

**Tell the Coming Generation (c. 969t – 932t)**

## Psalm 78

**A Maskil of Asaph.**

- 1 Listen, O my people, to my instruction;  
Incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
- 2 I will open my mouth in a parable;  
I will utter dark sayings of old, [[Matt 13:35](#)]
- 3 Which we have heard and known,  
And our fathers have told us.
- 4 We will not conceal them from their children,  
But tell to the generation to come the praises of the LORD,  
And His strength and His wondrous works that He has done.
- 5 For He established a testimony in Jacob  
And appointed a law in Israel,  
Which He commanded our fathers  
That they should teach them to their children, [[Deut 4:9–10; 6:7, 20–25](#)]
- 6 That the generation to come might know, *even* the children *yet* to be born,  
*That* they may arise and tell *them* to their children,
- 7 That they should put their confidence in God  
And not forget the works of God,  
But keep His commandments,
- 8 And not be like their fathers,  
A stubborn and rebellious generation,  
A generation that did not prepare its heart  
And whose spirit was not faithful to God.
- 9 The sons of Ephraim were archers equipped with bows,  
*Yet* they turned back in the day of battle.
- 10 They did not keep the covenant of God  
And refused to walk in His law;
- 11 They forgot His deeds  
And His miracles that He had shown them.
- 12 He wrought wonders before their fathers  
In the land of Egypt, in the field of Zoan.
- 13 He divided the sea and caused them to pass through,  
And He made the waters stand up like a heap.
- 14 Then He led them with the cloud by day  
And all the night with a light of fire.
- 15 He split the rocks in the wilderness  
And gave *them* abundant drink like the ocean depths.
- 16 He brought forth streams also from the rock  
And caused waters to run down like rivers.
- 17 Yet they still continued to sin against Him,  
To rebel against the Most High in the desert.
- 18 And in their heart they put God to the test  
By asking food according to their desire.
- 19 Then they spoke against God;  
They said, “Can God prepare a table in the wilderness?”
- 20 “Behold, He struck the rock so that waters gushed out,

And streams were overflowing;  
Can He give bread also?  
Will He provide meat for His people?”

21 Therefore the LORD heard and was full of wrath;  
And a fire was kindled against Jacob  
And anger also mounted against Israel,

22 Because they did not believe in God  
And did not trust in His salvation.

23 Yet He commanded the clouds above  
And opened the doors of heaven;

24 He rained down manna upon them to eat  
And gave them food from heaven. [[John 6:31](#)]

25 Man did eat the bread of angels;  
He sent them food in abundance.

26 He caused the east wind to blow in the heavens  
And by His power He directed the south wind.

27 When He rained meat upon them like the dust,  
Even winged fowl like the sand of the seas,

28 Then He let *them* fall in the midst of their camp,  
Round about their dwellings.

29 So they ate and were well filled,  
And their desire He gave to them.

30 Before they had satisfied their desire,  
While their food was in their mouths,

31 The anger of God rose against them  
And killed some of their stoutest ones,  
And subdued the choice men of Israel.

32 In spite of all this they still sinned  
And did not believe in His wonderful works.

33 So He brought their days to an end in futility  
And their years in sudden terror.

34 When He killed them, then they sought Him,  
And returned and searched diligently for God;

35 And they remembered that God was their rock,  
And the Most High God their Redeemer.

36 But they deceived Him with their mouth  
And lied to Him with their tongue.

37 For their heart was not steadfast toward Him,  
Nor were they faithful in His covenant.

38 But He, being compassionate, forgave *their* iniquity and did not destroy *them*;  
And often He restrained His anger  
And did not arouse all His wrath.

39 Thus He remembered that they were but flesh,  
A wind that passes and does not return.

40 How often they rebelled against Him in the wilderness  
And grieved Him in the desert!

41 Again and again they tempted God,  
And pained the Holy One of Israel.

42 They did not remember His power,

The day when He redeemed them from the adversary,  
43 When He performed His signs in Egypt  
And His marvels in the field of Zoan,  
44 And turned their rivers to blood,  
And their streams, they could not drink.  
45 He sent among them swarms of flies which devoured them,  
And frogs which destroyed them.  
46 He gave also their crops to the grasshopper  
And the product of their labor to the locust.  
47 He destroyed their vines with hailstones  
And their sycamore trees with frost.  
48 He gave over their cattle also to the hailstones  
And their herds to bolts of lightning.  
49 He sent upon them His burning anger,  
Fury and indignation and trouble,  
A band of destroying angels.  
50 He leveled a path for His anger;  
He did not spare their soul from death,  
But gave over their life to the plague,  
51 And smote all the firstborn in Egypt,  
The first *issue* of their virility in the tents of Ham.  
52 But He led forth His own people like sheep  
And guided them in the wilderness like a flock;  
53 He led them safely, so that they did not fear;  
But the sea engulfed their enemies.  
54 So He brought them to His holy land,  
To this hill country which His right hand had gained.  
55 He also drove out the nations before them  
And apportioned them for an inheritance by measurement,  
And made the tribes of Israel dwell in their tents.  
56 Yet they tempted and rebelled against the Most High God  
And did not keep His testimonies,  
57 But turned back and acted treacherously like their fathers;  
They turned aside like a treacherous bow.  
58 For they provoked Him with their high places  
And aroused His jealousy with their graven images.  
59 When God heard, He was filled with wrath  
And greatly abhorred Israel;  
60 So that He abandoned the dwelling place at Shiloh,  
The tent which He had pitched among men,  
61 And gave up His strength to captivity  
And His glory into the hand of the adversary.  
62 He also delivered His people to the sword,  
And was filled with wrath at His inheritance.  
63 Fire devoured His young men,  
And His virgins had no wedding songs.  
64 His priests fell by the sword,  
And His widows could not weep.  
65 Then the Lord awoke as *if from sleep,*

Like a warrior overcome by wine.  
66 He drove His adversaries backward;  
He put on them an everlasting reproach.  
67 He also rejected the tent of Joseph,  
And did not choose the tribe of Ephraim,  
68 But chose the tribe of Judah,  
Mount Zion which He loved.  
69 And He built His sanctuary like the heights,  
Like the earth which He has founded forever.  
70 He also chose David His servant  
And took him from the sheepfolds;  
71 From the care of the ewes with suckling lambs He brought him  
To shepherd Jacob His people,  
And Israel His inheritance.  
72 So he shepherded them according to the integrity of his heart,  
And guided them with his skillful hands.

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