

PRAYING PSALM 78

“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” (Psalm 78:5).

The purpose of this psalm is to teach lessons of the past. 1. AN INVITATION TO LEARN FROM HISTORY (1-11). Listen to the Word of God (1-4). Tell the generation to come (5-11): To set their hope in God. To not to forget the works of the works of God. To keep His commandments. 2. REMINDERS FROM HISTORY (12-39). Remind them of their deliverance from Egypt (12-14). Remind them of God’s miraculous supply (15-16). Remind them of their arrogant demands (17-22). Remind them of God’s gracious supply (23-31). Remind them of God’s continued forgiveness (32-39). Remind them of the consequences of their rebellion against God (40-64). God always awakes and makes necessary changes in His time (65-72).

George Santayana said, “Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it.” William Graham Scroggie stated, “There is immorality in forgetfulness.” This prayer was designed specifically to teach the past. As the Holy Spirit inspired the words to this psalm, He can move us to pray over the past in order to remind us of things we tend to forget. Sometimes we need to be reminded of the hope in God and the past works of God. You will be helped when you remember God’s forgiveness and His grace. Occasionally you need to be reminded of how God has miraculously supplied for you. A backward look helps you make adjustments in your present.