

46 Unless the Lord the House Shall Build

(Psalm 127)

1 Un - less the Lord the house shall build, the
 2 In vain you rise at morn - ing break, and
 3 Like ar - rows in full quiv - ers stored are

wea - ry build - ers toil in vain; un - less the Lord the
 late your night - ly vig - ils keep, and wea - ry days of
 chil - dren given in days of youth; for chil - dren are a

cit - y shield, the guards a use - less watch main - tain.
 toil par - take; for God's be - lov - ed there is sleep.
 great re - ward, a gift from God in ver - y truth.

As this paraphrase of Psalm 127 makes clear, human beings need to recognize both that our efforts will be in vain without God's help and that our blessings come from God. These enduring truths are linked to each other by this shape note tune that ends as it begins.