

Manasseh Discussion

Remember that these monologues are essentially historical fiction, based on the Scripture but filling in plausible subjective details, both emotional responses and motivations. Your first task is to decide if they are reasonable.

Manasseh's father, Hezekiah, had been courageous and zealous in serving the LORD as a young man but made a number of major mistakes in later life. Does it appear that he failed to properly teach Manasseh how to serve the LORD when he became king?

Why do you think that happened?

There must have been court advisors who carried out the decisions of a 12-year-old king. What appears to have happened to devotion to the LORD in the whole kingdom?

Is spiritual fervor, desire to know and serve God, something that naturally passes from generation to generation?

What tends to happen instead?

What is necessary to awaken hunger for knowing and loving the LORD?

Pagan temples provided sexual images and experiences of all kinds. Is it surprising that they had a powerful appeal to young men?

Can you imagine how a person can be desensitized to the sacrifice of infants?

How does a person come to accept abortion as a good thing?

What is usually the reason given for that?

Can a person see "positive results" for that practice?

What are the factors that may cloud a person's thinking about the practice?

Prophecies are often written or remembered and repeated. Why is that?

What is the purpose of prophecy?

Would the prophecies of doom have been preserved by at least some of the priests?

Could fear of becoming a eunuch have motivated Manasseh to repent?

Is that a bad reason to repent?

*Does this story help us to understand why the LORD allows troubles to come into our lives?
What did it take for the nation to give up idolatry?*