



Chronicles of Israel

A study on Israel, her kings, and truth versus consequence

High Meadow Ranch Men's Bible Study | Lesson #16 – Tuesday, May 23, 2023

The Gospel in Full Flower (2 Chronicles 33:1 – 35:27)

Provided in the table below is a high level overview of 1st and 2nd Chronicles. As we go through this series it will be useful to keep this overview in mind in relation to the overall framework of this study.

Chapters	Content	Significance
1 Chronicles 1 – 9	Genealogies, emphasis on tribes of Judah and Levi	Preparing the stage for the Kingdom of Judah and the priestly tribe
1 Chronicles 10	Reign of Saul	Transition to David's Kingdom; declaration that the throne belonged to the tribe of Judah
1 Chronicles 11 – 29	Reign of David	Phase 1 of the ideal Kingdom; detailed preparation for the Temple
2 Chronicles 1 – 9	Reign of Solomon	Phase 2 of the ideal Kingdom; construction and installation of the Temple
2 Chronicles 10 – 26	Kings of Judah	Succession of kings, all of whom were descended from David; implemented the standards of David and Solomon to varying degrees

This is the eighth of nine lessons dealing with the kings of Judah after Solomon. In this lesson we'll talk about three kings, two who could be described as good kings. Manasseh, who was the son of Hezekiah (one of the best and most Godly kings Judah ever had), turned completely against God but repented after God brought about severe judgment to his life. He's a great example of God's mercy and how the Lord forgives sin and rebellion. Amon's service as king was a "blip." Lastly, Josiah was the last great king and was described as a king who "did not turn aside to the right or the left." His life was a plumb line.

After this lesson we literally have one more chapter (2 Chronicles 36). I hope you've enjoyed this series. I believe it's the longest series we've ever done (we started last year in September) since starting the Bible study in February 2018. A lot has happened in five years! A major concept I have taken away in this series are the words of Hanani the seer to Asa over 2,800 years ago. **The same is true today!**

For the eyes of the Lord range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him... (recorded in 2 Chronicles 16:9)

As we do each week, let's ask ourselves the following questions:

1. Was the king good or bad?
2. For the bad kings, what factors contributed to their downfall?
3. For the good kings, what factors contributed to their success?
4. What lessons can we learn from these kings that apply to our own lives?



Questions

1. In reading through the assigned text for this week (2 Chronicles 33 – 35), what are the differences between Manasseh, Amon, and Josiah?

2. Why do you think Manasseh rebelled against the Godliness he saw in his father, Hezekiah?

3. Read 2 Chronicles 33:10-13. What happened to Manasseh because of his sin and what did God do?

4. Who was Amon and what did he do (read 2 Chronicles 33:21-25)?

5. Reading 2 Chronicles 34 provides one of the greatest reformation we see in the Bible. Answer the questions below about Josiah, who he was, and what he did.
 - a. How old was Josiah and how long did he reign?

 - b. How old was he when he began to see the Lord? What did he do for the next ten years?

 - c. As a 26-year old (2 Chronicles 34:8), what significant activities did Josiah undertake. Look specifically at what happened in verse 14 and the chain of events that happened when they discovered the Word of God.

 - d. In reading 2 Chronicles 34:22 we meet the prophetess, Huldah. Continued reading exposes to the actions of Josiah. In general, how did the good kings respond to prophetic messages versus the bad kings?

6. In wrapping up this lesson, and the last opportunity we'll have to study a good king in this series, what can we learn from the actions of Manasseh and Josiah in terms of their repentant hearts? How can we apply this to our own lives (let's avoid considering what others can and should do)?

Next Meeting (Lesson #17, Tuesday, June 13): In our next and final lesson we'll read 2 Chronicles 36 and how the nation of Judah finally came to ruin and discuss what we can learn from their ultimate downfall.