

# AN "ANGRY EYES" KING



Hezekiah  
29 years



Manasseh  
55 years

- **2 CHRONICLES 33:1-9** – Only twelve years old when he became king, it's likely that Manasseh's reign overlapped with his father Hezekiah for ten years.
- Manasseh's list of sins are so severe and expansive that the writer of 2 Kings compares him to Ahab (21:3) – an ignoble parallel, to be sure! It wasn't just that he sinned, but that his influence led to a national reversal of all the good that Hezekiah had done.
- In particular, his sins were centered around the activities of the "high places." The term is a kind of metonymy (one word standing in for a related word), where "high places" points not just to the place itself but to the activities associated with Canaanite idol worship and rituals.





# **DON'T TRUST THE HIGH PLACES**

- Long associated with the Canaanite gods Baal, Chemosh, Molech, and Ashtoreth, the “high places” were a repeated source of trouble throughout Israel’s history (note the warning in Num. 33:52). Acts of unspeakable horror were commonplace (child mutilation and sacrifice, fertility rituals, etc.).
- Even the good kings of Judah often struggled to fully eliminate the influence and allure of the “high places.” Asa (2 Ch. 15:17), Jehoshaphat (2 Ch. 20:33), and Uzziah (2 Ki. 15:4) are examples. Notably, Manasseh’s father Hezekiah was one of the few kings to make a significant “clean sweep” when it came to these dens of sins – yet Manasseh enthusiastically rebuilt them!
- Watch out for the “high places” today – syncretism with false religion, comfort with sin because it’s “commonplace”, and turning a blind eye to atrocities such as abortion, human trafficking, and domestic abuse just because they’re “out of sight/out of mind”.

**MANNASSEH WASN'T  
IGNORANT . . .**  
(2 Kings 21:10-15)



Abzz  
18 years



Hezekiah  
29 years



Manasseh  
55 years

**...AND WAS BROUGHT  
VERY LOW**

**(2 Chronicles 33:10-13)**



**Hezekiah**  
29 years



**Manasseh**  
55 years



**HIS "ANGRY EYES" DON'T TELL THE WHOLE STORY**

# WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM MANASSEH?

- WHEN YOU REPENT, REALLY REPENT – Feeling sorry for myself, flowery apologies, empty gestures that don't really resolve anything; these do not fit Biblical repentance (Ephesians 4:20ff, Colossians 3:5ff, 1 Thessalonians 1:9–10).
- THE POWER OF INFLUENCE – Manasseh led an entire nation away from God and the precedent set by Hezekiah. Syncretism with false religion, indulging in fleshly desires, wanton violence against the innocent, etc. Sadly, even in his final years of fixing the damage, he was unable to reverse Judah's course totally. Don't wait until it's too late to change (influence in the church, in our families, in evangelism).
- THE POWER OF GOD'S GRACE – Would you be skeptical of Manasseh? I would be! Yet, the man who burned babies on altars was heard by God (1 Tim. 1:12ff, Ps. 103). You are never too sinful to come back to God!