

“A New Year’s Resolution for 2023: Never Forget”

Psalm 78

- A history psalm (Ps 78, 105-107, 114, 135-136)
- 2nd longest psalm in the Psalter

Background of Psalm 78

KEY POINT

**The purpose of history is to help us remember
lessons from God.**

- I. The Burden of Remembering History (vs. 1-8)
- II. Examples of Not Remembering History (vs. 72)

Outline of Psalm 78

1. We must learn from history (vs. 1-4).

The Burden of Remembering History (vs. 1-8)

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2. We must teach history (vs. 5-8).

a) To fulfill a spiritual responsibility (vs. 5)

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 - c) To establish hope in God (vs. 7a)

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 - d) To encourage obedience (vs. 7b)
 - e) To protect us from making past mistakes (vs. 8)

The Burden of Remembering History (vs. 1-8)

1. The Lesson from Ephraim (vs. 9-11)

An Example of Not Remembering History (vs. 9-66)

- The most predominant and largest of the 12 tribes
- Failed to drive the Canaanites out of their inherited territory (Judges 1:29) and failed to remember the works of God
- Deserted other tribes in war

Ephraim

1. The Lesson from Ephraim (vs. 9-11)
2. The Lesson from the Wilderness Wanderings (vs. 12-72)
 - a) Contrast #1 – God's Grace and Israel's Unfaithfulness
(vs. 12-30a)

An Example of Not Remembering History (vs. 9-66)

1. The Lesson from Ephraim (vs. 9-11)
2. The Lesson from the Wilderness Wanderings (vs. 12-72)
 - a) Contrast #1 – God’s Grace and Israel’s Unfaithfulness (vs. 12-30a)
 - b) Contrast #2 – God’s Judgment and Israel’s Unrepentance (vs. 30b-39)

An Example of Not Remembering History (vs. 9-66)

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 - a) Contrast #1 – God’s Grace and Israel’s Unfaithfulness (vs. 12-30a)
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 - c) Contrast #3 – God’s Power and Israel’s Rebellion (vs. 40-55)

An Example of Not Remembering History (vs. 9-66)

1. The Lesson from Ephraim (vs. 9-11)
2. The Lesson from the Wilderness Wanderings (vs. 12-72)
 - a) Contrast #1 – God’s Grace and Israel’s Unfaithfulness (vs. 12-30a)
 - b) Contrast #2 – God’s Judgment and Israel’s Unrepentance (vs. 30b-39)
 - c) Contrast #3 – God’s Power and Israel’s Rebellion (vs. 40-55)
 - d) Contrast #4 – God’s Judgment and Israel’s Infidelity (vs. 56-72)

An Example of Not Remembering History (vs. 9-66)

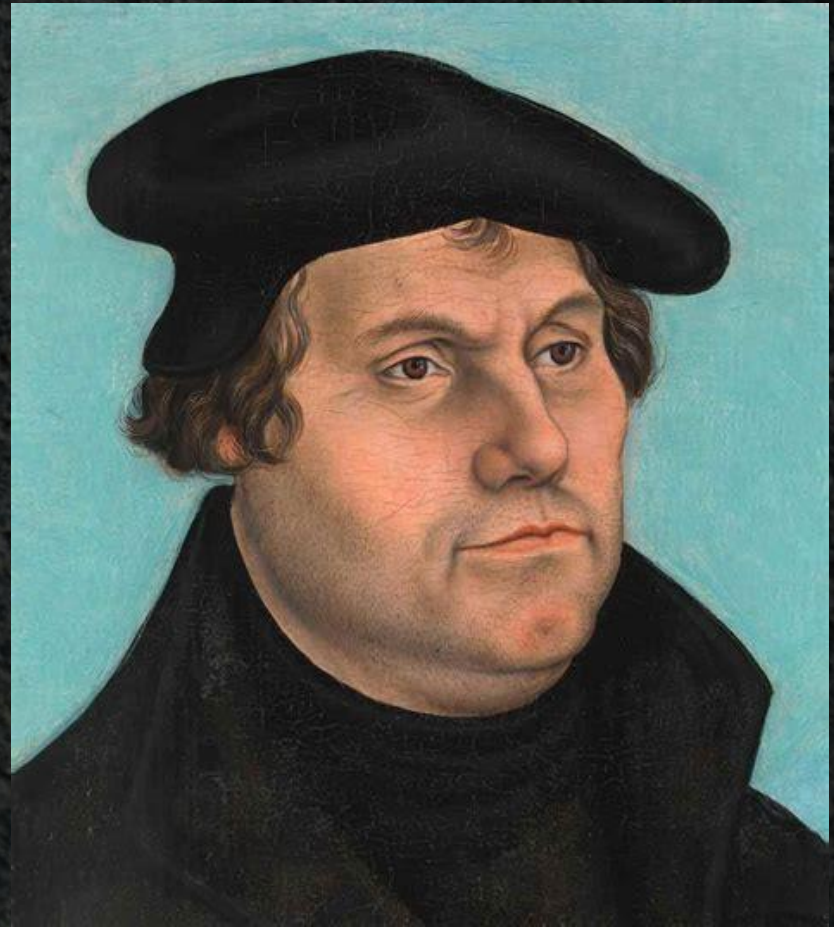
- We anger God (vs. 21, 31, 38, 50, 58-62).
- We disappoint God (vs. 40).
- We might not survive (vs. 33-34).

**What Happens When We Fail to
Remember History?**

1. Study history.

Resolutions to Remember God

“I study my Bible like I gather apples. First, I shake the whole tree that the ripest may fall. Then I shake each limb, and when I have shaken each limb, I shake each branch and every twig. Then I look under every leaf. I search the Bible as a whole like shaking the whole tree. Then I shake every limb-- study book after book. Then I shake every branch, giving attention to the chapters. Then I shake every twig, or a careful study of the paragraphs and sentences and words and their meanings.”



Martin Luther

1. Study history.

2. Pray about history.

Resolutions to Remember God

1. Study history.
2. Pray about history.
3. Sing about history.

Resolutions to Remember God

1. Study history.
2. Pray about history.
3. Sing about history.
4. Talk about history.

Resolutions to Remember God

1. Study history.
2. Pray about history.
3. Sing about history.
4. Talk about history.
5. Memorialize history.

Resolutions to Remember Gods