

Psalm 78:4

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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.

Analysis

The mandate continues: "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" (Hebrew lo n-kached mi-b-nehem l-dor acharon m-sapprim t-hilot YHWH v-azuzo v-nifle-otav asher asah). "Not hide" indicates intentional disclosure—faith transmission requires active effort. Three things must be shown: God's "praises" (His worshipful character), His "strength" (His power), and His "wonderful works" (His mighty acts). The verse establishes that each generation inherits responsibility to transmit faith.

Historical Context

The Shema (Deuteronomy 6:4-9) commanded parents to teach children constantly—"when you sit, walk, lie down, rise up." Israel's survival as covenant people depended on faithful transmission. When a generation failed this (Judges 2:10-13), apostasy followed. The New Testament continues this: parents nurture children "in the discipline and instruction of the Lord" (Ephesians 6:4).

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. What might cause a generation to "hide" God's truth from their children, and how can you resist this?
2. How are you intentionally "showing" (not assuming) the next generation God's praises, strength, and works?
3. What "wonderful works" from your experience with God should you be declaring to younger believers?

Interlinear Text

ל	אָשָׁר	זָהָר	מְבָנִים	לְדֹרְתָּם	לְדֹרְתָּם	לְדֹרְתָּם
H3808	We will not hide	them from their children	to the generation	to come		
H3582		H1121		H1755		H314
shewing	the praises	of the LORD	and his strength	and his wonderful works		
H5608	H8416	H3068	H5807		H6381	
רָאשָׁה:	עֲשָׂה:					
H834	that he hath done					
H6213						

Additional Cross-References

Deuteronomy 11:19 (Resurrection): And ye shall teach them your children, speaking of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.

Joel 1:3 (Parallel theme): Tell ye your children of it, and let your children tell their children, and their children another generation.

Deuteronomy 4:9 (Parallel theme): Only take heed to thyself, and keep thy soul diligently, lest thou forget the things which thine eyes have seen, and lest they depart from thy heart all the days of thy life: but teach them thy sons, and thy sons' sons;

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.

Psalms 9:14 (Resurrection): That I may shew forth all thy praise in the gates of the daughter of Zion: I will rejoice in thy salvation.

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