

## DAY 32 – Generational Faithfulness

### **Psalm 78**

**78** Give ear, O my people, to my law: incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

<sup>2</sup> I will open my mouth in a parable: I will utter dark sayings of old:

<sup>3</sup> Which we have heard and known, and our fathers have told us.

<sup>4</sup> We will not hide them from their children, shewing to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, and his strength, and his wonderful works that he hath done.

<sup>5</sup> For he established a testimony in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our fathers, that they should make them known to their children:

<sup>6</sup> That the generation to come might know them, even the children which should be born; who should arise and declare them to their children:

<sup>7</sup> That they might set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments:

<sup>8</sup> And might not be as their fathers, a stubborn and rebellious generation; a generation that set not their heart aright, and whose spirit was not steadfast with God.

<sup>9</sup> The children of Ephraim, being armed, and carrying bows, turned back in the day of battle.

<sup>10</sup> They kept not the covenant of God, and refused to walk in his law;

<sup>11</sup> And forgot his works, and his wonders that he had shewed them.

<sup>12</sup> Marvellous things did he in the sight of their fathers, in the land of Egypt, in the field of Zoan.

<sup>13</sup> He divided the sea, and caused them to pass through; and he made the waters to stand as an heap.

<sup>14</sup> In the daytime also he led them with a cloud, and all the night with a light of fire.

<sup>15</sup> He clave the rocks in the wilderness, and gave them drink as out of the great depths.

<sup>16</sup> He brought streams also out of the rock, and caused waters to run down like rivers.

<sup>17</sup> And they sinned yet more against him by provoking the most High in the wilderness.

<sup>18</sup> And they tempted God in their heart by asking meat for their lust.

<sup>19</sup> Yea, they spake against God; they said, Can God furnish a table in the wilderness?

<sup>20</sup> Behold, he smote the rock, that the waters gushed out, and the streams overflowed; can he give bread also? Can he provide flesh for his people?

*21 Therefore the LORD heard this, and was wroth: so a fire was kindled against Jacob, and anger also came up against Israel;*  
*22 Because they believed not in God, and trusted not in his salvation:*  
*23 Though he had commanded the clouds from above, and opened the doors of heaven,*  
*24 And had rained down manna upon them to eat, and had given them of the corn of heaven.*  
*25 Man did eat angels' food: he sent them meat to the full.*  
*26 He caused an east wind to blow in the heaven: and by his power he brought in the south wind.*  
*27 He rained flesh also upon them as dust, and feathered fowls like as the sand of the sea:*  
*28 And he let it fall in the midst of their camp, round about their habitations.*  
*29 So they did eat, and were well filled: for he gave them their own desire;*  
*30 They were not estranged from their lust. But while their meat was yet in their mouths,*  
*31 The wrath of God came upon them, and slew the fattest of them, and smote down the chosen men of Israel.*  
*32 For all this they sinned still, and believed not for his wondrous works.*  
*33 Therefore their days did he consume in vanity, and their years in trouble.*  
*34 When he slew them, then they sought him: and they returned and enquired early after God.*  
*35 And they remembered that God was their rock, and the high God their redeemer.*  
*36 Nevertheless they did flatter him with their mouth, and they lied unto him with their tongues.*  
*37 For their heart was not right with him, neither were they stedfast in his covenant.*  
*38 But he, being full of compassion, forgave their iniquity, and destroyed them not: yea, many a time turned he his anger away, and did not stir up all his wrath.*  
*39 For he remembered that they were but flesh; a wind that passeth away, and cometh not again.*  
*40 How oft did they provoke him in the wilderness, and grieve him in the desert!*  
*41 Yea, they turned back and tempted God, and limited the Holy One of Israel.*  
*42 They remembered not his hand, nor the day when he delivered them from the enemy.*  
*43 How he had wrought his signs in Egypt, and his wonders in the field of Zoan.*

*44 And had turned their rivers into blood; and their floods, that they could not drink.*

*45 He sent divers sorts of flies among them, which devoured them; and frogs, which destroyed them.*

*46 He gave also their increase unto the caterpillar, and their labour unto the locust.*

*47 He destroyed their vines with hail, and their sycomore trees with frost.*

*48 He gave up their cattle also to the hail, and their flocks to hot thunderbolts.*

*49 He cast upon them the fierceness of his anger, wrath, indignation, and trouble by sending evil angels among them.*

*50 He made a way to his anger; he spared not their soul from death, but gave their life over to the pestilence;*

*51 And smote all the firstborn in Egypt; the chief of their strength in the tabernacles of Ham:*

*52 But made his own people to go forth like sheep, and guided them in the wilderness like a flock.*

*53 And he led them on safely, so that they feared not: but the sea overwhelmed their enemies.*

*54 And he brought them to the border of his sanctuary, even to this mountain, which his right hand had purchased.*

*55 He cast out the heathen also before them, and divided them an inheritance by line, and made the tribes of Israel to dwell in their tents.*

*56 Yet they tempted and provoked the most high God, and kept not his testimonies:*

*57 But turned back, and dealt unfaithfully like their fathers: they were turned aside like a deceitful bow.*

*58 For they provoked him to anger with their high places, and moved him to jealousy with their graven images.*

*59 When God heard this, he was wroth, and greatly abhorred Israel:*

*60 So that he forsook the tabernacle of Shiloh, the tent which he placed among men;*

*61 And delivered his strength into captivity, and his glory into the enemy's hand.*

*62 He gave his people over also unto the sword; and was wroth with his inheritance.*

*63 The fire consumed their young men; and their maidens were not given to marriage.*

*64 Their priests fell by the sword; and their widows made no lamentation.*

*65 Then the LORD awaked as one out of sleep, and like a mighty man that shouteth by reason of wine.*

*66 And he smote his enemies in the hinder parts: he put them to a perpetual reproach.*

*67 Moreover, he refused the tabernacle of Joseph, and chose not the tribe of Ephraim:*

*68 But chose the tribe of Judah, the Mount Zion which he loved.*

*69 And he built his sanctuary like high palaces, like the earth which he hath established forever.*

*70 He chose David, also his servant, and took him from the sheepfolds:*

*71 From following the ewes great with young he brought him to feed Jacob, his people, and Israel his inheritance.*

*72 So he fed them according to the integrity of his heart; and guided them by the skilfulness of his hands.*

**Focus:** Passing Faith Forward

**Psalm 78** calls God's people to remember and recount His mighty works to the next generation. Faith must be transmitted, not assumed. Lent prepares us to live in a way that leaves a legacy.

The psalm also warns against forgetfulness. When God's works are forgotten, hearts drift. Remembering strengthens identity and renews commitment.

Our testimony becomes a bridge for those who follow. As we prepare for resurrection celebration, we do so mindful that our faith story must continue beyond us.

**Prayer:** Faithful God, help us remember and proclaim Your works. May our lives inspire lasting faith in the generations to come. Amen.