

Historical Instruction

Psalms of Asaph · Book III · History Psalms

"A contemplation by Asaph."

IN ONE SENTENCE

*ell the coming generation God's mighty works and Israel's rebellion, so they set their hope in him, who chose David.***Remember it:** Seventy-eight: pass it down, so the next generation hopes in God and doesn't forget.

MEMORY VERSE

that they might set their hope in God, and
not forget God's deeds, but keep his
commandments,

Psalm 78:7 · World English Bible

HEBREW WORD

דִּוָּר

"generation" · verse 6

In the Psalms: 59 times, in 30 psalms

דִּוָּר means a generation, the circle of people living in one lifetime. This teaching psalm keeps saying it: the generation to come, the children not yet born, and the stubborn generation of the fathers. Faith is meant to pass from one generation to the next like a baton, not die with the one that saw the wonders.

HOW THE PSALM MOVES

- 1–8 Tell the next generation God's deeds so they trust and obey.
- 9–39 In the wilderness God provided, Israel doubted, God forgave.
- 40–55 They forgot the plagues of Egypt and the way into the land.
- 56–64 Rebellion in the land brings Shiloh's fall and judgment.
- 65–72 The Lord chooses Judah, Zion, and David the shepherd.

IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

- v. 2 → **Matthew 13:35** Jesus speaks in parables, things hidden since the foundation of the world.
- v. 24 → **John 6:31** Bread from heaven: Jesus is the true bread.

MY NOTES

**Listen.** Hear Psalm 78 in the **Psalm Song** app, or free at ispress.de/psalms/78.**Didactic.** Preached: a teaching psalm, a sermon meant to be heard, not sung.

Israel's Story

God's Word

The Two Ways

FILL IN THE BLANKS

Tell the coming _____ God's mighty works and Israel's _____, so they set their _____ in him, who chose David.

CHECK YOURSELF

1. Why should the children be told God's works?

☐ (A) So they can win battles

☐ (B) So they set their hope in God and keep his commandments

☐ (C) So they can build a temple

☐ (D) So they will fear Egypt

2. What did God rain down for the people to eat?

☐ (A) Manna

☐ (B) Figs

☐ (C) Honey

☐ (D) Quail only

3. Where did God take David from to shepherd Israel?

☐ (A) The temple courts

☐ (B) The army of Saul

☐ (C) The sheepfolds

☐ (D) The city of Hebron

TALK IT OVER

1. Trace the pattern: God gives, the people forget, God disciplines, God is merciful. Where does it repeat in this psalm?

2. Verse 38 says God, being merciful, forgave and did not destroy. What does that show about his patience?

3. What specific story of God's faithfulness are you telling the children or young people in your life?

IN YOUR OWN WORDS: WHAT DOES PSALM 78 TEACH?

☐ I listened to the song

☐ I can say what it teaches

☐ I can say verse 7 by heart

☐ I know the picture word

Answers: Blanks: generation · rebellion · hope · Check yourself: 1. B (v. 7) · 2. A (v. 24) · 3. C (v. 70)