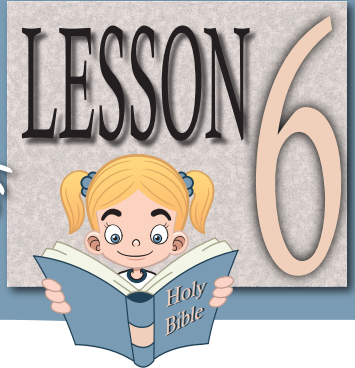


# Evil King Manasseh

## Repents

### 2 Chronicles 33



Old Testament 8  
Part 1: The Divided Kingdom

## SUNDAY MORNING

Old Testament 8 [Class Attendance Sheet](#) provided in activity sheets (NOTE: The document is interactive, allowing the teacher to type in the Class, Teacher, and the children's names.)

### SCRIPTURE REFERENCES:

2 Kings 21:1-18; 2 Chronicles 7:14; 2 Chronicles 33; Jeremiah 15:4; 31:34; Psalm 32:5; Isaiah 44:22; 55:6-7

### MEMORY WORK:

YOUNGER CHILDREN: "Depart from evil and do good" (Psalm 34:14a).

OLDER CHILDREN: "Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out" (Acts 3:19, ESV).

### SONGS AND FINGERPLAYS (SEE END OF LESSON FOR WORDS):

A [song book](#) and [audio recordings](#) of many of the curriculum songs are available on the curriculum Web site.

- ["Repent"](#)
- ["Trust and Obey"](#)

### LESSON VISUALS AND TEACHING AIDS (NOTE ANY DISCLAIMERS):

- See [AP's Pinterest page](#) for ideas on bulletin boards, visuals, crafts, etc. [DISCLAIMER: Pins may sometimes need to be adjusted to be Scriptural.]
- [The Divided Kingdom 2](#) Bible fact cards (provided under "O.T. 8 Bible Facts")
- "Summary of the Bible" from ["Kids Prep"](#) CD by Jeff Miller
- Pictures/drawings from any books listed under 3rd-4th Grader Pre-Class Activities/Learning Centers
- Betty Lukens' felt pieces.
- ["Map of the Divided Kingdom"](#) (provided in activity sheets)
- Wood, small nails, hammer
- Plate or cup that can be broken



## PERSONAL APPLICATION:

If I make choices that I know are not what God wants me to do, I must be willing to tell Him I am sorry and choose to change the way I live (go back to God's way of doing things).

## LESSON STARTS HERE

### INTRODUCTION: (YOUNGER CHILDREN)

What king did we learn about last week? In our lesson today, we will talk about another king whose name was Manasseh. Manasseh was very, very wicked! But he finally decided to do something very good. Let's listen to the story of this king.

### INTRODUCTION: (OLDER CHILDREN)

Review last week's lesson.

The Bible tells a lot about people who made bad choices and disobeyed God. Does God still love someone who does those bad things? Today we are going to talk about a king who did very wicked things, but then he decided to change his life and turn to God. Let's see if God forgave him.

### POINTS TO EMPHASIZE:

1. Good King Hezekiah reigned over Judah (the Southern Kingdom) for 29 years. His son Manasseh, who was born during the last 15 years of his father's life, became king when he was only 12 years old (ca. 687 B.C.). He was king of Judah for 55 years—longer than any other king of Judah. Even though his father had been such a good king and a good man who obeyed God, Manasseh became the most wicked king in the history of Judah, worse than any before or after him. Instead of trying to be like his father Hezekiah, he imitated the other wicked kings before him and the kings of idol-worshipping nations around Judah.



**NOTE:** "Manasseh" means "one who forgets." How appropriate since he **willingly** forgot God's Laws!

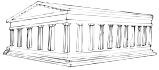
2. Hezekiah had torn down all the idols and destroyed the places where they had been worshipped. Manasseh rebuilt the temples and put the idols back! He built altars for idols and worshipped them himself. He even built altars in the court of the holy Temple in Jerusalem. Manasseh went so far as to offer his own sons as sacrifices to idols! He practiced witchcraft and sorcery and did many other things that God had specifically forbidden under the Old Testament Law (Leviticus 18:21; 19:26,31; 20:1-6,27; Deuteronomy 18:10-14). The longer he was king, the more wicked the kingdom of Judah became.
3. Manasseh and the Jews were so determined to do evil that they would not listen to the Lord's prophets (2 Chronicles 33:10). The people of the Northern Kingdom (Israel) had already been taken into captivity years before (722 B.C.) as punishment for their sins against God, and the people of Judah knew this very well. But when God told Manasseh and the people of Judah that He was going to allow the same thing to happen to them, they ignored Him.



