

Manasseh Bears Fruits of Repentance

I. Manasseh's Evil Deeds

- A. Promotes idol worship. *2 Ki 21:1-3*
- B. Profanes the temple. *21:4-5*
- C. Sacrifices own child to Molech. *21:6-8*
- D. Leads the people to sin worse even than the heathen. *21:9; Dt 9:4-6*
- E. Ignores the Lord's prophets. *21:10-15*
- F. Kills innocent people. *21:16*

2 Kings 21:1-16 (NASB) ¹Manasseh was twelve years old when he became king, and he reigned fifty-five years in Jerusalem; and his mother's name was Hephzibah. ²He did evil in the sight of the LORD, according to the abominations of the nations whom the LORD dispossessed before the sons of Israel. ³For he rebuilt the high places which Hezekiah his father had destroyed; and he erected altars for Baal and made an Asherah, as Ahab king of Israel had done, and worshiped all the host of heaven and served them. ⁴He built altars in the house of the LORD, of which the LORD had said, "In Jerusalem I will put My name." ⁵For he built altars for all the host of heaven in the two courts of the house of the LORD. ⁶He made his son pass through the fire, practiced witchcraft and used divination, and dealt with mediums and spiritists. He did much evil in the sight of the LORD provoking *Him to anger*. ⁷Then he set the carved image of Asherah that he had made, in the house of which the LORD said to David and to his son Solomon, "In this house and in Jerusalem, which I have chosen from all the tribes of Israel, I will put My name forever." ⁸"And I will not make the feet of Israel wander anymore from the land which I gave their fathers, if only they will observe to do according to all that I have commanded them, and according to all the law that My servant Moses commanded them." ⁹But they did not listen, and Manasseh seduced them to do evil more than the nations whom the LORD destroyed before the sons of Israel. ¹⁰Now the LORD spoke through His servants the prophets, saying, ¹¹"Because Manasseh king of Judah has done these abominations, having done wickedly more than all the Amorites did who *were* before him, and has also made Judah sin with his idols; ¹²therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, 'Behold, I am bringing *such* calamity on Jerusalem and Judah, that whoever hears of it, both his ears will tingle. ¹³I will stretch over Jerusalem the line of Samaria and the plummet of the house of Ahab, and I will wipe Jerusalem as one wipes a dish, wiping it and turning it upside down. ¹⁴I will abandon the remnant of My inheritance and deliver them into the hand of their enemies, and they will become as plunder and spoil to all their enemies; ¹⁵because they have done evil in My sight, and have been provoking Me to anger since the day their fathers came from Egypt, even to this day.'" ¹⁶Moreover, Manasseh shed very much innocent blood until he had filled Jerusalem from one end to another; besides his sin with which he made Judah sin, in doing evil in the sight of the LORD.

II. Manasseh's Repentance

- A. God uses the Assyrians to lead Manasseh away with thongs through his nose. *2 Chr 33:10-11*
- B. He humbles himself greatly. *33:12*

- C. God receives his entreaty, hears his supplication, and restores him to his rule over Judah. 33:13

KEY: “Then Manasseh knew that the LORD was God.”

2 Chronicles 33:10-13 (NASB) ¹⁰The LORD spoke to Manasseh and his people, but they paid no attention. ¹¹Therefore the LORD brought the commanders of the army of the king of Assyria against them, and they captured Manasseh with **£**hooks (thongs put through the nose), bound him with bronze *chains* and took him to Babylon. ¹²When he was in distress, he entreated the LORD his God and humbled himself greatly before the God of his fathers. ¹³When he prayed to Him, He was moved by his entreaty and heard his supplication, and brought him again to Jerusalem to his kingdom. Then Manasseh knew that the LORD was God.

III. Manasseh’s Fruits of Repentance

- A. Tears down the idols. 2 Chr 33:15
- B. Commands worship of Jehovah only. 33:16
- C. The people continue in sin. 33:17
- D. Can’t undo his evil influence. 33:21-24
- E. Generations suffer. 2 Ki 23:10-14, 25-27; Jerusalem falls 2 Ki 24:3-4; Jer 15:4

2 Chronicles 33:14-20 (NASB) ¹⁴Now after this he built the outer wall of the city of David on the west side of Gihon, in the valley, even to the entrance of the Fish Gate; and he encircled the Ophel *with it* and made it very high. Then he put army commanders in all the fortified cities of Judah. ¹⁵He also removed the foreign gods and the idol from the house of the LORD, as well as all the altars which he had built on the mountain of the house of the LORD and in Jerusalem, and he threw *them* outside the city. ¹⁶He set up the altar of the LORD and sacrificed peace offerings and thank offerings on it; and he ordered Judah to serve the LORD God of Israel. ¹⁷Nevertheless the people still sacrificed in the high places, *although* only to the LORD their God. ¹⁸Now the rest of the acts of Manasseh even his prayer to his God, and the words of the seers who spoke to him in the name of the LORD God of Israel, behold, they are among the records of the kings of Israel. ¹⁹His prayer also and *how God* was entreated by him, and all his sin, his unfaithfulness, and the sites on which he built high places and erected the Asherim and the carved images, before he humbled himself, behold, they are written in the records of the Hozai. ²⁰So Manasseh slept with his fathers, and they buried him in his own house. And Amon his son became king in his place.

