

Christ is Risen... **He is risen, indeed!**

In Jesus' name. **Amen.**

Dear Michael and Rebecca, beloved by our risen Lord,

We are here today on the eve of Cross and Comfort Sunday.

What a fitting day for a couple to get married.

Now, I know you didn't look at the calendar and figure the date according to the Church year, but it is fitting none the less.

Just a few moments ago, we heard a number of Scripture texts teaching us what God says concerning the holy estate of marriage and how husband and wife ought to live with each other, as well as the cross given and the comfort to be taken in this blessed estate.

In your pre-marriage instruction, we have already spent some considerable time going through them. Our text for meditation today is one more text for us to meditate on these same truths.

...as follows in Jesus' name:

A Song of Ascents. Of Solomon.

Unless the Lord builds the house,	They labor in vain who build it;
Unless the Lord guards the city,	The watchman stays awake in vain.
<i>It is vain for you to rise up early,</i>	<i>To sit up late, To eat the bread of sorrows;</i>
<i>For so He gives His beloved sleep.</i> ^(NKJV)	

This is Your Word, heavenly Father; sanctify us in the truth, Your Word is Truth. Amen. (John 17:17)

Psalm 127 was "A Song of Ascents," meaning that this was one of the numerous psalms God's people would sing as they ascended the mountain up to Jerusalem, to the temple to worship. It is a good reminder about how the Lord desires to be involved in your marriage, in your home. He is the **builder of the house**, the Christian home, thus Jesus taught, "What God has joined together, let not man separate." Matthew 19:6; Mark 10:9 While all sorts of situations and people and institutions are used to bring together a man and wife, it is the Lord who ultimately unites them into the one-flesh union that is to be a reflection of the one flesh union of Jesus Christ with His bride, the Church.

But the Lord does not simply build the house and then leave it to its own destiny.

He also is the One who **guards the city**.

This does not mean that no difficult times or situations will come upon you, or even that you won't struggle and contend with each other.

As was stated before, there is a cross that is placed upon this married estate.

The world does the Christian home no favors when it would entice man and wife.

The world cares less about the faithfulness of spouses,

encourages you to seek your own happiness, rather than serve & seek the happiness of the other.

And, of course, your own sinful nature will quickly and easily slip into its own temptations, and seek for itself its own pleasures and comforts... even at the expense of the other.

And yet the Lord would guard you from these incursions, from without and within.

He would have you recognize them immediately so that they do not infiltrate and separate you.

He would have you stand up against them... together...
as you continue to dig deeper into His Word of life,
where He instructs you and calls out to you to see the enemies' attacks and flee temptation.
He would have you repent of your failures, regularly and often, to each other and to Him,
so that the devil does not have a foothold into your marriage, to bring a wedge between you.

That this psalm was written by **Solomon** should not be a surprise.

He is the author of Ecclesiastes, perhaps written after he had experienced most of life.

One of the main (and striking) phrases of this whole book is, "**Vanity of vanities... All is vanity.**"
He had every pleasure that could be afforded, accomplished great building projects, had great honor,
gathered knowledge and experience and wisdom, and yet, as he noted all these blessings,
without the Lord, he could take no pleasure in them,
for without the Lord, they were merely temporary blessings that pass at one's death... or before.
He recognized that this life is completely meaningless if your eternal salvation is not certain,
for a healthy bank account, praise from men, and even a peaceful family life
will not assuage a guilty conscience or earn a spot in paradise.

So here in this psalm, Solomon hits on the same theme:

A couple who try to build a home for themselves, without the Word & guidance of God **labor in vain.**
It is vain for you to rise up early, To sit up late, To eat the bread of sorrows;
For so He gives His beloved sleep.

The husband who faithlessly worries about the financial stability of house,
or the wife who thinks that she has it all together, until the family is falling apart, **stay awake in vain.**
Their worry cannot **add one cubit to their stature**, nor **add a single hour to his span of life.** Matthew 6:27

Notice that the Lord does not promise, even to the faithful family, that they will not struggle in this life.

But note also that those struggles are not an indication that the Lord has forsaken them, either.

Instead, as the man and wife look to Him in trust for their daily bread
and take comfort in His words of forgiveness through Jesus' death and resurrection,
even in the midst of their struggles, **He gives His beloved sleep.**

They can put away their anxieties, **casting all their cares upon Him, because He cares for you.** 1 Peter 5:7

So we have heard of the Lord's comfort, even under the cross.

So Solomon again gives of his wisdom, and encourages you:

Live joyfully with the wife whom you love all the days of your vain life. Ecclesiastes 9:9

Dearly **beloved, to whom He gives sleep**, Michael and Rebecca,

You are starting well, having the Lord build your house on the foundation of Jesus Christ,
sanctifying it with the Word of God and with prayer as we do this day.

Let Him now stand guard over your marriage, cherish your baptism.

[\[Jordan Michael ~ April 5, 2026 \(Easter Sunday\) | Rebecca Louise ~ June \(1?\), 2006\]](#)

Know that you are both His children, brother and sister in Christ, forgiven and beloved.

Forgive each other as God in Christ forgave you. Ephesians 4:32

Receive His Word faithfully, at home and within the Communion of Saints.

Join in the Lord's Supper frequently that you may their enjoy the Holy Communion with your Lord,
and so be forgiven and strengthened to serve each other in true Christian love and devotion.

And when you go to bed at night, beloved of the Lord sleep...
sleep in peace with both God and your spouse,
for **Christ loves you and given Himself up for you,**
that He might sanctify you,
having cleansed you by the washing of water with the Word,
so that He might present you to Himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing,
that you might be holy and without blemish.

Thanks be to God.

In Jesus' name. **Amen.**

Soli Deo Gloria