**HISTORICAL NOTE:** Jewish tradition says that Manasseh sawed the prophet Isaiah in half.

4. Manasseh led his people to destruction. God sent the Assyrian army against Judah. Many people were killed or carried away to be slaves, including King Manasseh.

**HISTORICAL NOTE:** The final destruction of Jerusalem would not occur until 586 B.C. – about 56 years after Manasseh’s death.



Even though the Assyrian army captured Manasseh, they took him to Babylon instead of Nineveh, their capital. Assyrian inscriptions recorded that Judah was paying tribute to Assyria, apparently throughout this time period. Hezekiah is mentioned by name [see [“Archaeology and the Old Testament”](#) by Kyle Butt on the Apologetics Press Web site]. Under Hezekiah, Judah had also paid tribute to Babylon. 2 Chronicles 33:11 says that Manasseh was captured and taken away “with hooks.” The Assyrians, known for their terrible cruelty, frequently put hooks through the noses of captives to prevent them from escaping.

5. Note 2 Chronicles 33:12. In terrible trouble, humiliated and defeated, Manasseh turned to God and asked for forgiveness. He repented, which means that he did more than just say he was sorry (2 Corinthians 7:9-10). He was willing to turn his life around completely. His attitude and his prayers were such that God was willing to accept his repentance and forgive him—even after all the terrible things he had done.
6. After some time (Scripture does not tell us how long), Manasseh was allowed to return to Judah and act as king again on behalf of the Assyrian Empire. We do not know at what point in his reign Manasseh was taken captive, nor how many years he had after his return. But whatever the amount of time he had left, Manasseh tried to correct some of his many mistakes. He took down the places of idol worship that he had built in Judah, and he tried to bring the people back to God, but sadly, they were not interested.
7. As evil as Manasseh was, he decided to change his way of living, and he turned to God. That is what repentance is all about. God is eager to forgive us of things we do wrong, and He wants everyone—even the most wicked people in the world—to repent (read 2 Peter 3:9). But sadly, the consequences of our bad choices and actions cannot be erased. (Give specific examples for this. You might bring a piece of wood, into which the kids can drive small nails. Point out that you can remove the nails, but the holes remain. Or let one of the kids break a cup or plate. Even if you can glue most of the pieces back together, the plate will never be the same. Talk about consequences of sin that cannot be erased, even though God can forgive them.)
8. God gives us all the ability to make choices. Some people think that they can do bad things while they are young and then try to live better when they get older. They think they can “have fun” or “sow their wild oats” while they are young, then “make up for it” by “being good” when they are older. But any time we make bad choices, there are consequences to pay. If we make bad choices we can also choose to change the way we think and the way we live. Repentance is more than just saying, “I’m sorry, God.” It is changing the choices we make and living as God wants us to. God is willing to forgive if we are willing to change (1 Corinthians 6:9-11).

9. Read Acts 26:20 and discuss the three parts of repentance discussed in that verse: repenting (turning away from sin), turning to God (making the commitment to try to do things God’s way), and doing “works befitting repentance” (cf. Matthew 3:8; showing fruits that indicate you are changed—e.g., paying someone back after tearing his stuff up; giving back something you stole; doing extra chores to make up for not obeying Dad and Mom about doing chores).



**RECOMMENDED READING FOR TEACHERS:** See the article “[One of Suffering’s Greatest Benefits](#)” by Kyle Butt on the Apologetics Press Web site for a discussion on one of the purposes of human suffering from the story of Manasseh.

**PRE-CLASS ACTIVITIES/LEARNING CENTERS (TO BE USED AS CHILDREN ARE ARRIVING—BEFORE CLASS, AND UP TO THE FIRST FIVE MINUTES OF CLASS; OR AS HOMEWORK):**

- Click here for complete [Activity Book](#) and [Answer Key](#).

**Ages 2-5:**

- “[King Manasseh Repents Coloring Sheet](#)” (provided in activity sheets)
- Play Tic Tac Toe with review questions from this and previous lessons. You can play the game on the board or make one on the floor, with squares large enough for one child to stand in. Give one team cutout X’s and one team O’s. When one team member answers a question correctly, let him/her stand in a square of his/her choosing, holding an X or an O. ([Tic-Tac-Toe Instructions](#) and [Review Questions](#) provided on curriculum Web site)

**1st-2nd Graders:**

- Play Tic Tac Toe with review questions from this and previous lessons. ([Tic-Tac-Toe Instructions](#) and [Review Questions](#) provided on curriculum Web site)
- Play Bingo with review questions from this and previous lessons. Give each student a blank Bingo card. On the board, write a list of possible answers to your prepared questions. Ask the students to write one answer in each blank of their Bingo boards; this should make everyone’s game card different. Give students small pieces of paper or some type of candy to use as markers. Play until at least one person has a Bingo. (You may want to set the cards up on Sunday and play on Wednesday night if time runs short.) (“[King Manasseh Repents Bingo Questions](#)” provided in activity sheets; “[Bingo Rules](#)” provided on curriculum Web site)
- “[King Manasseh Repents Word Search](#)” (provided in activity sheets)

