

Psalm 145:4

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

One generation shall praise thy works to another, and shall declare thy mighty acts.

Analysis

One generation shall praise thy works to another, and shall declare thy mighty acts. The transmission of faith across generations—*dor ledor* (דור לדור) "generation to generation"—is central to covenant faithfulness. The verb *yeshabéchu* (ישְׁבְּכוּ) "shall praise" indicates ongoing testimony, not passive tradition. God's *ma'aseka* (מְעַשָּׂךְ) "works" and *gēburoteka* (גְּבוּרַתְךָ) "mighty acts" encompass both creation and redemptive history.

Shall declare (*yaggidu*, יְגִידָו) means to tell, recount, make known—active proclamation, not mere preservation. Each generation has responsibility to tell the next of God's faithfulness, paralleling Deuteronomy 6:6-7 and anticipating the Great Commission's call to make disciples of all nations.

Historical Context

The intergenerational transmission of faith was foundational to Israelite identity (Exodus 12:26-27, Psalm 78:4-6). Fathers were commanded to teach children God's mighty acts in Egypt, the wilderness wanderings, and entrance into Canaan. This educational mandate preserved covenant knowledge through centuries of upheaval.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. What specific 'mighty acts' of God in your own life should you be declaring to the next generation?
 2. How can the church recover robust intergenerational faith transmission in an age-segregated culture?
 3. What prevents believers from naturally and joyfully recounting God's works to children and younger Christians?

Interlinear Text

אָגָב וְרָתֵת יְהָנֵם	מְעַשׁ יְהָנֵם	יִשְׁבֵּת חַדְשָׁה	לְדוֹר לְדוֹר	One	One	shall praise	thy works	thy mighty acts
H1755	H1755	H7623		H4639				H1369

to another and shall declare

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 71:18 (Parallel theme): Now also when I am old and grayheaded, O God, forsake me not; until I have shewed thy strength unto this generation, and thy power to every one that is to come.

Isaiah 38:19 (Resurrection): The living, the living, he shall praise thee, as I do this day: the father to the children shall make known thy truth.

Deuteronomy 6:7 (Resurrection): And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.