

2. *Apostasy* (v. 2-9).—What was Manasseh's character? What had been his father's character? Name some evil acts of his reign?

3. *Expostulation* (v. 10).—To whose rebuke were the people deaf? How did the king treat the prophets of God who warned him?

4. *Retribution* (v. 11).—What judgment was sent on Manasseh? Who at this time was king of Assyria? What did he do to Manasseh?

5. *Repentance* (v. 12, 13).—What was the effect of affliction on Manasseh? Has it always

this effect? What encouragement should we receive from the fact that God heard the prayer of Manasseh? How was his prayer answered? Are promises made during trouble always kept? How did Manasseh keep his? Is there any sin so foul that it may not be pardoned? Of what did the king become assured? Had he ever had any good ground for doubt? What personal lesson may we learn from Manasseh? What lesson should national affairs? (GOLDEN TEXT.)

Questions for Intermediate Scholars

1. *Manasseh's Sin* (v. 1-10).—Who was Manasseh's father? What kind of a man and king was Hezekiah? How long did Manasseh reign? After whom did Manasseh copy in his conduct as king? What places did he build up for his idolatry? What was the worst thing he did in setting up his idols? Whom did he sacrifice to Moloch? What shows that he was a very foolish as well as a very wicked man? What image did he place in the temple at Jerusalem? What had God promised to his people if they would be obedient to his command-

ments? Whom did this bad king lead into sin? How far into sin did they go?

2. *Manasseh's Repentance* (v. 11-13).—Did God send punishment upon Manasseh without warning? What powerful nation was used to carry out God's judgments? Where did they capture the king? How did they take him to Babylon? When did Manasseh begin to think about God? How did he come before God? What shows the great mercy of God? What did the Lord do for this unworthy king besides forgiving his sins?

Questions for Younger Scholars

Who became king after Hezekiah died? How old was he? How long did he reign? How did he begin his reign? What did he begin to build? To what did he offer sacrifices? Can you tell what he did in the temple? And what did he make his children do? What at last did the

Lord send him? Where was he taken? Whom did he begin to think about? What change came over him? Did God hear his prayer? What did he do for Manasseh? What did Manasseh do after he came back to his kingdom? What had he lost? *Much happiness.*

Library References

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SERMONS ON THE LESSON

Verse 9.—Watkinson, W. L., Noonday Addresses, p. 119. Verse 11.—The Homiletic Monthly, vol. vi, p. 361. Verse 12.—The Pulpit, London, vol. xxx, p. 37. Lewis, G. W., Sermons, vol. ii, p. 74. Verse 3.—Spurgeon, C. H., Sermons, Series iii, p. 311.

The Lesson Analysis

I. *Opportunity* (verse 1).

(a) A youth, who had (b) good example at home, and (c) religious training (d) inherited the prerogatives of a king (e) in a time when a king had unrestricted power: (f) had wise advisers and prophetic guidance, and (g) long life.

II. *Apostasy* (verses 2-9).

He (a) deliberately rejected the true religion; (b) chose instead heathenish vices; (c) studied and indulged the evil propensities of his

subjects; (d) identified himself with the worst classes of the nation; (e) virtually surrendered his kingly power to foreign-bred priests; (f) deliberately profaned the temple of God; (g) persecuted good citizens; and, so far as he could, (h) compelled the common people to do evil.

III. *Expostulation* (verse 10).

(a) God's warnings and entreaties came through holy human messengers, (b) Manasseh and his people would not hearken.

IV. *Retribution* (verse 11).