- 6. At the blast of your voice, O God of Jacob: both horse and chariot were cast asleep.
- 7. Terrible are you, Lord God: and who may stand before you when you are angry?
- 8. You caused your sentence to be heard from heaven: the earth feared and was still,
- 9. When God arose to judgement: to save all the meek of the earth.
- 10. For you crushed the wrath of man: you bridled the remnant of the wrathful.
- O make vows to the Lord your God, and keep them: let all around him bring gifts to him that is worthy to be feared.
- 12. For he cuts down the fury of princes: and he is terrible to the kings of the earth.

# Psalm 77

- 1. I call to my God, I cry out toward him: I call to my God, and surely he will answer.
- In the day of my distress I seek the Lord, I stretch out my hands to him by night: my soul is poured out without ceasing, it refuses all comfort.
- 3. I think upon God and groan aloud: I muse, and my spirit faints.
- You hold my eyelids open: I am so dazed that I cannot flee.
- 5. I consider the times that are past: I remember the years of long ago.
- 6. At night I am grieved to the heart: I ponder, and my spirit makes search;
- 7. 'Will the Lord cast us off for ever: will he show us his favour no more?

### The Psalms

- 8. 'Is his mercy clean gone for ever: and his promise come to an end for all generations?
- 9. 'Has God forgotten to be gracious: has he shut up his pity in displeasure?'
- 10. And I say 'Has the right hand of the Most High lost its strength: has the arm of the Lord changed?'
- I will declare the mighty acts of the Lord: I will call to mind your wonders of old.
- 12. I will think on all that you have done: and meditate upon your works.
- 13. Your way, O God, is holy: who is so great a god as our God?
- You are the God that works wonders: you made known your power among the nations;
- 15. By your mighty arm you redeemed your people: the children of Jacob and Joseph.
- 16. The waters saw you, O God, the waters saw you and were afraid: the depths also were troubled.
- 17. The clouds poured out water, the heavens spoke: and your arrows darted forth.
- The voice of your thunder was heard in the whirlwind: your lightnings lit the world, the earth shuddered and quaked.
- 19. Your way was in the sea, your path in the great waters: and your footsteps were not seen.
- 20. You led your people like sheep: by the hand of Moses and Aaron.

### Psalm 78

 Give heed to my teaching, O my people: incline your ears to the words of my mouth;

- 2. For I will open my mouth in a parable: and expound the mysteries of former times.
- 3. What we have heard and known: what our forefathers have told us,
- 4. We will not hide from their children, but declare to a generation yet to come: the praiseworthy acts of the Lord, his mighty and wonderful works.
- He established a law in Jacob and made a decree in Israel: which he commanded our forefathers to teach their children.
- That future generations might know, and the children yet unborn: that they in turn might teach it to their sons;
- So that they might put their confidence in God: and not forget his works, but keep his commandments,
- And not be as their forefathers, a stubborn and rebellious generation: a generation that did not set their heart aright, whose spirit was not faithful to God.
- 9. The children of Ephraim, armed with the bow: turned back in the day of battle.
- They did not keep God's covenant, they refused to walk in his law: they forgot what he had done, and the wonders he had shown them.
- 11. For he did marvellous things in the sight of their fathers: in the land of Egypt, in the country of Zoan.
- 12. He divided the sea and let them pass through: he made the waters stand up in a heap.
- In the daytime he led them with a cloud: and all night long with the light of fire.

- 14. He cleft rocks in the wilderness: and gave them drink in abundance as from springs of water.
- He brought streams out of the rock: and caused the waters to flow down like rivers.
- But for all this they sinned yet more against him: and rebelled against the Most High in the desert.
- 17. They wilfully put God to the test: and demanded food for their appetite.
- 18. They spoke against God, and said: 'Can God prepare a table in the wilderness?
- 19. 'He indeed struck the rock, so that the waters gushed and the streams overflowed: but can he also give bread, or provide meat for his people?'
- 20. When the Lord heard it he was angry, and a fire was kindled against Jacob: his wrath blazed against Israel.
- For they put no trust in God: nor would they believe his power to save.
- 22. Then he commanded the clouds above: and opened the doors of heaven.
- 23. He rained down manna for them to eat: and gave them the grain of heaven.
- 24. So men ate the bread of angels: and he sent them food in abundance.
- 25. He stirred up the south east wind in the heavens: and guided it by his power.
- 26. He rained down meat upon them thick as dust: and winged birds like the sands of the sea.
- 27. He made them fall into the midst of their camp: and all about their tents.