2 Chronicles 33:21-24 (NASB) ²¹Amon *was* twenty-two years old when he became king, and he reigned two years in Jerusalem. ²²He did evil in the sight of the LORD as Manasseh his father had done, and Amon sacrificed to all the carved images which his father Manasseh had made, and he served them. ²³Moreover, he did not humble himself before the LORD as his father Manasseh had done, but Amon multiplied guilt. ²⁴Finally his servants conspired against him and put him to death in his own house.

2 Kings 23:10-14 (NASB) ¹⁰He (Josiah) also defiled **£**Topheth, which is in the valley of the son of Hinnom, that no man might make his son or his daughter pass through the fire for Molech. ¹¹He did away with the horses which the kings of Judah had given to the sun, at

the entrance of the house of the LORD, by the chamber of Nathan-melech the official, which *was* in the precincts; and he burned the chariots of the sun with fire. ¹²The altars which *were* on the roof, the upper chamber of Ahaz, which the kings of Judah had made, and the altars which Manasseh had made in the two courts of the house of the LORD, the king broke down; and he ^fsmashed them there and threw their dust into the brook Kidron. ¹³The high places which *were* before Jerusalem, which *were* on the right of the mount of destruction which Solomon the king of Israel had built for Ashtoreth the abomination of the Sidonians, and for Chemosh the abomination of Moab, and for Milcom the abomination of the sons of Ammon, the king defiled. ¹⁴He broke in pieces the *sacred* pillars and cut down the Asherim and filled their places with human bones.

2 Kings 23:25-26 (NASB) ²⁵Before him there was no king like him who turned to the LORD with all his heart and with all his soul and with all his might, according to all the law of Moses; nor did any like him arise after him. ²⁶However, the LORD did not turn from the fierceness of His great wrath with which His anger burned against Judah, because of all the provocations with which Manasseh had provoked Him.

2 Kings 24:3-4 (NASB) ³Surely at the command of the LORD it came upon Judah, to remove *them* from His sight because of the sins of Manasseh, according to all that he had done, ⁴and also for the innocent blood which he shed, for he filled Jerusalem with innocent blood; and the LORD would not forgive.

Jeremiah 15:3-4 (NKJV) ³“And I will appoint over them four forms of *destruction*,” says the Lord: “the sword to slay, the dogs to drag, the birds of the heavens and the beasts of the earth to devour and destroy. ⁴I will hand them over to trouble, to all kingdoms of the earth, because of Manasseh the son of Hezekiah, king of Judah, for what he did in Jerusalem.

IV. Application: Bearing Fruit Is A Matter of Faith

LOVE GOD: Hate What God Hates and Love What God Loves

A. Fruitful in Crucifying the Flesh

Galatians 5:22-26 (ESV) ²²But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. ²⁴And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. ²⁵If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit. ²⁶Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

B. Fruitful in Giving for the Gospel

Philippians 4:16-17 (NKJV) ¹⁶For even in Thessalonica you sent *aid* once and again for my necessities. ¹⁷**Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that abounds to your account.**

Romans 15:28 (NKJV) ²⁸Therefore, when I have performed this and have sealed to them **this fruit**, I shall go by way of you to Spain.

2 Corinthians 8:5 (NKJV) ⁵And not *only* as we had hoped, but **they first gave themselves to the Lord**, and *then* to us by the will of God.

C. Fruitful in Every Good Work

Colossians 1:10 (NKJV) ¹⁰that you may **walk worthy of the Lord**, fully pleasing *Him*, **being fruitful in every good work** and increasing in the knowledge of God;

Ephesians 2:10 (NKJV) ¹⁰For we are His workmanship, **created in Christ Jesus for good works**, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

D. Fruitful in Spreading the Gospel

Romans 1:13 (NKJV) ¹³Now I do not want you to be unaware, brethren, that I often planned to come to you (but was hindered until now), **that I might have some fruit among you also**, just as among the other Gentiles.

E. Fruitful in Worshiping Thankfully

Hebrews 13:14-15 (NKJV) ¹⁴For here we have no continuing city, but we seek the one to come. ¹⁵Therefore by Him **let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of *our* lips, giving thanks to His name.**