



— LINEAGE OF THE KING —

Hezekiah was the father of Manasseh, Manasseh was the father of Amon
Matthew 1:10

Lesson 14

FIRST DAY: Review and Overview

1. What impressed you most about King Hezekiah?

2. Why does God allow evil? This is a question that believers have struggled with and debated over for centuries. Though we will not know or fully comprehend God's ways on earth, there are certain reasons that are clear. God allows evil to reveal the true intentions and disposition of men. God allows evil so mankind can recognize the superiority of good over evil. God allows evil so we can perceive our own evil inclinations and realize our need for Him in order to be good. God also allows evil to purify and chasten. Ultimately God allows evil because, in His righteousness, He honors the choices made by individuals. God allowed King Manasseh a long tyranny of evil. Yet, near the end of his reign, Manasseh reaped the consequences of his sin and repented. The same was not true of his son, Amon. Amon followed his father's evil ways but he never repented. God allowed Manasseh to reign fifty-five years, whereas Amon reigned only two. As we study these two kings, we will see how their evil brought to light the true evil nature of the nation Judah. Read the following passages and comment on the behavior of these two monarchs:
 - a. 2 Kings 21:1-7

 - b. 2 Kings 21:11, 16

 - c. 2 Chronicles 33:13-18

 - d. 2 Kings 21:21-22; 2 Chronicles 33:22

3. Evil is so pervasive in our society today! Take a moment to ask God to guard your heart and keep you from evil.

*When he was in affliction, he implored the LORD his God,
and humbled himself greatly before the God of his fathers.*
2 Chronicles 33:12

SECOND DAY: Read 2 Kings 21:1-18

1. Manasseh the son of Hezekiah *was twelve years old when he became king, and he reigned fifty-five years* (2 Kings 21:1). Record his legacy from 2 Kings 21:2.

2. From the following verses in 2 Kings 21, list the *evil* deeds of Manasseh:
 - a. verse 3
 - b. verse 4
 - c. verse 5
 - d. verse 6
 - e. verse 7a
 - f. verse 9
 - g. verse 16

(1) Overall, what do you find most grievous about Manasseh's sin?

3. Contrast the influence Manasseh had on the people of Israel (2 Kings 21:9, 11) with that of:
 - a. David - 1 Chronicles 13:1-4

 - b. Solomon - 1 Kings 8:66

(1) How does this speak to you concerning the influence of leaders?

4. Consider how much evil Manasseh did in the *house of the LORD*. According to 2 Kings 21:7b-8, what did God say about His *house*?
 - a. How does this magnify Manasseh's sin?

5. Considering your study today, why is it essential for believers to take a hard line against sin personally and collectively? See also Galatians 5:19-21.

THIRD DAY: Read 2 Kings 21:10–16, 23:26–27, 24:1–4; Jeremiah 15:1–4

1. Through whom did God speak to Manasseh about the consequences of his sin? 2 Kings 21:10
 - a. Link this with 2 Chronicles 36:15–16. What do you see?

2. What did God say about Manasseh's *abominations*? 2 Kings 21:11
 - a. *Therefore*, what would God do? 2 Kings 21:12, 13b–14

3. In 2 Kings 21:13 God warned of stretching *the measuring line of Samaria* and the *plummet of the house of Ahab* over Jerusalem. This refers to the standard God would use to judge Manasseh who embraced the sin of wicked king Ahab in Northern Israel. Use 1 Kings 16:30–33 to note why this was such a disturbing association.
 - a. Why would God ultimately do this? 2 Kings 21:15–16

4. The consequences for Manasseh's sin were far-reaching. Use the following passages to note and comment on the lingering effects of his sin during the following times:
 - a. the reign of Josiah (2 Kings 23:26–27)
 - (1) This word of God's judgment was recorded in the midst of the reign of one of Judah's godliest kings. What does this convey to you?

 - b. the reign of Jehoiakim (2 Kings 24:1–4)

 - c. the ministry of the prophet Jeremiah (Jeremiah 15:1–4)

5. In what way is the life of Manasseh a warning concerning the effects of sin?
 - a. How might you use the example of Manasseh as a deterrent from sin?

FOURTH DAY: Read 2 Chronicles 33:10–20

1. According to 2 Chronicles 33:10, *the LORD spoke to Manasseh and his people, but they would not listen*. Therefore, what did God do? 2 Chronicles 33:11

2. From 2 Chronicles 33:12–13a note and comment on Manasseh’s response to his *affliction*.
 - a. How did God respond in turn? 2 Chronicles 33:13b
 - (1) What does this reveal to you about God?

 - b. What was it that Manasseh *knew* after these things? 2 Chronicles 33:13c
 - (1) Connect these events with the following verses and share what speaks to you:
 - (a) Psalm 119:67, 71

 - (b) Proverbs 28:13

 - (c) Ezekiel 33:11, 14–19

3. Use 2 Chronicles 33:15–17 to document how Manasseh demonstrated a changed life.
 - a. Link this with Luke 3:8a and share your thoughts.

4. Share how God’s dealings with Manasseh minister to you concerning:
 - a. His chastening

 - b. His mercy

 - c. His purposes

 - d. repentance

FIFTH DAY: Read 2 Kings 21:19-26

1. What do you learn about Amon in 2 Kings 21:19-20?

2. Use 2 Kings 21:21-22 to compare Amon's legacy with that of his father Manasseh.
 - a. How does this speak to you concerning parental influence?
 - (1) What do the following Scriptures convey about the parent's influence:
 - (a) Proverbs 22:6

 - (b) Ephesians 6:4

3. In spite of their similarities, there was one distinct difference between Manasseh and Amon. Use 2 Chronicles 33:23 to identify this difference.
 - a. Why was this a critical difference? See also Proverbs 3:34 and 1 Peter 5:6.

4. Use 2 Kings 21:23-24 to remark on the end of Amon's reign.
 - a. Link Amon's demise with Proverbs 29:1. What do you see?

5. What is your impression of Amon's life?
 - a. How does Amon's story provoke you to pray?

SIXTH DAY: Review

1. From Manasseh's life share:

a. A warning you received

b. A lesson you learned

2. From Amon's life share:

a. A warning you received

b. A lesson you learned

3. Consider that these two men were included in the lineage of the Messiah, Jesus Christ. How does this speak to you?

Then Manasseh knew that the LORD was God.
2 Chronicles 33:13