

~MANASSEH 4 (276)

(Ma-nas'seh) [One Making Forgetful, One Who Makes Forget]

- A name appearing in the **Masoretic** text at;
- After that the sons of Dan stood up the carved image for themselves, and Jonathan the son of Gershom, Moses son, he and his sons became priests to the tribe of the Danites until the day of the lands being taken into exile. (**Judges 18:30**)
- Because of scribal modification. The account concerns Danite apostasy, and the **New World Translation** says that Jonathan the son of Gershom, Moses son, he and his sons became priests to the tribe of the Danites. **AT, Mo, Ro, RS**
- Jewish scribes inserted a suspended letter, **nun = n**, between the first two letters in the original **Hebrew** name so as to give the reading **Manasseh's** instead of Moses, doing so out of regard for Moses.
- The scribes thus sought to hide the reproach or disgrace that might be brought upon the name of Moses because of Jonathan's action. In addition to the altered **Masoretic** text, **Manasseh's** appears in the **Vatican Manuscript No. 1209** of the **Greek Septuagint** and in the **Syriac Peshitta**.
- However, **Moses** is found in the **Alexandrine Manuscript** of the **Greek Septuagint** and in the **Latin Vulgate** at;
- After that the sons of Dan stood up the carved image for themselves, and Jonathan the son of Gershom, Moses son, he and his sons became priests to the tribe of the Danites until the day of the lands being taken into exile. (**Judges 18:30**)
- King of Judah who was the son and successor of King Hezekiah.
- Finally Hezekiah lay down with his forefathers, and Manasseh his son began to reign in place of him. (**2 Kings 20:21**)
- Finally Hezekiah lay down with his forefathers, and they buried him in the ascent to the burial places of the sons of David, and honor

was what all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem rendered to him at his death. And **Manasseh** his son began to reign in place of him.

- Then he decided with his princes and his mighty men to stop up the waters of the springs that were outside the city, and so they helped him. (2 Chronicles 32:3)
- **Manasseh's** mother was Hephzibah. He was 12 years old when he ascended the throne as the 14th king of Judah after David and ruled for 55 years, 716-662 B.C.E. in Jerusalem.
- Twelve years old was **Manasseh** when he began to reign, and for fifty-five years he reigned in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Hephzibah. (2 Kings 21:1)
- He did what was bad in Yehowah's eyes, rebuilding the high places his father had destroyed, setting up altars to Baal, worshiping all the army of the heavens, and building false religious altars in two temple courtyards.
- He made his sons pass through the fire, practiced magic, employed divination, and promoted spiritistic practices. **Manasseh** also put the graven image of the sacred pole he had made into the house of Yehowah.
- He seduced Judah and Jerusalem to do worse than the nations that Yehowah had annihilated from before the sons of Israel.
- And he proceeded to do what was bad in Yehowah's eyes, according to the detestable things of the nations that Yehowah had driven out from before the sons of Israel. (2 Kings 21:2)
- So he built again the high places that Hezekiah his father had destroyed, and set up altars to Baal and made a sacred pole, just as Ahab the king of Israel had done, and he began to bow down to all the army of the heavens and to serve them. (2 Kings 21:3)
- And he built altars in the house of Yehowah, respecting which Yehowah had said; In Jerusalem I shall put my name. (2 Kings 21:4)
- And he went on to build altars to all the army of the heavens in two courtyards of the house of Yehowah. (2 Kings 21:5)

- **And he made his own son pass through the fire, and he practiced magic and looked for omens and made spirit mediums and professional foretellers of events. He did on a large scale what was bad in Yehowah's eyes, to offend him. (2 Kings 21:6)**
- **Further, he put the carved image of the sacred pole that he had made in the house of which Yehowah had said to David and to Solomon his son; In this house and in Jerusalem, which I have chosen out of all the tribes of Israel, I shall put my name to time indefinite. (2 Kings 21:7)**
- **And I shall not again make the foot of Israel wander from the ground that I gave to their forefathers, provided only they are careful to do according to all that I have commanded them, even concerning all the Law that my servant Moses commanded them. (2 Kings 21:8)**
- **And they did not listen, but **Manasseh** kept seducing them to do what was bad more than the nations whom Yehowah had annihilated from before the sons of Israel. (2 Kings 21:9)**
- **And he proceeded to do what was bad in Yehowah's eyes, according to the detestable things of the nations that Yehowah had driven out from before the sons of Israel. (2 Chronicles 33:2)**
- **So he built again the high places that Hezekiah his father had pulled down, and set up altars to the Baals and made sacred poles, and he began to bow down to all the army of the heavens and serve them. (2 Chronicles 33:3)**
- **And he built altars in the house of Yehowah, respecting which Yehowah had said; In Jerusalem my name will prove to be to time indefinite. (2 Chronicles 33:4)**
- **And he went on to build altars to all the army of the heavens in two courtyards of the house of Yehowah. (2 Chronicles 33:5)**
- **And he himself made his own sons pass through the fire in the valley of the son of Hinnom, and practiced magic and used divination and practiced sorcery and made spiritistic mediums and professional foretellers of events. He did on a grand scale what was bad in the eyes of Yehowah, to offend him. (2 Chronicles 33:6)**