**3rd-4th Graders:**

- Divide the class into small groups. Give each group a concordance (preferably a child’s concordance, available from many Bible bookstores). Show the children how to use the concordance. Then help them find at least three or four Scriptures that mention “repent” or “repentance.” Let them read the scriptures they find to the class.
- Play Tic Tac Toe with review questions from this and previous lessons. ([Tic-Tac-Toe Instructions](#) and [Review Questions](#) provided on curriculum Web site)
- Play Bingo with review questions from this and previous lessons. Give each student a blank Bingo card. On the board, write a list of possible answers to your prepared questions. Ask the students to write one answer in each blank of their Bingo boards; this should make

everyone's game card different. Give students small pieces of paper or some type of candy to use as markers. Play until at least one person has a Bingo. (You may want to set the cards up on Sunday and play on Wednesday night if time runs short.) ("[King Manasseh Repents Bingo Questions](#)" provided in activity sheets; "[Bingo Rules](#)" provided on curriculum Web site)

- "[King Manasseh Repents Word Search](#)" (provided in activity sheets)
- Have the children read the following:
  - 2 Kings 21; 2 Chronicles 33
  - *Discovery* magazine articles: "What Does It Mean To Repent" and "Manasseh: An Evil King Turned Good," [June, 2005](#); "Change Your Mind," [December, 2012](#)

## SONGS:

### **"REPENT" ([Click to Hear](#))**

Author: Jeff Miller

(Tune: "Here We Go Round the Mulberry Bush")

What does it mean for us to repent, us to repent, us to repent?

What does it mean for us to repent?

We change our minds about sinning.

What should we do when we disobey, disobey, disobey?

What should we do when we disobey God?

Repent, then pray and obey Him.

How can we show we are different then, different then, different then?

How can we show we are different then?

Bear fruits that prove we repented.

### **"TRUST AND OBEY" ([Click to Hear](#))**

Author: John Sammis

(Tune: See church song book)

#### VERSE 1:

When we walk with the Lord,

In the light of His Word,

What a glory He sheds on our way!

While we do His good will,

He abides with us still,

And with all who will trust and obey.

#### CHORUS:

Trust and obey,

For there's no other way,

To be happy in Jesus,

But to trust and obey.

#### VERSE 2:

Then in fellowship sweet,

We will sit at His feet,

Or we'll walk by His side in the way.  
What He says we will do.  
Where He sends we will go.  
Never fear, only trust and obey.

(CHORUS)

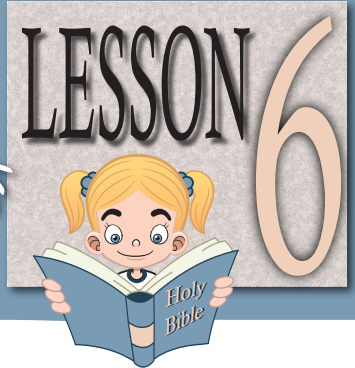
**\*\*\* IF YOU HAVE SUGGESTIONS PERTAINING TO THIS LESSON, PLEASE CLICK THE "SUGGESTION" BUTTON BESIDE THE BUTTON FOR THIS LESSON ON THE CURRICULUM WEB SITE.**



# Evil King Manasseh

## Repents

2 Kings 21:1-18



Old Testament 8  
Part 1: The Divided Kingdom

## WEDNESDAY EVENING

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## PERSONAL APPLICATION:

If I make choices that I know are not what God wants me to do, I must be willing to tell Him I am sorry and choose to change the way I live (go back to God’s way of doing things).

## INTRODUCTION:

Review [O.T. 8 Bible Fact Flash Cards](#) (provided under “O.T. 8 Bible Facts” on curriculum Web site)

## POINTS TO EMPHASIZE:

1. Review Sunday’s lesson. (See [O.T. 8 Review Questions](#) for example questions.)
2. Talk with the children about about the meaning of “repent” and “repentance.” Remind them of God’s willingness, and even His eagerness to forgive when we repent (read 2 Peter 3:9; Romans 5:8). Go over the Parable of the Lost (Prodigal) Son as another example of repentance and God’s eagerness for us to come back to Him when we make bad choices.

OLDER CHILDREN: Spend more time talking about the consequences of bad choices—consequences that sometimes remain even after we have repented.

## PRE-CLASS ACTIVITIES/LEARNING CENTERS (TO BE USED AS CHILDREN ARE ARRIVING—**BEFORE** CLASS, AND UP TO THE FIRST FIVE MINUTES OF CLASS; OR AS HOMEWORK):

- See Sunday morning’s lesson.

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