

## 2 Kings 21:1-18 **Manasseh's wicked reign in Jerusalem**

### Manasseh Reigns in Judah (2 Chron 33:1-20)

<sup>1</sup> Manasseh was twelve years old when he became king, and he reigned fifty-five years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Hephzibah.

<sup>2</sup> And he did evil in the sight of the Lord, according to the abominations of the nations whom the Lord had cast out before the children of Israel. <sup>3</sup> For he rebuilt the high places which Hezekiah his father had destroyed; he raised up altars for Baal, and made a wooden image, as Ahab king of Israel had done; and he worshiped all the host of heaven and served them. <sup>4</sup> He also built altars in the house of the Lord, of which the Lord had said, "In Jerusalem I will put My name." <sup>5</sup> And he built altars for all the host of heaven in the two courts of the house of the Lord. <sup>6</sup> Also he made his son pass through the fire, practiced soothsaying, used witchcraft, and consulted spiritists and mediums. He did much evil in the sight of the Lord, to provoke Him to anger.

<sup>7</sup> He even set a carved image of Asherah that he had made, in the house of which the Lord had said to David and to Solomon his son, "In this house and in Jerusalem, which I have chosen out of all the tribes of Israel, I will put My name forever; <sup>8</sup> and I will not make the feet of Israel wander anymore from the land which I gave their fathers — only if they are careful to do according to all that I have commanded them, and according to all the law that My servant Moses commanded them."

<sup>9</sup> But they paid no attention, and Manasseh seduced them to do more evil than the nations whom the Lord had destroyed before the children of Israel.

<sup>10</sup> And the Lord spoke by His servants the prophets, saying,

<sup>11</sup> "Because Manasseh king of Judah has done these abominations (he has acted more wickedly than all the Amorites who were before him, and has also made Judah sin with his idols),

<sup>12</sup> therefore thus says the Lord God of Israel: 'Behold, I am bringing such calamity upon Jerusalem and Judah, that whoever hears of it, both his ears will tingle. <sup>13</sup> And I will stretch over Jerusalem the measuring line of Samaria and the plummet of the house of Ahab; I will wipe Jerusalem as one wipes a dish, wiping it and turning it upside down. <sup>14</sup> So I will forsake the remnant of My inheritance and deliver them into the hand of their enemies; and they shall become victims of plunder to all their enemies, <sup>15</sup> because they have done evil in My sight, and have provoked Me to anger since the day their fathers came out of Egypt, even to this day.'"

<sup>16</sup> Moreover Manasseh shed very much innocent blood, till he had filled Jerusalem from one end to another, besides his sin by which he made Judah sin, in doing evil in the sight of the Lord.

<sup>17</sup> Now the rest of the acts of Manasseh — all that he did, and the sin that he committed — are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?

<sup>18</sup> So Manasseh rested with his fathers, and was buried in the garden of his own house, in the garden of Uzza.

Then his son Amon reigned in his place.

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Facts Revealed:

### Manasseh Reigns in Judah [2 Kings 21:1-18] (2 Chron 33:1-20)

- ✧ Manasseh was twelve years old when he became king, and he reigned fifty-five years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Hephzibah. [2 Kings 21:1]

- ✧ Manasseh was the son of a most righteous king Hezekiah and his mother was Hephzibah which means "My delight is in her." God later gave restored Zion the same name. [Isaiah 62:4] Apparently a godly woman.
- ✧ Therefore it is surprising that the son Manasseh would fall from the faith so rapidly though he was only 12 years when he became king of Judah. The counselors should have seen the value of godliness demonstrated by Hezekiah his father and the blessings God granted because of it.
- ✧ During the 55 years of his reign, Manasseh led Judah into more evil than all the kings that were before him. He even surpassed the abominations of the nations Yahweh had destroyed before Israel when He delivered them into the hands of Israel because of their wickedness. [2 Kings 21:2-9]
  - ✧ Manasseh rebuilt all the pagan high places and images his father had destroyed. He built altars to all the host of heaven and worshipped them. He desecrated the Temple of Yahweh by building pagan altars in the Temple and in the two courts of the Temple. He made his sons pass through the fire, practiced soothsaying, used witchcraft, consulted spiritists and mediums, and did much evil in the sight of Yahweh to provoke Him to anger. He set up a carved image of Asherah in the house of Yahweh. Manasseh seduced the people to do more evil than the nations whom the Lord had destroyed before the children of Israel.
- ✧ Yahweh sent the prophets to warn the people of Judah of pending total disaster **because he has acted more wickedly than all the Amorites who were before him, and has also made Judah sin with his idols** bringing the fall of Jerusalem and the people will become victims of plunder to all their enemies. [2 Kings 21:10-15]
  - ✧ Manasseh shed very much innocent blood, till he had filled Jerusalem from one end to another, besides his sin by which he made Judah sin, in doing evil in the sight of the Lord. [2 Kings 21:16]
- ✧ Yahweh allowed Manasseh to be carried to Babylon in bronze fetters where he humbled himself and prayed before Yahweh Who allowed Manasseh to return to Jerusalem where he cleaned up the Temple, restored the altar to Yahweh, worshipped Yahweh and knew that Yahweh was Elohiym. The people worshipped on the high places but only to Yahweh Eloheyhm (the Lord their God). [2 Chronicles 33:10-17]
- ✧ Now the rest of the acts of Manasseh — all that he did, and the sin that he committed — are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah? [2 Kings 21:17, 2 Chronicles 33:1-20]
 

So Manasseh rested with his fathers, and was buried in the garden of his own house, in the garden of Uzza.

Then his son Amon reigned in his place. [2 Kings 21:18, 2 Chronicles 33:18-20]