

Lesson 23

Manasseh and Amon Reign Over Judah
(2 Kings 21:1-26; 2 Chronicles 33:1-25)

Questions

1. How long did Manasseh reign over Judah and what kind of king was he (2 K. 21:1-9; 2 Chron. 33:1-9)?
2. What evil did the Lord say he would bring upon Jerusalem and Judah and what was the cause for this (2 K. 21:10-15; 2 Chron. 33:10)?
3. What other sin did Manasseh commit in addition to his idolatry (2 K. 21:16-18)?
4. Why was Manasseh taken to Babylon and what did he do there before returning to Jerusalem (2 Chron. 33:11-13)?
5. What did Manasseh build in Jerusalem and what changes did he make when he returned to Jerusalem (2 K. 33:14-17)?
6. What good was Manasseh remembered for in addition to all the evil that he had done (2 Chron. 33:18-20)?
7. How long did Amon reign over Judah and what kind of king was he (2 K. 21:19-22; 2 Chron. 33:21-23)?
8. How did Amon die and who reigned in his place (2 K. 21:23-26; 2 Chron. 33:24-25)?

Digging Deeper

1. What are the approximate dates for Manasseh's reign over Judah (2 K. 21:1-18) and Amon's reign over Judah (2 K. 21:19-26)?
2. What "minor" prophet, thought by some Bible scholars to have ministered during the reign of Manasseh (c. 660 B.C.), prophesied of the fall of Nineveh the capitol of Assyria?
3. Where earlier in 2 Kings had Hezekiah destroyed the high places (2 K. 21:3)?
4. What are the following: high places, Baal, Asherah, the host of heaven, child sacrifice, augury, enchantments, familiar spirits, wizards (2 K. 21:3-9)?
5. What are the two courts of the house of the Lord (2 K. 21:5)?
6. Who were some of the prophets that the Lord used at this time to preach to the king and to Judah (2 K. 21:10)?
7. Who were the Amorites (2 K. 21:11)?
8. What was the line and the plummet (2 K. 21:13)?
9. Who was the king of Assyria at this time and why was Manasseh taken to Babylon and not Nineveh (2 Chron. 33:11)?
11. What did Jeremiah say about the sins of Manasseh (Jer. 15:1-4)?

Applications for Today

1. Don't follow the world of evil around you (2 K. 21:2; 1 Cor. 15:33).
2. Some people don't simply practice evil themselves; they make sure that evil remains in place and that others practice evil as well (2 K. 21:3, 9; 2 Tim. 3:13).
3. Don't mix worldly evil with godly good. Don't practice evil in the name of the Lord (2 K. 21:4, 7; Isa. 5:20; Rom. 3:8).
4. Don't provoke the Lord to anger (2 K. 21:6; Deut. 4:25; 31:29; Judges 2:12; Hos. 12:14).
5. Don't be seduced by evil to do what is wrong (2 K. 21:9; Ezek. 13:10).
6. When God speaks, do not refuse to hear him (2 Chron. 33:10; Heb. 12:25).
7. Humble yourself before the mighty hand of God (2 Chron. 33:12-13; 1 Pet. 5:6).
8. It is best to know that the Lord is God and obey him before we die (2 Chron. 33:13; Ezek. 34:30).
9. Even the most wicked of persons can change for the better (2 Chron. 33:15-16; Ezek. 18:21-22).
10. The right God in the right place constitutes the only authorized worship (2 Chron. 33:17; Jn. 4:24-26; Eph. 3:21).
11. The prayer of the humble will be remembered (2 Chron. 33:18-19; Psa. 34:18; 51:17).
12. A son can be like his father and be different from his father at the same time (2 K. 21:20-22; 2 Chron. 33:22-23; Ezek. 18:1-32).