

I. Reminder of Where We Are

- A. Just passed the time of the *fall of Israel*, the Northern Kingdom
 - 1. We focused on Hezekiah and Isaiah
- B. Moving towards the *fall of Judah*, the Southern Kingdom
 - 1. Many prophets write during that fall
- C. The life of Manasseh forms the bridge between the two periods

II. Main Points Concerning Manasseh's Reign

- A. Manasseh became king at 12 years old
 - 1. Ruled with Hezekiah for 11 years
- B. Manasseh ruled 55 years
 - 1. Longer than any other king
- C. Manasseh led the nation to sin
 - 1. Reversed the reforms Hezekiah had made
 - 2. Built altars to foreign gods
 - 3. Brought idolatry into the Temple
 - 4. Made his sons pass through the fire
 - 5. Practiced occultism
 - 6. Led Judah into worse sin than the nations God had driven out of Canaan
 - 7. Actively refused God's rebuke.

- D. Manasseh was taken captive by the Assyrian king late in his life
- E. In captivity, Manasseh repented and God restored him
- F. Manasseh made an unsuccessful attempt to right his wrongs

III. Lessons from the story

- A. Every man makes his own choices in life despite his upbringing
- B. Our lives influence others
- C. The patience of God
 - 1. God gave Manasseh lots of time to repent
- D. The grace of God
 - 1. When Manasseh repented, God restored him
- E. Our own repentance does not necessarily change the people we have misled

