



UNDECEASED MEMORY OF  
GEORGE. WASHINGTON.  
GIBSON, *Born* UNION CO.  
S. CAROLINA. JUNE 17<sup>TH</sup>  
1800.  
*Died* AUGUST 17<sup>TH</sup>  
1871.

ON  
**ROBERT M.  
BERRY**

BORN

FEB. 3, 1841.

KILLED BY INDIANS

APR. 2, 1866.





**LEGACY**

# **YOUR LEGACY TEACHES WHETHER YOU WANT IT TO OR NOT**

- We don't get to choose how others react to the story we leave behind, so whether we've been faithful or not, we will be an object lesson to those who come after us.
- It is not likely that the unfaithful of Israel would have wanted their story re-told, as in Psalm 78, but the psalmist finds a plethora of lessons, both for himself and his posterity (78:1-8). We would do well to heed the warnings and take stock of our own life story.

- Like the Israelites leaving Egypt (78:12-16) and witnessing wonders in the wilderness, many of us are given some great advantages at the start of life. Nobody's upbringing is perfect, but everybody can point to something that was advantageous.
- There is a strange disconnect, though, when advantages do not translate to moral or spiritual success (and even material, at times). Notice how often the psalmist points this out (vv. 9-10, 17, 32, 36, 40-41, 56).
- The Bible includes others with confusing or contradictory life stories, such as Solomon, Adam, Noah, Gideon, Uzziah, Josiah, and Joash.

# CONFUSING STORIES



**THERE IS NO REHABBING A**

**LEGACY**

**WITHOUT HONESTY**

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# Your online biography

- Just like social media, Psalm 78 includes the main events condensed into snippets. It is not always flattering, and tells a story in hindsight that was rarely planned by those involved.
- Remember, we will have to give an account for what we have done in life. Whether good or bad (2 Cor. 5:10), our choices are crafting a “history of self” that we will have to answer for at the judgment seat (Rev. 20:12). So, how does your story read?

Post

# Legacies don't lie

- Acts of rebellion (vv. 40-41)
- Making God jealous (vv. 58-59)
- Consequences of a life without God (vv. 59-64)
- A failure to take up the fight (v. 9)
- Whining and complaining (vv. 18-20)
- Forgetting that life is made up of many hills and valleys (vv. 52-56)
- A bright, but uncertain future (vv. 68-72)

Post