

¹A Song of degrees for Solomon. 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.²It 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.³Lo, children are

an heritage of the LORD: and the fruit of the womb is his reward.⁴As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man; so are children of the youth.⁵Happy 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.