- 28. So they ate and were well-filled: for he had given them what they desired.
- 29. But before they had satisfied their craving: while the food was still in their mouths,
- 30. The anger of God blazed up against them: and he slew their strongest men, and laid low the youth of Israel.
- 31. But for all this they sinned yet more: and put no faith in his wonders.
- 32. So he ended their days like a breath: and their years with sudden terror.
- 33. When he struck them down, then they sought him: they turned, and sought eagerly for God.
- 34. They remembered that God was their rock: that God Most High was their redeemer.
- 35. But they lied to him with their mouths: and dissembled with their tongues;
- 36. For their hearts were not fixed upon him: nor were they true to his covenant.
- 37. Yet he, being merciful, forgave their iniquity and did not destroy them: many times he turned his anger aside, and would not wholly arouse his fury.
- He remembered that they were but flesh:
  like a wind that passes, and does not return.
- 39. How often they rebelled against him in the wilderness: and grieved him in the desert!
- 40. Again and again they put God to the test: and provoked the Holy One of Israel.
- 41. They did not remember his power: or the day when he redeemed them from the enemy;
- 42. How he wrought his signs in Egypt: his wonders in the country of Zoan.

#### The Psalms

- 43. For he turned their rivers into blood: so that they could not drink from the streams.
- 44. He sent swarms of flies that devoured them: and frogs that laid them waste.
- 45. He gave their crops to the locust: and the fruits of their labour to the grasshopper.
- 46. He struck down their vines with hailstones: and their sycomore trees with frost.
- He gave up their cattle to the hail: and their flocks to the flash of the lightning.
- 48. He loosed on them the fierceness of his anger, his fury, his indignation and distress: and these were his messengers of destruction.
- 49. He opened a path for his fury: he would not spare them from death, but gave up their lives to the pestilence.
- 50. He struck down the firstborn of Egypt: the first-fruits of their manhood in the dwellings of Ham.
- 51. As for his own people, he led them out like sheep: and guided them in the wilderness like a flock.
- 52. He led them in safety, and they were not afraid: but the sea covered their enemies.
- 53. He brought them to his holy land: to the mountains that his own right hand had won.
- 54. He drove out the nations before them, and apportioned their lands as a possession: and settled the tribes of Israel in their tents.
- 55. But they rebelled against God Most High and put him to the test: they would not obey his commandments.
- 56. They turned back and dealt treacherously like their fathers: they turned aside, slack as an unstrung bow.

- 57. They provoked him to anger with their heathen shrines: and moved him to jealousy with their carved images.
- 58. God heard and was angry, he utterly rejected Israel: he forsook the tabernacle at Shiloh, the tent where he dwelt among men.
- 59. He gave the ark of his might into captivity: and his glory into the hands of the enemy.
- 60. He delivered his people to the sword: and was enraged against his own possession.
- Fire devoured the young men: there was no one to bewail the maidens;
- 62. Their priests fell by the sword: and there was none to mourn for the widows.
- 63. Then the Lord awoke like a man out of sleep: like a warrior that had been overcome with wine.
- 64. He struck the backs of his enemies as they fled: and put them to perpetual shame.
- 65. He rejected the family of Joseph: he refused the tribe of Ephraim.
- 66. But he chose the tribe of Judah: and the hill of Zion which he loved.
- 67. He built his sanctuary like the heights of heaven: like the earth which he had founded for ever.
- He chose David his servant: and took him from the sheepfolds;
- 69. He brought him from following the ewes: to be the shepherd of his people Jacob, and of Israel his own possession.
- 70. So he tended them with upright heart: and guided them with skilful hand.

# Psalm 79

- O God, the heathen have come into your land: they have defiled your holy temple, they have made Jerusalem a heap of stones.
- They have given the dead bodies of your servants as food to the birds of the air: and the flesh of your faithful ones to the wild beasts of the earth.
- Their blood they have spilt like water on every side of Jerusalem: and there is none to bury them.
- 4. We have become a mockery to our neighbours: the scorn and laughing-stock of those about us.
- 5. How long, O Lord, shall your anger be so extreme: will your jealous fury burn like fire?
- 6. Pour out your wrath on the nations that do not know you: on the kingdoms that have not called upon your name.
- For they have devoured Jacob: and made his dwelling-place a desolation.
- Do not remember against us the sin of former times: but let your compassion hasten to meet us, for we are brought very low.
- Help us, O God our saviour, for the honour of your name: O deliver us and expiate our sins, for your name's sake.
- 10. [Why should the heathen say 'Where is their God?': O let vengeance for the blood of your servants that is shed be shown upon the nations in our sight.]
- Let the sorrowful sighing of the prisoners come before you: and as your power is great, reprieve those condemned to die.

- 12. [For the taunts with which our neighbours have taunted you, O Lord: repay them seven times over into their bosoms.]
- So we that are your people and the sheep of your pasture shall give you thanks for ever: we will declare your praise in every generation.

# Psalm 80

- Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, you that led Joseph like a flock: you that are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine out in glory;
- 2. Before Ephraim, Benjamin and Manasseh: stir up your power, and come to save us.
- 3. Restore us again, O Lord of hosts: show us the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 4. O Lord God of hosts: how long will you be angry at your people's prayer?
- 5. You have fed them with the bread of tears: and given them tears to drink in good measure.
- 6. You have made us the victim of our neighbours: and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
- 7. Restore us again, O Lord of hosts: show us the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- You brought a vine out of Egypt: you drove out the nations, and planted it in.
- 9. You cleared the ground before it: and it struck root and filled the land.
- The hills were covered with its shadow: and its boughs were like the boughs of the great cedars.