

God's Way

The Way of Repentance

2 Chronicles 33

Manasseh was twelve years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem fifty-five years. **2** He did evil in the eyes of the Lord, following the detestable practices of the nations the Lord had driven out before the Israelites. **3** He rebuilt the high places his father Hezekiah had demolished; he also erected altars to the Baals and made Asherah poles. He bowed down to all the starry hosts and worshiped them. **4** He built altars in the temple of the Lord, of which the Lord had said, "My Name will remain in Jerusalem forever." **5** In both courts of the temple of the Lord, he built altars to all the starry hosts. **6** He sacrificed his children in the fire in the Valley of Ben Hinnom, practiced divination and witchcraft, sought omens, and consulted mediums and spiritists. He did much evil in the eyes of the Lord, arousing his anger.

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9 But Manasseh led Judah and the people of Jerusalem astray, so that they did more evil than the nations the Lord had destroyed before the Israelites.

10 The Lord spoke to Manasseh and his people, but they paid no attention. **11** So the Lord brought against them the army commanders of the king of Assyria, who took Manasseh prisoner, put a hook in his nose, bound him with bronze shackles and took him to Babylon. **12** In his distress he sought the favor of the Lord his God and humbled himself greatly before the God of his ancestors. **13** And when he prayed to him, the Lord was moved by his entreaty and listened to his plea; so he brought him back to Jerusalem and to his kingdom. Then Manasseh knew that the Lord is God.

Manasseh was the Son of Hezekiah

- Hezekiah was 25 years old when he became King and reigned for 29 years
- 2 Chronicles 29:2 says "He did what was right in the eyes of the Lord."
- Hezekiah had a heart for God.
- He was responsible for restoring the House of God and the Priesthood.
- He restored the Passover Celebration in Jerusalem.
- God gave Hezekiah miraculous victory over Sennacherib and the Assyrians.

- Hezekiah became ill to the point of death and God Miraculously healed him.
- Even though Hezekiah heart was proud, Hezekiah humbled himself before the Lord and the Lord's wrath was not poured out all of his days.

1. Manasseh did it His way

- The Word of God says Manasseh did evil in the eyes of the Lord.
- He grew up in his Father's Home.
- He grew up watching people pray and sacrifice to God
- He was familiar with the Jewish Faith and Mosaic Law.
- But Manasseh had a Stone Cold Heart towards God
- He following the detestable practices of the nations.
- He was dead to the things of God and the things of God were dead to him.

Romans 3

9 What then? Are we better *than they*? Not at all. For we have previously charged both Jews and Greeks that they are all under sin.

10 As it is written:

“There is none righteous, no, not one;

11

There is none who understands;

There is none who seeks after God.

12

They have all turned aside;

They have together become unprofitable;

There is none who does good, no, not one.”

23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

In the midst of all this **there is something here we need to notice...**

Vs. **10** The Lord spoke to Manasseh and his people, but they paid no attention.

Story:

2. Things went the Wrong Way

11 So the Lord brought against them the army commanders of the king of Assyria, who took Manasseh prisoner, put a hook in his nose, bound him with bronze shackles and took him to Babylon.

Manasseh fell defeated

You know the Bible never has anything good to say about Pride... Ever...

Lev 26:19

I will break the **pride** of your power; I will make your heavens like iron and your earth like bronze.

Proverbs 11:2

When **pride** comes, then comes shame; But with the humble *is* wisdom.

Proverbs 16:18

Pride goes before destruction, And a haughty spirit before a fall.

James 4:6

1 Peter 5:5

“God resists the **proud**, But gives grace to the humble.”

3. Manasseh turned and did it God's Way

Vs. 12-13

12 In his distress he sought the favor of the Lord his God and humbled himself greatly before the God of his ancestors. **13** And when he prayed to him, the Lord was moved by his entreaty and listened to his plea; so he brought him back to Jerusalem and to his kingdom.

Psalm 66:18

If I regard (cherish) iniquity in my heart,
The Lord will not hear.

Luke 15:7

7 I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who **repents** than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent.

Matthew 4:17

From that time on Jesus began to preach, “**Repent**, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

Repent:

1. To change one's mind
2. To Amend with abhorrence to the Past
3. Conduct worthy of a heart changed.
4. Of those who, conscious of their sins and with manifest tokens of sorrow, are intent on obtaining God's Pardon.

My Definition: “To surrender a stubborn/sinful will/ways in exchange for God's”

2 Corinthians 7:10

Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation and leaves no regret, but worldly sorrow brings death.

Courts of our World: Plead Guilty / Convicted / Sentence / Imprisoned
Courts of the Lord: Convicted / Plead Guilty / Pardoned / Set Free

Certain things will only be restored if we will repent...

Let me say it this way:

Without Repentance many things will never be restored...

Martin Luther 95 Theses

#1 When our Lord and Master Jesus Christ said, “Repent” (Mt 4:17), he willed the entire life of believers to be one of repentance.

Vs. 13

“Then Manasseh knew that the Lord is God.”

Manasseh stopped living like God was dead or far removed or def and blind...

From that moment on Manasseh knew that the Lord is God...

There is no other God...

Oh that there would be an awakening today...

That people would be know that the Lord is God...

That there is no other God...

And that he Present...

Repentance is not just an altar of Salvation...

It is a Permanent Altar secured in the life of every Saint...

Closing:

- 1. Manasseh did it His way**
- 2. Things went the Wrong Way**
- 3. Manasseh turned and did it God's Way**
- 4. God Restored Him**