### 2 Kings

## Chapter 21

1ManasSeh was just 12 years old when he started his reign, and he ruled from JeruSalem for 55 years. His mother’s name was OpSiba.  
  
2However, ManasSeh acted wickedly in the eyes of Jehovah, for he returned to the disgusting practices of the nations that Jehovah had removed from before the sons of IsraEl.  
  
3He went and rebuilt the high places of worship that his father HezekiAh had torn down, he rebuilt the altar to the BaAl, he built groves of sacred poles like those that were built by King Ahab of IsraEl, and he bowed before and served the powerful objects in the skies!  
  
4He also built an altar inside the Temple of Jehovah, for he said:  
  
 ‘Because I did this, my name will be remembered in JeruSalem.’  
  
5In addition, he built an altar to all the powerful things in the skies inside two of the courtyards of the Temple of Jehovah, 6and he thereafter sacrificed two of his own sons in fire!  
  
He even brought many fortunetellers, diviners, and seers into the land, setting aside sacred precincts for them... All of this was very wicked in the eyes of Jehovah, and it made Him very angry!  
  
7Thereafter, [ManasSeh] put carvings of sacred poles right inside the Temple… Yes, in that very place where Jehovah had said to David and his son Solomon:  
  
 ‘This is the Temple in JeruSalem that I chose out of all the other tribes of IsraEl as the place to put My Name throughout the ages.  
  
 8‘So, I will never shake the feet of IsraEl off this land that I gave to their ancestors for as long as they do everything that I told them to do and they follow the Commandments that I gave to them through My servant Moses.’  
  
9However, the people just wouldn’t listen... For ManasSeh had misled them into doing things that were even more wicked in the eyes of Jehovah than was done by those nations that the Lord had once removed from before the sons of IsraEl.  
  
  
10As a result, Jehovah spoke to them through His servants the prophets and said:  
  
 11‘I’m not going to allow ManasSeh the king of Judah to continue doing these disgusting things, for they’re even worse than what the Amorites used to do in front of Me!  
  
 ‘He has led Judah into sin with his idols, 12and this cannot continue!’  
  
  
Then Jehovah the God of IsraEl said this:  
  
 ‘{Look!} I’m going to bring so much evil upon JeruSalem and Judah that everyone will hear about it with both ears!  
  
 13‘I’m going to stretch the measuring line out over JeruSalem the same as I once did over Samaria, when I brought all the weight of the house of Ahab down upon it!  
  
 ‘I’ll wipe away JeruSalem like someone wipes out an alabaster jar… I’ll wipe it clean and then turn it over on its face.  
  
 14‘I’ll wipe away every trace of My inheritance and hand them over to their enemies, who’ll ravage and plunder them 15for doing so many wicked things before My eyes... Since they’ve been provoking Me to anger from the time that I led their ancestors out of Egypt down to this very day!  
  
 16‘And now ManasSeh has shed the blood of so many innocent [people] that it’s filled JeruSalem from mouth to mouth… And this is in addition to all the rest of his sins and the ways that he’s led Judah into sin by acting wickedly in the eyes of Jehovah.’  
  
  
17Well, the rest of the things that ManasSeh said and did (including all of his sins) are written about in the scrolls of the words of The Days of the Kings of Judah.  
  
18Then ManasSeh went to sleep with his ancestors and they buried him in a tomb in the garden next to his house (the Garden of Oza). And after that, his son Amon started ruling in his place.  
  
  
19Amon was 22 years old when he started his reign, and he ruled from JeruSalem for just 2 years. His mother’s name was MesolLam (she was the daughter of Arus from JeTeba).  
  
20Like his father ManasSeh, he also acted wickedly in the eyes of Jehovah, 21for he continued to do the same things that his father did. He served and bowed before the same idols that his father served, 22and he abandoned Jehovah the God of his ancestors... He certainly didn’t walk in the paths of the Lord.  
  
23But then Amon’s servants plotted a coup against him, and they murdered the king in his palace!  
  
24However, the people of the land took those who had plotted against King Amon and had them put to death, then they appointed Amon’s son JosiAh to rule in his place.  
  
25Well, the rest of the things that Amon said and did {Look!} have been written about in the scrolls of the words of The Days of the Kings of Judah.  
  
26He was also buried in his own tomb in the Garden of Oza.  
  
Then JosiAh started his reign.