- Furthermore, he put the carved image that he had made in the house of the true God, respecting which God had said to David and to Solomon his son; In this house and in Jerusalem, which I have chosen out of all the tribes of Israel, I shall put my name to time indefinite. (2 Chronicles 33:7)
- And I shall not remove the foot of Israel again from off the ground that I assigned to their forefathers, provided only that they take care to do all that I have commanded them concerning all the Law and the regulations and the judicial decisions by the hand of Moses. (2 Chronicles 33:8)
- And **Manasseh** kept seducing Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem to do worse than the nations that Yehowah had annihilated from before the sons of Israel. (2 Chronicles 33:9)
- Though Yehowah sent prophets, these were not heeded. **Manasseh** was also guilty of shedding innocent blood in great quantity
- And Yehowah kept speaking by means of his servants the prophets, saying; (2 Kings 21:10)
- For the reason that **Manasseh** the king of Judah has done these detestable things, he has acted more wickedly than all that the Amorites did that were prior to him, and he proceeded to make even Judah sin with his dungy idols. (2 Kings 21:11)
- That is why this is what Yehowah the God of Israel has said; Here I am bringing a calamity upon Jerusalem and Judah, of which if anyone hears both his ears will tingle. (2 Kings 21:12)
- And I shall certainly stretch upon Jerusalem the measuring line applied to Samaria and also the leveling instrument applied to the house of Ahab, and I shall simply wipe Jerusalem clean just as one wipes the handleless bowl clean, wiping it clean and turning it upside down. (2 Kings 21:13)
- And I shall indeed forsake the remnant of my inheritance and give them into the hand of their enemies, and they will simply become plunder and pillage to all their enemies. (2 Kings 21:14)
- For the reason that they did what was bad in my eyes and were continually offending me from the day that their forefathers came out from Egypt down to this day. (2 Kings 21:15)

- And there was also innocent blood that **Manasseh** shed in very great quantity, until he had filled Jerusalem from end to end, besides his sin with which he caused Judah to sin by doing what was bad in the eyes of Yehowah. (**2 Kings 21:16**)
- Which, according to the literature of the Jewish rabbis, included that of Isaiah, who they say was sawed apart at **Manasseh's** command.
- They were stoned, they were tried, they were sawn asunder, they died by slaughter with the sword, they went about in sheepskins, in goatskins, while they were in want, in tribulation, under ill-treatment. (**Hebrews 11:37**)
- **Manasseh** was punished for paying no attention to Yehowah's message, the king of Assyria taking him captive to Babylon, one of the Assyrian monarchs royal cities.
- And Yehowah kept speaking to **Manasseh** and his people, but they paid no attention. (**2 Chronicles 33:10**)
- Finally Yehowah brought against them the chiefs of the army that belonged to the king of Assyria, and so they captured **Manasseh** in the hollows and bound him with two fetters of copper and took him to Babylon. (**2 Chronicles 33:11**)
- **Manasseh** of Judah is mentioned in Assyrian King Esar-haddon's list of 22 tribute-paying kings of Hatti, the seashore and the islands. **Manasseh's** name also appears in a list of king's tributary to Ashurbanipal. [*Ancient Near Eastern Texts*, edited by J. Pritchard, 1974, pp. 291,294]
- While in captivity, **Manasseh** repented, humbled himself, and prayed to Yehowah. God heard his request for favor and restored him to the kingship in Jerusalem.
- And as soon as it caused him distress, he softened the face of Yehowah his God and kept humbling himself greatly because of the God of his forefathers. (**2 Chronicles 33:12**)
- And he kept praying to Him, so that He let himself be entreated by him and He heard his request for favor and restored him to Jerusalem to his kingship, and **Manasseh** came to know that Yehowah is the true God. (**2 Chronicles 33:13**)

- **Manasseh** thereafter built an outer wall for the City of David, put military chiefs in Judah's fortified cities, and removed the foreign gods and the idol image from Yehowah's house, as well as the altars he had built in the mountain of the house of Yehowah and in Jerusalem.
- Manasseh prepared the altar of Yehowah and began to sacrifice upon it, encouraging others also to serve Yehowah. However, the people were still sacrificing on the high places, though to Yehowah.
- And after this he built an outer wall for the City of David to the west of Gihon in the torrent valley and as far as the Fish Gate, and he ran it around to Ophel and proceeded to make it very high. Further, he put chiefs of the military force in all the fortified cities in Judah. (2 Chronicles 33:14)
- And he proceeded to remove the foreign gods and the idol image from the house of Yehowah and all the altars that he had built in the mountain of the house of Yehowah and in Jerusalem and then had them thrown outside the city. (2 Chronicles 33:15)
- Moreover, he prepared the altar of Yehowah and began to sacrifice upon it communion sacrifices and thanksgiving sacrifices and went on to say to Judah to serve Yehowah the God of Israel. (2 Chronicles 33:16)
- Nevertheless, the people were still sacrificing upon the high places, only it was to Yehowah their God. (2 Chronicles 33:17)
- At **Manasseh's** death, he was succeeded in the kingship by his son Amon.
- Finally **Manasseh** lay down with his forefathers, and they buried him at his house, and Amon his son began to reign in place of him.
- And he proceeded to do what was bad in Yehowah's eyes, according to the detestable things of the nations that Yehowah had driven out from before the sons of Israel. (2 Chronicles 33:2)