

Topical Series on Revival – Part VII

‘Manasseh enjoyed a revival when he got saved’

II Chronicles 33:11 – 17; Key verse 33:13

“And prayed unto him: and he was intreated of him, and heard his supplication, and brought him again to Jerusalem into his kingdom. Then Manasseh knew that the LORD he was God.”

Intro: This is an interesting historical account of Manasseh upon whose life God eventually had a positive impact. It didn't come the easy way, and Manasseh did a great deal of _____ spiritually and morally before he had a change of heart. Some folks experience a major change of heart more easily than others; then, there are those of us who have come to the end of our rope, and it is at this point God is able to get our _____. Well, this is the place in our text that we find King Manasseh. Talk about reaching rock-bottom and the point of despairing of life itself – he was at that point.

Manasseh succeeded to the throne following his father Hezekiah's reign, and he was nothing like his father before the throne or in the throne even though he was raised in a godly home. Looking back in Hezekiah's past, we find King Hezekiah's reign was characterized by some great things - Hezekiah was known for his religious reforms, promoting the worship of Yahweh.

1. He _____ idols and high places, centralizing worship in the Temple of Jerusalem.
2. His reign was marked by military strength, notably resisting Assyrian invasion.
3. He _____ significant infrastructure projects, including the Siloam Tunnel for water supply.
4. Hezekiah's reign is characterized by a strong emphasis on education and the preservation of _____.
5. He is remembered for his _____ and _____ on God during times of crisis.

King Hezekiah was sick unto death before Manasseh was conceived (**II Kings 20:1**), Isaiah was the bearer of sad tidings and Hezekiah pleaded for a longer life, (**II Kings 20:2 – 3**) and God grants Hezekiah an additional 15 years (**II Kings 20:4 – 6**). Hezekiah is healed, (**20:7 – 11**) and guess who was conceived and born three years into that fifteen-year span granted to Hezekiah? – Manasseh, his son, who would inherit the throne from his father. So, Manasseh was twelve years old when he came to the throne, and he was or became just the opposite of his father. Following I have listed the character of King Manasseh as compared to his father.

1. Engaged in idol worship, including the worship of Baal and Asherah (**2 Kings 21:3**).
2. Sacrificed his own son, practicing child sacrifice (**2 Kings 21:6**).
3. Built altars to foreign gods in the temple of the Lord (**2 Kings 21:4**).
4. Consulted mediums and spiritists, turning away from God (**2 Kings 21:6**).
5. Led Judah into sin, causing the people to do more evil than the nations around them (**2 Kings 21:9**).
6. Ignored the warnings of prophets and continued in his sinful ways (**2 Kings 21:10**).

I. Manasseh enjoyed a revival when he got saved – II Chronicles 33:11 – 17.

- A. Whether it was the people who rebelled following Hezekiah's death or Manasseh who rebelled first, the reality is that _____ made their choice to rebel against God and it was costly.
1. He reigned for 55 years and promoted pagan rituals and practices in the early years or so, which led the nation into a spiritual and moral _____ – **2 Kings 21:1 – 9**.
 2. Many of his father's reforms were rescinded and foreign pagan practices promoted until God had _____ – **2 Chronicles 33:8 & 9**.
 3. Judgement is at hand – **2 Chronicles 33:11**, and Manasseh is carried away as a captive.
 4. Why it seems God would _____ so long to take action against the likes of Manasseh is best seen in **Ezra 9:8**, though it was so stated 186 years after Manasseh's reign, and post-exilic to the 70 years of Babylonian captivity. The point remains that God will let us reach the _____ of despair so He can rebuild a new – **Jeremiah 1:10**.
- B. God does reach a point in which we can or will force His hand to judge and punish.
1. In **Isaiah 1:4**, Isaiah warns the people and this includes King Manasseh, about their sin.
 2. In **Isaiah 5:20 – 23** is Isaiah's reference to how bad the moral and spiritual character during the early years of Manasseh's reign had become.
 3. We know from **Genesis 6:3** and a serious _____ in **I Peter 3:19 & 20**, God is serious, though patient (**II Peter 3:9**) about our relationship with Him and sin.
 4. We should add to this **Ezekial 18:32 & 33:11**. The point being that God would that sinners turn from their ways and turn to God - did you notice the encouragement in verse 11 to "turn ye" twice mentioned?
- C. God is a God of _____ and King Manasseh is an example of this when we consider the man's character before his captivity and imprisonment.
1. **II Chronicles 33:11** – judgment.
 2. **II Chronicles 33:12** – Manasseh becomes "greatly humbled".
 3. **II Chronicles 33:13** – God hears the prayer of repentance from even the worst of the worst.
 4. **II Chronicles 33:14** – genuine repentance brings about a genuine change of heart and revival when sin is dealt with and forsaken.