

**Psalms Handout  
Week Thirteen**

Deut. 6: 4 “Hear, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord is one! You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. These words, which I am commanding you today, shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your sons and shall talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way and when you lie down and when you rise up. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand and they shall be as frontals on your forehead. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

Why hang on to history?

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-Having a history, a believing ancestry, provides you with

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Psalm 78

A maskil-

Of Asaph-

1 Listen, O my people, to my instruction (torah); 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,

3 Which we have heard and known, And our fathers have told us.

Parable: An explanation by illustration of comparison. Common life experience—spiritual truth

Mrk 4:2 And He was teaching them many things in parables, and was saying to them in His teaching, “Listen to this!...9 And He was saying, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

Why talk in parables? Easy part--

The depth--

A dark saying of old?:

Hard part—

The width

\*Step back

Christian biographies/church histories-

4 We will *not* conceal them (the events) from their children, But tell to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, And His strength and His wondrous (miraculous) 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,

What are we commanded to pass on?

1. His
2. His
3. His

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/set their hope 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.

Who do we tell these stories to?

How do we tell them?

2 Tim. 2:2 The things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, entrust these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.

Why tell this over and over? Alternating do's and don'ts

-That they should put (steadfastly commit) their confidence (hope, good stuff of life, loins) in God.

Ps. 18 The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

Ps. 27 The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

Ps. 28 The LORD is my strength and my shield; in Him my heart trusts, and I am helped; my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to Him.

Ps. 118 The Lord is my strength and my shield; in him my heart trusts, and I am helped; my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to him.

-So that they should *not* forget the *works of God*. What is this ultimately calling for?

V 7. Note what comes first!

-So that they/we will keep His commandments. Obedience can be an EKG not a pacemaker.

Jn 14:15 If you love Me, you will keep My commandments...21 He who has My commandments and keeps them is the one who loves Me

1 Jn. 5:2 By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and observe His commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments; and His commandments are not burdensome.

We also study this "old stuff" so that we will *not be*

1. Stubborn
- 2.
3. Have weak hearts
- 4.

The rest of the psalm...

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.

What's up with singling out Ephraim?

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 (flesh).

The contrast—

The deeper lesson. Is there anything

Is there anything you need

Ex. 19:3 Moses went up to God, and the LORD called to him from the mountain, saying, “Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob and tell the sons of Israel: ‘You yourselves have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles’ wings, and brought you to Myself. Now then, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be My own possession among all the peoples....  
Deut. 8:1 “All the commandments that I am commanding you today you shall be careful to do, that you may live and multiply, and go in and possess the land which the LORD swore to give to your forefathers. You shall remember all the way which the LORD your God has led you in the wilderness these forty years, that He might humble you, testing you, to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep His commandments or not. He humbled you and let you be hungry, and fed you with manna which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that He might make you understand that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by everything that proceeds out of the mouth of the Lord.

Ps. 78:19 Then they spoke against God; They said, “Can God prepare a table in the wilderness?

Ps. 63:1 O God, You are my God; I shall seek You earnestly; my soul thirsts for You, my flesh yearns for You, in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

Mat. 3:1 In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said, “The voice of one crying in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight.’”

Mat. 4:1 Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. And after He had fasted forty days and forty nights, He then became hungry. And the tempter came and said to Him, “If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread.” But He answered and said, “It is written, ‘Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God.’”

Wilderness:

Table:

Isa. 25:6 The LORD of hosts will prepare a lavish banquet for all peoples on this mountain;  
A banquet of aged wine, choice pieces with marrow, and refined, aged wine.

And on this mountain He will swallow up the covering which is over all peoples, even the veil which is stretched over all nations. He will swallow up death for all time, and the LORD God will wipe tears away from all faces,

Rev. 19:9 Then he said to me, "Write, 'Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.'

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.

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.

Jn. 6:32 Jesus then said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, it is not Moses who has given you the bread out of heaven, but it is My Father who gives you the true bread out of heaven. For the bread of God is that which comes down out of heaven, and gives life to the world." Then they said to Him, "Lord, always give us this bread."

Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; he who comes to Me will not hunger, and he who believes in Me will never thirst....48 I am the bread of life. Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. This is the bread which comes down out of heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. I am the living bread that came down out of heaven; if anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread also which I will give for the life of the world is My flesh...55 For My flesh is true food, and My blood is true drink. He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood abides in Me, and I in him.

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 (scraped to pieces) the Holy One of Israel. 42 They did not remember His power, the day when He redeemed them from the adversary...

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;

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 (tabernacle) at Shiloh,  
The tent which He had pitched among men, 61 And gave up His strength to captivity  
And His glory (beauty majesty) into the hand of the adversary.

Mat. 28:5 Do not be afraid; for I know that you are looking for Jesus who has been crucified. He is not here, for He has risen, just as He said.

Col 2:15 When He (God) had disarmed the rulers and authorities, He made a public display of them, having triumphed over them through Him (Jesus).

Heb. 2:14 Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death He might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil,

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*.

Rev. 21:2 And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, made ready as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne, saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is among men, and He will dwell among them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself will be among them.

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.

### Discussion

Has God ever prepared a table for you in the wilderness?

Do you feel a little like you are in the wilderness right now? What is it you are waiting for God to provide?