

4. **WE NOT** HIDE THESE TRUTHS FROM OUR CHILDREN;
WILL **WE** TELL THE NEXT GENERATION ABOUT THE
GLORIOUS DEEDS OF THE LORD, ABOUT HIS

5. **SO** **THE NEXT GENERATION** **POWER**
AND HIS
MIGHT KNOW THEM - EVEN THE CHILDREN NOT YET BORN **MIGHTY**
AND THEY IN TURN WILL **WONDERS.**
TEACH THEIR CHILDREN.

6. **SO** **GENERATION** SHOULD SET ITS
EACH **GOD** HOPE ANEW ON
NOT FORGETTING **OBEYING**
HIS GLORIOUS **HIS**
MIRACLES **& COMMANDS.**

PSALM
78^{v 4}_{6&7}

PSALM 78

July 21, 2019

How do you read a Psalm?

Psalm 6: For the director of music. With stringed instruments.
According to *sheminith*. (probably a musical term). A psalm of
David.

Psalm 78: A *maskil* (probably a literary or musical term) of
Asaph.

Ask who is the composer

Psalms 50 and 73—83 are called the “Psalms of Asaph” because his name appears in the superscription at the head of those psalms.

Pay attention to Structure

| SECTION BREAK | FIRST LINE |
|---------------|--|
| 1-8 | O my people, hear my teaching... |
| 9-16 | The men of Ephraim, though armed...turned back |
| 17-31 | But they continued to sin against [God]... |
| 32-39 | In spite of all this, they kept on sinning, |
| 40-55 | How often they rebelled against him in the desert... |
| 56-64 | But they put God to the test |
| 65-72 | Then the Lord awoke as from sleep... |

Repeated words, Parallelism

| SECTION BREAK | FIRST LINE |
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| 1-8 | O my people, hear my teaching... |
| 9-16 | The men of Ephraim, though armed...turned back |
| 17-31 | But they continued to sin against [God]... rebell ing in the desert against the Most High |
| 32-39 | In spite of all this, they kept on sinning, In spite of his wonders, they did not believe |
| 40-55 | How often they rebelled against him in the desert... and grieved him in the wasteland |
| 56-64 | But they put God to the test and rebelled against the Most High ... |
| 65-72 | Then the Lord awoke as from sleep... |

| Section Break | The PEOPLE | (But/yet) God... |
|---------------|---|--|
| 9-16 | <p>Didn't keep God's covenant, forgot his wonders</p> | <p>He did miracles in Egypt, He divided the sea, He guided them day & night...</p> <p>He gave water, He brought streams out, He made water flow</p> |
| 17-31 | <p>Continued to sin, willfully testing God, demanding their cravings</p> <p>"Can God spread a table in the desert? Can he also give us food? Can he supply meat for his people?"</p> | |

| Section Break | The people... | (But/yet) God... |
|------------------|--|--|
| 17-31 | <p>Continued to sin, willfully testing God, demanding their cravings</p> <p>“Can God spread a table in the desert? Can he also give us food? Can he supply meat for his people?”</p> | <p>Very Angry, Fire, Wrath</p> <p>Yet he rained down manna, the grain of heaven, Men ate the bread of angels All the food they could eat He rained meat like dust Flying birds like sand</p> |

| Section Break | The people... | (But/yet) God... |
|---------------|---|--|
| 17-31 | <p>Continued to sin, willfully testing God, demanding their cravings</p> <p>“Can God spread a table in the desert? Can he also give us food? Can he supply meat for his people?”</p> <p>They ate till they had more than enough For he had given them what they craved But before they turned from the food they craved, Even while it was still in their mouths,</p> | <p>Very Angry, Fire, Wrath</p> <p>Yet he rained down manna, the grain of heaven, Men ate the bread of angels All the food they could eat He rained meat like dust Flying birds like sand</p> <p>God’s anger rose against them; He put to death the sturdiest..the young men.</p> |

| Section Break | The people... | (But/yet) God... |
|------------------|---|---|
| 32-39 | Whenever God slew them, they would seek him...(they'd remember God was their Rock, Redeemer)... but flatter, lie. Not loyal. Not faithful. | Yet he was merciful, forgave, TIME AFTER TIME restrained his anger. (He remembered that they were but flesh, a passing breeze) |

A photograph of a dense forest with tall, slender trees. A thick mist or fog fills the air, creating a soft, ethereal atmosphere. Sunlight filters through the canopy, creating visible rays of light (crepuscular rays) that pierce the mist. The ground is covered in green foliage and fallen leaves. The overall color palette is dominated by greens, browns, and the white/grey of the mist.

