearing; moral reverent Strong.

1. Promised Personal**ly** to one who **R**espects, **R**everes and *that* ***F****eareth the LORD*. 128:1a

*Behold, that thus shall the man be blessed that* ***F****eareth the LORD.* 128:4

1. Promised Specifical**ly** to all *that* ***W****alketh in His* ***W****ays.* Psa. 128:1b

Cf. *I have no greater joy than to hear that my children* ***W****alk in truth.* III Jn. 1:4

Cf. *They that* ***W****orship Him must* ***W****orship Him in spirit and in truth.* Jn. 4:24

1. **The Blessings for a Godly Father –**  Psa. 128:2, 3, 5

*happy shalt* ***thou*** *be, and it shall be well with* ***thee****…****thy******children*** *like olive plants round about thy table.*

1. The Blessings of **P**rofitable **W**ork
	1. His **P**ortion of the **P**roduce - *thou shalt eat the labour of thine hands* 128:2a

Cf. *It is good, because beautiful, to eat, and to drink, and to see good in all one's labour*

*that he laboureth at under the sun, the number of the days of his life that God hath given*

*to him, for it is his portion.* Eccl. 5:18

* 1. His **P**ersonal **P**leasure - *happy shalt thou be* 128:2b
	2. His **P**rospective **P**rosperity - *it shall be well with thee* 128:2c
1. The Blessings of the **P**artnering **W**ife – *Your wife will be like a fruitful vine within your house…*128:3a

Cf. The fruitful vine that grows up the side of the house.

1. She is **W**oman Gen. 2:23-24

*And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman,*

*because she was taken out of Man. Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother,*

*and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.*

1. She is his **W**ife:
2. ­She is the **P**icture of the **L**iving Church:

*For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church:* Eph. 5:23

1. She is his **P**artner to **L**ove: Eph. 5:28

*So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself.*

1. The Du**o** is become **O**ne – *and they two shall be one flesh* Eph. 5:31

*For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife,*

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1. She is **W**insome… cf. the Virtuous **W**oman/**W**ife. Pro. 31:10-31
2. She is **F**ruitful *- Your wife will be like a fruitful vine* [She **C**lusters the grapes to the vine] Psa. 128:3a

Cf. *I am the Vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in Me, and I in him,*

*the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without Me ye can do nothing.* Jn. 15:5

1. She is **F**amily *- within your house* [She **C**ollects the family members (*scions*) together]*.* Psa. 128:3a
2. The Blessings of the **W**eans – *thy children…* Psa. 128:3b
3. They are **L**ong-**L**ived and ever **L**ively - *like* ***olive plants*** *round about thy table.*

Or *The children around your table as fresh and promising as young olive shoots.* Psa.128:3, MSG

1. They can **P**rotect and **P**rovide when brought up **P**roperly – **S**traight and **S**harp!

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

1. **The Blessings for the Grandfather. Psa. 128:5, 6**
2. The Blessing of seeing **P**rogeny - *Yea, thou shalt see thy children's children.* 128:6a
3. The Blessing of **P**eace and **P**rosperity in the Family -128:6a

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

1. Heaven**ly** **P**rosperity: *The LORD shall bless thee out of Zion:*
2. Earth**ly** **P**rosperity: *and thou shalt see the good of Jerusalem all the days of thy life* 128:5

***BLESSED FATHER’S DAY TO ALL FATHERS TODAY.***

*My people, give ear, attend to My Word, In parables new deep truths shall be heard;
The wonderful story our fathers made known To children succeeding by us must be shown.*

*Instructing our sons we gladly record The praises, the works, the might of the Lord,
For He hath commanded that what He hath done Be passed in tradition from father to son.*

From The Psalter

**REFLECTIONS FOR THE WEEK. R. 803**

1. **Psalm 128:2 -** *For thou shalt eat the labour of thine hands:*

*happy shalt thou be, and it shall be well with thee.*

This is one of the **P**romises of blessings for the father –

 He will be **P**leased with, **P**rofiting from and **P**rosperous in his work.

