

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Why did Manasseh begin as he did - to do evil in the sight of the Lord?
2. Did Manasseh cause the people to do wrong? (vs. 10)
3. What condition was necessary for the Lord to “hear” Manasseh’s prayer?
4. What responsibility lies in the hands of a person who is the wrong example?

SUMMARY:

Manasseh was 12 years old when he was made king and ruled for 55 years. We have no indication how long he followed the path of sin, nor do we know how long he was under God’s judgment before he repented. We do know that his father had ruled well and had led the people on the right paths. Manasseh had gone the way of sin long enough to lead the people from the right way, deeper into sin than they had perhaps ever gone before. However, the thing that really counts is that he did repent and that he did serve God and even led the people back to God.

God’s promise is that no matter how great our sins are, if we repent, He will forgive and will cleanse us through the blood of the Lamb of God. Just as Manasseh had his life changed by the Lord, so likewise can we be given a new life in Christ Jesus.

NOTES:

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bible Lesson #8

November 20, 2011

Fourth Quarter

MANASSEH, A KING WHO REPENTED

LESSON TEXT: 2 Chronicles 33:9-20

LESSON SETTING: Jerusalem, during Manasseh’s Reign.

TIME: Approximately 698 B.C.

I. MANASSEH’S SINS. 2 Chronicles 33:9-10

- A. Idolatry Set Up. 2 Kings 21:3-5
- B. Gave His Son as a Sacrifice. 2 Kings 21:6
- C. Shed Innocent Blood. 2 Kings 21:16

II. MANASSEH’S REPENTANCE. 2 Chronicles 33:11-13

- A. God’s Judgment (vs. 11) 2 Kings 21:12-15; Isaiah 28:17
- B. Manasseh Repents (vs. 12-13)
- C. God’s Promises
 1. To the Penitent. Isaiah 55:7; Ezekiel 18:21; Acts 2:38; 2 Chronicles 7:14
 2. To the Contrite Heart. Psalm 34:18; Isaiah 66:2; Psalm 51:17; 2 Corinthians 7:10

III. MANASSEH’S RESTORATION. 2 Chronicles 33:14-20

- A. The Changed Life (vs. 15-17)
 1. Idols Removed (vs. 15) 1 Kings 15:12; Acts 19:19; 2 Kings 23:24
 2. Temple Cleansed (vs. 15) Matthew 21:12; 1 Corinthians 3:16-17; 2 Corinthians 7:1
- B. Witness to the People (v. 16-17) Deuteronomy 10:12; Ephesians 6:7; Hebrews 12:28

GOLDEN TEXT: *THOUGH YOUR SINS BE AS SCARLET, THEY SHALL BE AS WHITE AS SNOW.* Isaiah 1:18

NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSON: 2 Kings 22:8-20

SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES: Deuteronomy 31:24-30;
2 Chronicles 34:1-33;
Matthew 5:17-30

QUARTERLY THEME: Kings and Prophets of Judah

TOPIC: JOSIAH DISCOVERS GOD'S WORD

INTRODUCTION:

For some undisclosed reason, the Book of the Law, the Word of God as then known, had been lost. Even without this law to be his guide, Josiah was a good king and did that which was right in the sight of God. However, when the Law was found and was read to him it led him into a deep remorse for the sins of the nations of Israel.

Today many people need to discover, or find, God's Word. It will reveal man's true nature and will convict men of their way of life, which is contrary to the way of God. When men really want to know how God looks on sin they will find the answer in the pages of the Bible. Of even greater worth is the fact that the Bible reveals God to man. This is so important today when so many do not recognize God. They need to learn that He does exist and that He is a living God.

The Word of God will convict people of sin and they will also find in it a revelation of His promise of forgiveness to those who forsake sin and cleanse their lives of it. (2 Corinthians 7:1; James 4:8) He promises grace and strength that we can be victorious over sin. Just as God promised Josiah that He would withhold judgment over Israel as long as Josiah lived, so likewise He will remove judgment from us as long as we remain faithful to Him.

CENTRAL TRUTH: God's Word reveals to man the error of his way.

GOLDEN TEXT: *THE WORDS THAT I SPEAK UNTO YOU, THEY ARE SPIRIT, AND THEY ARE LIFE.*

John 6:63

The Gospel of John gives the account of one of the greatest discourses the Lord Jesus gave the multitudes that followed Him. He had just fed the five thousand, and as the people sought Him again the following day, He knowing their thoughts, admonished them for seeking the loaves that satisfied their material needs.

His discourse revealed Him as the Bread of Life: Spiritual life. The end result was that many of His disciples failed to believe and turned from following Him. (John 6:66) As you are reading this, are you one of those comparatively few who do follow Jesus and recognize Him as the bread of life? Or, are you one of the many who would gladly hear Jesus as long as He can supply your needs but will turn from following when He convicts your heart? Will you refuse to receive the Word as Spirit and Life?

Word of Life, Thou fount of Crystal,
Flowing down from heaven above;
Life and strength to all thou givest,
Opening their hearts in love;
Who are like the wilting flowers
Drooping 'neath the sun's hot glow,
From the dry land turning, thirsting,
To the cooling spring bend low.

Z.H. 176:1

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF November 21 – 27

- M. Exhortation to Study the Law. Deuteronomy 6:1-9
- T. *Josiah Discovers God's Word. 2 Kings 22:8-20
- W. Reading the Word. Nehemiah 8:1-12
- T. The Prophetic Word. Acts 1:15-20
- F. The Word a Saving Power. Romans 1:14-20
- S. The Word a Probing Instrument. Hebrews 4:8-16
- S. The Word a Purifying Agent. 1 Peter 1:14-25

Visit www.accfoundation.org for this and other Bible class lessons