**YOU ARE A MIST
THAT APPEARS
FOR A LITTLE WHILE
AND THEN VANISHES.**

JAMES 4:14 NIV

| Section Break | The people... | (But/yet) God... |
|------------------|--|------------------|
| 40-55 | <p>How often they rebelled against him in the desert and grieved him in the wasteland!</p> <p>AGAIN AND AGAIN they put God to the test; They vexed the Holy One of Israel</p> <p>They did NOT remember his power-- The day he redeemed them from the oppressor, The day he displayed his miraculous signs in Egypt, his wonders in the region of Zoan</p> | |

| Section Break | The people... | (But/yet) God... |
|---------------|--|--|
| 40-55 | <p>How often they rebelled against him in the desert and grieved him in the wasteland!</p> <p>AGAIN AND AGAIN they put God to the test; They vexed the Holy One of Israel</p> <p>They did NOT remember his power-- The day he redeemed them from the oppressor, The day he displayed his miraculous signs in Egypt, his wonders in the region of Zoan</p> | <p>He turned rivers to blood (Exodus 7) He sent swarms of flies...frogs (Ex 8) He gave their crops to ...locusts (Ex 10) He destroyed vines with hail & sleet (Ex 9)</p> <p>He unleashed his anger, his wrath, indignation, hostility... plague</p> <p>He struck down firstborn of Egypt (Ex 11)</p> |

Overall Theme

This psalm urges people to follow the law and meant to show the people of the time **the pattern of God's saving mercy**. It encourages the passing down from generation to generation the deeds of God. *It reflects specifically on the time of Moses and the Israelites (Hebrews) in the desert. (Wikipedia)*

(17-31 - from **Numbers 11** - desert/wilderness)

(40-51 - **Exodus 7-11** - Exodus)

(55-64 - **Joshua and 1 Samuel** - entering Canaan - God drove out the nations and settled tribes of Israel there -- the ark was captured, tabernacle abandoned, Dagon and the Philistines)

(65-72 - ends with **David** - their NEW shepherd - who would be the one to do now what God had done before for them as shepherd in v 52-53)

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How else do you read a Psalm? With your heart

- Our lives aren't always neat and tidy; our stories and songs aren't always chronological. We are messy people with broken patterns of being deep within us.
- Even this portrayal of our God might leave us a bit uncomfortable
 - very/angry; furious: 31, 49, 50, 58, 59, 62
 - v 65-66?!

⁶⁵ Then the Lord awoke as from sleep, as a warrior wakes from the stupor of wine.

⁶⁶ He beat back his enemies; he put them to everlasting shame.

Does it ring true? (All too true)

- “Generational Sin”
 - V 8 “That they should not be like their ancestors”
 - V 57 “but [they] turned away and were faithless like their ancestors”
- There are unhealthy patterns within us that we need to do battle with
- for the sake of being a part of God’s blessing of a thousand generations

Read it to LIVE it

The invitation isn't to hide, pretend it doesn't exist, remain in shame

-- but to acknowledge what's there -- and with God's help

tell our children how God's been faithful to TRANSFORM us and our forebears.

Live ***into*** His ongoing redemption of us...

Read the psalms...remembering the Good Shepherd

- Jesus, the ultimate Shepherd-King, the Son of God
- Not fickle, not a complainer, not rebellious, not stubborn
- lived blameless and pure -- the life we wish we could live -- and yet are not able to
- Faith-filled, Trust-filled
- Willingly sacrificed his life -- yielded it up into the hands of unjust men
- Endured death on a cross -- scorning its shame
- Raised back from the dead -- to LIFE again
- and GLORY
- and POWER
- and MAJESTY

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For further study

Exodus 34:6-7 New Living Translation (NLT)

⁶ The LORD passed in front of Moses, calling out,

“Yahweh!^[a] The LORD! The God of compassion and mercy!

I am slow to anger and filled with unfailing love and faithfulness.

⁷ I lavish unfailing love **to a thousand generations.**^[b]

I forgive iniquity, rebellion, and sin.

But I do not excuse the guilty.

I lay the sins of the parents upon their children and grandchildren;

the entire family is affected—

even children in the third and fourth generations.”

For further study

Ezekiel 18 - Individual retribution - The whole chapter

“Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die”

Especially v. 1-4

And v. 31- 32

<https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Sins-Of-The-Fathers>

For further study

1 Corinthians 10 (NIV) Warnings From Israel's History

10 For I do not want you to be ignorant of the fact, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud and that they all passed through the sea. ² They were all baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea. ³ They all ate the same spiritual food ⁴ and drank the same spiritual drink; for they drank from the spiritual rock that accompanied them, and that rock was Christ. ⁵ Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them; their bodies were scattered in the wilderness.

⁶ Now these things occurred as examples to keep us from setting our hearts on evil things as they did. ⁷ Do not be idolaters, as some of them were; as it is written: "The people sat down to eat and drink and got up to indulge in revelry."^[a] ⁸ We should not commit sexual immorality, as some of them did—and in one day twenty-three thousand of them died. ⁹ We should not test Christ,^[b] as some of them did—and were killed by snakes. ¹⁰ And do not grumble, as some of them did—and were killed by the destroying angel.

1 Cor 10, continued

¹¹ These things happened to them as examples and were written down as warnings for us, on whom the culmination of the ages has come. ¹² So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall! ¹³ No temptation^[c] has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted^[d] beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted,^[e] he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.

For further consideration

- Christian counseling or regular counseling could be good if there are dynamics in your family that recur and don't seem to be improving
- Emotionally Healthy Spirituality book series - Pete and Geri Scazzero