All this time, in the writing of these over 800 weekly ruminations, I hardly make any reference to my personal life. For this Father’s Day, I am going to make an exception.

How is a father blessed in his work?

A Father could have chosen to be in a certain profession/work.

Then he purposed to testify for his Lord in his work by various means and opportunities to impact the lives of those around him for Him.

Or a Father could have been called to a work/vocation by the Will of God from its very Commencement to do His work in the work he is called unto so that the work he is employed in is actually an integral part of God’s work for him according to His will*.*

I can testify to the second option – obeying God’s Will in the Work He chose for me to do – to the extent that His work is my work as the Lord Himself declared and demonstrated in Jn. 5:17 - *Jesus answered…My Father worketh hitherto, and I work.*

Two years before I left school, I consecrated my life to the Lord to do His will as in Rom. 12:1, 2 – *I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.*

*And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.*

As I sought the Lord for His Will in His Word, I was led to hear His call for me to be a teacher. From then on until I retired He led me all the way. He prepared and trained me as a teacher for His work at various stages with Him opening and closing doors, without me to even write a letter of application for a post at any stage of my so-called career.

Thus, the stage was set. The principal of my school sent a notice to all the students leaving school that year who wanted to join the teaching profession to drop in their names at his office. I did, and I was soon accepted by the Education Department to be trained as a primary school teacher. I did not even have to write an application letter.

Thus, I was trained to handle children up to twelve years of age in the primary school to prepare me to teach in and to found Sunday Schools and be involved in Children’s Missions in the Lord’s work. That lasted about 12 years. Then I was sent for Specialist Teacher Training in Kuala Lumpur for Education Technology (Audio Visual Aids.) After training I was posted out of my home state to teach in a secondary school. The Lord was calling me to His work among youths and young adults. That’s what I did after being posted back home to a Secondary School more than a year later. I became involved in Christian Fellowships, Young Adults Bible Classes, Bible Camps, etc. My secondary school experience was a great asset in this area of the Lord’s work. My professional work was the Lord’s work!

Twelve years later, I was promoted to be an acting principal of a lower secondary school. The experience as an administrator helped me tremendously in my work as an elder in the local church.

After two years, I was again promoted to be a lecturer in a Teacher Training College. All these posts were offered to me without my applying for them! It was the Lord’s doing! That prepared me to conduct Bible Study Courses, Sunday School Teacher-training Classes and hold Leadership Training Seminars and Conferences for the respective parties concerned.

Finally when I retired mandatorily I was called by the Lord again to enter into another area of His service full-time (note that as a teacher I was already serving Him full-time doing His work in my work); but now I am called and committed to a teaching ministry among His people in Penang, the Peninsular and Singapore, as well as abroad as the Lord opened the doors. Officially, I was commended for such service by my home church.

Now as I enter my golden years with limited and restricted energy, I am more confined to writing and a more localized ministry as with my weekly Ruminations - and lately for now, even called to teach the Word virtually to reach believers without borders and boundaries.

So in my case, do I need a Purpose in Work to Witness?

No, because my life-work is the Lord’s work, being called by His Will from His Word to do His Work from the very beginning. I am really blessed of the Lord in Work without having to apply for such work because it is His Work and He opened and closed the doors for me accordingly.

The Lord be glorified, and I hope you are blessed too with this testimony.

How does your work relate to His Work with regard to His Will for you? **REFLECT**.

1. However, you might not be a Christian or a Consecrated one Committed to do the Lord’s Will and Work when you started working professionally. In that case you need to face the Challenge of purposing in your life to Witness for Him in your work at one stage or other. Have you done so to receive the Promise of Blessing to the Father in your Work as in Psalm 128:2? **REFLECT.**

***A BLESSED and PROSPEROUS FATHER’S DAY TO ALL FATHERS***

**Points To Ponder:** Is your Work God’s Work? Then Purpose it to be!

*For we are His* ***W****orkmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good* ***W****orks, which God hath before ordained that we should* ***W****alk in them*. (Eph. 2:10)