

- g. Historical Point: The power of God is always available as His people trust.

2. Psalm 78

This is the other form of an historical psalm..one in which the message is cushioned against a narration of some historical event or, in some cases, against the total history of Israel.

a. Subject: A Parable of History (Jensen)

b. Literary notes:

- (1) The length of this psalm makes it harder to get a grip on the whole. It may be divided by stanzas, of course, but the unity of the entire psalm does not the severance of any segment for independent treatment except as a theme or proof text sort of thing.

- (2) Stanza development:

In my own mind I so it like this..but a lot of books have other ideas!

1-8...Foreword
9-11..Historical prologue
12-53..Deliverance and wilderness
54-69..Deliverance and the land
70-72..Historical epilogue

- (3) Material arrangement:

The arrangement is made in a logical way to prove a point and illustrate aspects of history. Hence it is internally repetitive to stress the guidance of God, the national sin, the reality of judgment and the eventual establishment of the Kingdom. The whole is given in an admonishing tone and this is dramatized by the foreword. Note how the rebellion and judgment sequences "grow" as they are treated through the psalm.