

**“LIKE ARROWS IN THE
HAND OF A WARRIOR . . .”**

PSALM 127



A Father: LOVES YOU

1 John 4:19 "We love because He first loved us."

Ephesians 1:3-6 "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before Him. In love He predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of His will, to the praise of His glorious grace, with which He has blessed us in the Beloved."

A Father: LOVES YOU

Genesis 25:28 "Isaac loved Esau because he ate of his game, but Rebekah loved Jacob."

1 Samuel 16:7 "But the LORD said to Samuel, 'Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the LORD sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart.'"

Psalms 27:10 "For my father and my mother have forsaken me, but the Lord will take me in."

A Father: LOVES YOU

Hosea 6:1-6 "Come, let us return to the LORD; for He has torn us, that He may heal us; He has struck us down, and He will bind us up. After two days He will revive us; on the third day He will raise us up, that we may live before Him. Let us know; let us press on to know the LORD; His going out is sure as the dawn; He will come to us as the showers, as the spring rains that water the earth." What shall I do with you, O Ephraim? What shall I do with you, O Judah? Your love is like a morning cloud, like the dew that goes early away. Therefore I have hewn them by the prophets; I have slain them by the words of my mouth, and my judgment goes forth as the light. For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice, the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings."

A Father: EQUIPS YOU

Proverbs 23:22-26 “Listen to your father who gave you life, and do not despise your mother when she is old. Buy truth, and do not sell it; buy wisdom, instruction, and understanding. The father of the righteous will greatly rejoice; he who fathers a wise son will be glad in him. Let your father and mother be glad; let her who bore you rejoice. My son, give me your heart, and let your eyes observe my ways.”

A Father: EQUIPS YOU (FEAR)

Proverbs 1:7 & 9:10 – Knowledge and Wisdom begins with FEAR.

Proverbs 13:24 – Discipline which comes from love.

Proverbs 17:10 – The blessing of a rebuke.

Proverbs 23:13-14 – Discipline will SAVE THEIR SOUL.

Proverbs 19:18 – But, leave them with some HOPE.

Colossians 3:21 – Danger of discouragement

Ephesians 6:4 – Danger of ANGER

A Father: EQUIPS YOU (COOL HEAD)

James 1:19-20 – Quick to hear, slow to speech & anger.

Proverbs 16:32 – Take pride in controlling your anger.

Proverbs 17:14 – Fathers, be on the lookout.

Proverbs 17:9 – Can lead to gossip and division!

Proverbs 18:13,17 – Helps us make good judgments.

Proverbs 17:27-28 – If the fool can do it . . . just sayin

A Father: EQUIPS YOU (COMFORT)

Proverbs 18:4 – Fathers, do you have great wisdom?

Proverbs 20:5 – Are you equipped to “draw out” your child’s deepest struggles in life? Are we working towards that goal?

Proverbs 6:20-22 – Not only when you sleep . . .

Proverbs 12:25 – Takes away anxiety.

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A Father: EQUIPS YOU (WORK HARD)

Proverbs 19:24 – Oh, boy . . .

Proverbs 1:10-19 – What have you done for money?

Ecccl. 9:10 – Now is the time to work . . . and WORK HARD

2 Thessalonians 3:10 – “If anyone is not willing to work, let him not eat.”

A Father: EQUIPS YOU (RELATIONSHIPS)

Proverbs 4:20-27 – Keep your eyes FORWARD.

Proverbs 2:16-19 – The forbidden woman.

Proverbs 21:9,19 – The only time someone would prefer the wilderness...

Proverbs 30:21-23 – Fathers, LOVE your daughter.

Proverbs 5:15-20 – Husbands, LOVE your wives.

Titus 2:3-5 – Wives, LOVE your husbands.

A Father: EQUIPS YOU (ALCOHOL)

Proverbs 23:29-35 – “Who has woe? Who has sorrow? Who has strife? Who has complaining? Who has wounds without cause? Who has redness of eyes? Those who tarry long over wine; those who go to try mixed wine. Do not look at wine when it is red, when it sparkles in the cup and goes down smoothly. In the end it bites like a serpent and stings like an adder. Your eyes will see strange things, and your heart utter perverse things. You will be like one who lies down in the midst of the sea, like one who lies on the top of a mast. ‘They struck me,’ you will say, ‘but I was not hurt; they beat me, but I did not feel it. When shall I awake? I must have another drink.’”

A Father: EQUIPS YOU (HUMILITY)

Proverbs 26:12 – Are we practicing humility?

Proverbs 27:2 – Do we help our children not to be self-centered?

Proverbs 11:24 – Do we show what it is to be truly rich?

Luke 6:26-36 – Do we show partiality when our Father does not?

Proverbs 28:27 – Do we think that our children don't notice us when we "hide our eyes"?

A Father: WALKS THE WALK

Matthew 23:23-24 "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint and dill and cumin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faithfulness. These you ought to have done, without neglecting the others. You blind guides, straining out a gnat and swallowing a camel!"

James 1:22-25 "But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing."

SPIRITUAL FAMILY

Matthew 12:46-50 – Don't feel unwanted/useless if you are not someone's physical father.

1 Thess. 2:7-12 – A father is one who exhorts, encourages, and charges.

1 Thess. 4:9-13 – Notices how he compliments, expects good things, and charges.

Philippians 2:19-24 – After complimenting the congregation and charging them, he then speaks to his "son".

1 Timothy 1:2-4 – He didn't send him to do "easy" things.

1 Timothy 4:12-15/Exodus 4:11-12 – No excuses!

Titus 1:4; 2 – This is one "father" to a "son" encouraging him to be a "father" to others.

Dear Shawn,

It's about 6:30 a.m. right now and I'm sure you're in or about the shower. There are so many things I wish to say to you that were not even in my mind 18 months ago. Did you imagine you would be where you are this morning 18 months ago? I'm especially saddened that I won't be there at Melrose because it seems more like your first time, though it is not.

Remember this first, no one knows this sermon better than you. You chose this subject because you felt from your heart that many people needed its encouragement. This lesson give Scriptural guidance, forced insight to each living soul, and optimism for a better tomorrow. You're about to move apart of the world closer to God, Shawn. Many brethren, who had been plagued by worry are about to hear the *good news concerning the ability to rest in the Lord*. Couples who had previously been fighting over *finances and other trivial matters will, for the first time, here about other riches and a greater city than this earth know*.

My spirit, thoughts and encouragement will stand alongside of you as you share this part of God's Word with your brethren. Just look down that aisle toward the back and you'll see my chariot (with the brakes on) facing you in complete support. You need no other encouragement than that which Paul gave to Timothy: **PREACH THE WORD**. So, I charge you to fulfill your ministry today.

I love you with all my heart,

Dad