

<sup>26</sup> He caused an east wind to blow in the heavens;  
And by His power He brought in the south wind.

<sup>27</sup> He also rained meat on them like the dust,  
Feathered fowl like the sand of the seas;

<sup>28</sup> And He let *them* fall in the midst of their camp,  
All around their dwellings.

<sup>29</sup> So they ate and were well filled,  
For He gave them their own desire.

<sup>30</sup> They were not deprived of their craving;  
But while their food *was* still in their mouths,

<sup>31</sup> The wrath of God came against them,  
And slew the stoutest of them,  
And struck down the choice *men* of Israel.

<sup>32</sup> In spite of this they still sinned,  
And did not believe in His wondrous works.

<sup>33</sup> Therefore their days He consumed in futility,  
And their years in fear.

<sup>34</sup> When He slew them, then they sought Him;  
And they returned and sought earnestly for God.

<sup>35</sup> Then they remembered that God *was* their rock,  
And the Most High God their Redeemer.

<sup>36</sup> Nevertheless they flattered Him with their mouth,  
And they lied to Him with their tongue;

<sup>37</sup> For their heart was not steadfast with Him,  
Nor were they faithful in His covenant.

<sup>38</sup> But He, *being* full of compassion, forgave *their* iniquity,  
And did not destroy *them*.  
Yes, many a time He turned His anger away,  
And did not stir up all His wrath;

<sup>39</sup> For He remembered that they *were but* flesh,  
A breath that passes away and does not come again.

Psalms 78:26-39

### 1. The Provision of Meat (Quails)

<sup>26</sup> He caused an east wind to blow in the heavens;  
And by His power He brought in the south wind.

<sup>27</sup> He also rained meat on them like the dust,  
Feathered fowl like the sand of the seas;

<sup>28</sup> And He let them fall in the midst of their camp,  
All around their dwellings.

<sup>29</sup> So they ate and were well filled,  
For He gave them their own desire.

<sup>30</sup> They were not deprived of their craving;  
But while their food was still in their mouths,

<sup>31</sup> The wrath of God came against them,  
And slew the stoutest of them,  
And struck down the choice *men* of Israel.

Psalms 78:26-31

a) God's provision for the children of Israel

i) Great power was involved

ii) Meat was given in abundance

b) The desire/ craving for meat

i) The children of Israel were not deprived

ii) They were given more than they could wish for

iii) But this may not be fully appreciated!

- c) God's grace and mercy were clearly displayed
- d) The slaying of some of the children of Israel
  - i) These were "stout men"
  - ii) These were "the choice men of Israel"

#### **REASONS FOR THE SLAYING OF THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL**

<sup>32</sup> In spite of this they still sinned,  
And did not believe in His wondrous works.

<sup>33</sup> Therefore their days He consumed in futility,  
And their years in fear.

<sup>34</sup> When He slew them, then they sought Him;  
And they returned and sought earnestly for God.

<sup>35</sup> Then they remembered that God *was* their rock,  
And the Most High God their Redeemer.

<sup>36</sup> Nevertheless they flattered Him with their mouth,  
And they lied to Him with their tongue;

<sup>37</sup> For their heart was not steadfast with Him,  
Nor were they faithful in His covenant.

Psalm 78:32-37

- a) They continued in their unbelief
- b) They continued in their arrogant and complaining spirit
- c) They did not acknowledge God in any significant way  
Though they "remembered God"
- d) They continued with their lies
- e) Their hearts were not steadfast
- f) They were not faithful to the Covenant given to them

## **GOD'S FAITHFULNESS TO HIS PEOPLE**

<sup>38</sup> But He, *being* full of compassion, forgave *their* iniquity,  
And did not destroy *them*.  
Yes, many a time He turned His anger away,  
And did not stir up all His wrath;

<sup>39</sup> For He remembered that they *were but* flesh,  
A breath that passes away and does not come again.

Psalm 78:38-39

1. The Compassion of God
2. Forgiveness offered
3. Turning away of anger
4. Did not stir up wrath
5. God acknowledged the make-up of man
  - a) He is but dust
  - b) He passes away
  - c) Death is so final when man is concerned