



God spoke to Manasseh and to the people, yet, they paid no attention.

God brought affliction by allowing the army commanders from Assyria to come and capture Manasseh, taking him into captivity.

In captivity Manasseh sought the Lord, praying to Him, repenting of his evil ways.

God in His mercy listened to his plea, bringing him back to Jerusalem and his kingdom. Manasseh then knew that the Lord is God.




Manasseh was followed by his son Amon to the throne.

Any promise for a better future were quickly dashed as Amon did what was evil in the sight of the Lord.

His reign only lasted two years, when the officials of his court conspired against him, assassinating him in his palace.

The people of the land responded by killing all of those who had been a part of the conspiracy, choosing Josiah, his son to be king.




The reign of Josiah is well documented. He led spiritual renewal and reform to Judah.

All of this because Josiah ordered the rebuilding of the temple, where he found the ancient Book of the Law of Moses.

He was faithful in the eyes of the Lord leading Judah to rediscover a better way by living honoring God.

However, as faithful as he was his reign came to an end because of his own decision to go to war with Pharaoh Necho of Egypt in 609 BC.



Judah is reigned by several pathetic kings, Jehoahaz, Jehoiakim and Jehoiachin.

Jehoiakim became a vassal to King Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon for three years before rebelling, God sent raiders to destroy Judah in accordance to the word of the Lord proclaimed by the prophets.

Under Jehoiachin, Nebuchadnezzar came to Jerusalem where he plundered the city and the temple. He took Jehoiachin captive.



Enters Ezekiel on the scene to proclaim a message for Judah. God called him to prophesy against Judah and the people.

Page 237 shares the message of doom for Judah.

Things are not improving, God sends another prophet, Jeremiah.

Jeremiah is different, he is just a youth when God calls him into service.

Consider the call of Jeremiah on Pages 237-238.




Jeremiah brings a message of destruction but in proclaiming the message of hope he also knew that God was a God of mercy, who will lavish the nation and the people with that mercy.

Consider his message pages 238-240.

However, even though God granted many opportunities for change, the people mocked the prophets and God.

Finally God allows Nebuchadnezzar to march against Judah and destroy Jerusalem and carry off into exile.



The fate of Zedekiah is sealed. Page 243 we read of what happens to Zedekiah and his family.

With exile a reality Jeremiah weeps bitterly for his people. Pages 243-245

In the midst of exile, the message of the prophets turns to one of hope for the people of God.

During the exile the people must consider what went wrong, why the exile, why the destruction.

It is a time for soul searching.

