

**A RISEN LIFE
2 CHRONICLES 33**

1. **Manasseh was the son of Hezekiah, a king likened in Scripture to David (e.g., Jer 29:1-2)**
 - a. **He came to the throne at 12 years of age. Ruled 55 years.**
 - b. **He did evil in the eyes of the Lord.**
 - c. **He sought to undo His father's reforms. He was the "Anti Hezekiah."**
 - **He rebuilt the high places his father had torn down.**
 - **He erected altars to false gods. (Demons - Lev 17:7; Det 32:17)**
 - **He erected Asherah poles.**
 - **He worshipped the starry hosts.**
 - **He sacrificed his children to false gods.**
 - **He consulted occult practitioners.**
 - **He defiled the Lord's temple.**
 - **He lead Judah astray until they were worse than the nations God drove out before them. (2 Kng 23:26-27)**
 - **He ignored God's word given through the prophets.**
 - **He shed much innocent blood.**
 - d. **Have you ever blown it so bad that you wonder if there was still hope for yourself?**
2. **God dealt with him, first through prophets and finally through Assyria.**
 - a. **First He spoke to them, warned them, but Manasseh and Judah ignored Him.**
 - b. **God caused Judah to suffer invasion by the Assyrian Empire. Manasseh was captured, taken to Babylon in chains and imprisoned there.**
 - c. **In his distress Manasseh repented and sought the Lord.**
 - **God delivered him and restored him to his throne.**
 - **Manasseh came back home a new man.**
 - **God used him.**
 - * **It was apparently too late for his son Amon.**
 - * **His grandson Josiah was one of Judah's most godly kings. (Like David - 2 Chr 34:1-2).**
3. **Look at Eph 2:1-10**
 - a. **Like Manasseh we were all at one time dead in our transgressions.**
 - b. **Like Abraham he (and we) are saved by grace through faith (Gen 15:6; Hab 2:4; Rom 4:3-5, 22; Gal 3:7-9) OT believers were waiting for a coming redemption, we look back on a completed one. But atonement for all was made at the cross and the empty tomb.**
 - c. **Like Manasseh we who believe are forgiven.**
 - **Formerly dead in sin.**
 - **Raised to life with Christ.**
 - **The old has passed, the new is come. (2 Cor 5:17)**
 - **We have what Manasseh did not have - the baptism and indwelling if the Spirit.**
 - d. **We have a new name: Child of God, and we are clothed in His righteousness. (Zec 3:1-5)**

4. I want to encourage any of us who like saint Paul, struggle with regret over past rebellion and the wreckage we caused to ourselves and others. If you have trusted Christ you are clean, clothed in His righteousness. You are forgiven. He has made you worthy. Christ was raised from the dead for our justification! You are free from the chains of your past. Yes, remember it, learn from it, but rejoice in the reality of your new life! Because He paid it all, you are free. Follow Him joyfully. Rom 12:1-2

If you know Him, there are two things I want you to remember today:

He is risen

and

So are you!

Spiritually at present and physically at the resurrection

Rom 6:8-14; 1 Cor 15; Col 1:21-23 are some passages that speak to our being raised *with* Christ.

2 Kng 23:26-27

“Nevertheless, the Lord did not turn away from the heat of his fierce anger, which burned against Judah because of all that Manasseh had done to arouse his anger. So the Lord said, “I will remove Judah also from my presence as I removed Israel, and I will reject Jerusalem, the city I chose, and this temple, about which I said, ‘My Name shall be there’”