



BE STILL AND KNOW THAT I AM GOD

PSALMS 46:10

KNOW THAT THE LORD IS GOD

PSALMS 100:3

KNOW

•ע**די** yada

- To know by experience, learn to know
- To perceive and see
- To find out and discern
- To discriminate and distinguish
- To know intimately

THE LORD IS COMPASSIONATE & GRACIOUS

PSALMS 103:8



- <u>Compassionate</u>, gracious, slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love
- Will not always accuse nor harbor His anger forever
- Does not treat us as our sins deserve; or repay us according to our iniquities.
- As high as the heavens are above the earth so great is His love
- As far as the east is from the west so far has He removed our sins
- As the <u>father has compassion over his children</u>, the LORD has compassion on those who fear Him.

D·IŲ rahum - compassionate, merciful ກຸນຸບ rahmah - womb

Scripture reading 2Kings 21: 1-17

Saul



Saul



HEZEKIAH

- Father of Manasseh
- Hezekiah was one of the few godly kings of Judah.
- 2 Kings 21: 5-7 Hezekiah trusted in the LORD, the God of Israel, there was no one like him among the kings of Judah, either before him or after him. He held <u>fast</u> to the LORD and did not cease to <u>follow</u> Him; he <u>kept</u> the commands the LORD had given to Moses. <u>And the LORD</u> was with him; he was successful in whatever he undertook.
- Judah as a nation has a great revival because of Hezekiah's obedience.
- He was sick to the point of death, he cried to God and God raised him up and added 15 years to his life.

MANASSEH

- Mannaseh, born three years after God healed Hezekiah of his sickness. Grew up in a godly environment
- Ascended to his father's throne at 12 years old
- However he became one of the most wicked kings in Judah. He did evil in the eyes of the LORD by following the detestable practices of the other nations. 2Chron 33:2
- WHY & HOW?
- Pastor Chuah's sermon last week on Psalms 1 (WALK, STAND, SIT)
- PERMIT, PARTICIPATE, PROMOTE

MANASSEH

- Erected altars to Baal and made Asherah poles
- Worshipped and bowed down to all the starry hosts
- Sacrificed his sons in the fire.
- Practice sorcery, divination, witchcraft and consulted with mediums and spiritists.
- Built altars and set up idols in the temple of the LORD.
- Led the people astray and <u>did more evil</u> than all the other nations the LORD had destroyed.

MANASSEH

- Shed so much innocent blood that he filled Jerusalem from end to end 2Kings 21:16
- According to tradition he sawed the prophet Isaiah into two longitudinally.
- The LORD, time and again spoke to Manasseh and his people through His servants the prophets but he paid to attention to them.
- ULTIMATELY......Manasseh crossed the line to a point of no return.

PROVOKING THE LORD TO ANGER

POINT OF NO RETURN – Jeremiah 15:1-4

 Then the LORD said to me: "Even if Moses and Samuel were to stand before me, my heart would not go out to this people. Send them away from my presence! Let them go!² And if they ask you, 'Where shall we go?' tell them, 'This is what the LORD says:

"'Those destined for death, to death; those for the sword, to the sword; those for starvation, to starvation; those for captivity, to captivity.'

³ "I will send four kinds of destroyers against them," declares the LORD, "the <u>sword to kill</u> and the <u>dogs to drag away</u> and <u>the birds</u> and <u>the wild animals to devour and destroy</u>. ⁴ I will make them abhorrent to all the kingdoms of the earth because of what Manasseh son of Hezekiah king of Judah did in Jerusalem.

JERUSALEM WILL BE DESTROYED



STORY CONTINUES IN 2CHRON 33:11-13

2 Chronicles 33:11

So the LORD brought against them the army commanders of the king of Assyria, who took Manasseh prisoner, put a hook in his nose, bound him with bronze shackles and took him to Babylon



2 Chronicles 33:12-13(NIV)

- In his <u>distress</u> he <u>sought</u> the favor of the LORD his God and <u>humbled</u> himself greatly before the God of his ancestors.
- And when he *prayed* to Him, the LORD was moved by his entreaty and listened to his plea; so he brought him back to Jerusalem and to his kingdom. THEN Manasseh knew that the LORD is God.

TARGUM 2Chron 33:12-13

 Then the Chaldeans made a brazen mule, and bored many small holes in it. They shut him up inside it and lit a fire all around it. When he was in *distress*, he <u>sought *help* from all his idols</u> which he had made, but there was no help forthcoming, for there is no profit in them.





TARGUM 2Chron 33:12-13

-he <u>sought help from all his idols</u> which he had made, but there was no help forthcoming, for there is <u>no profit in them</u>.
- Then he <u>changed his mind</u> and prayed** before the LORD his God, and humbled himself greatly from before the LORD, the God of his fathers.
- ** Prayer of Manasseh

Prayer of Manasseh (Apocrypha)

O Lord, Almighty God of our fathers, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and of their righteous seed; who hast made heaven and earth, with all the ornament thereof;

who hast bound the sea by the word of thy commandment; who hast shut up the deep, and sealed it by thy terrible and glorious name; whom all men fear, and tremble before thy power; for the majesty of thy glory

cannot be borne, and thine angry threatening toward sinners is importable: but <u>thy merciful</u> <u>promise is unmeasurable and unsearchable; for thou art the most high</u> <u>Lord, of great compassion, longsuffering, very merciful, and repentest of the evils of men.</u>

Thou, O Lord, according to thy great goodness hast promised repentance and forgiveness to them that have sinned against thee: and of thine infinite mercies hast appointed repentance unto sinners, that they may be saved.

Thou therefore, O Lord, that art the God of the just, hast not appointed repentance to the just, as to Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, which have not sinned against thee; but thou hast appointed repentance unto me that am a sinner:

Prayer of Manasseh

For I have sinned above the number of the sands of the sea.

My transgressions, O Lord, are multiplied: my transgressions are multiplied, and <u>I am not</u> worthy to behold and see the height of heaven for the multitude of mine ${
m iniquities.}$ I am bowed down with many iron bands, that I cannot lift up mine head, neither have any release: ${
m for \ I}$ have provoked thy wrath, and done evil before thee: I did not thy will, neither kept I thy commandments: I have set up abominations, and have multiplied offences. Now therefore I bow the knee of mine heart, beseeching thee of grace. I have sinned, O Lord, I have sinned, and I acknowledge mine iniquities: wherefore, I humbly beseech thee, forgive me, O Lord, forgive me, and destroy me not with mine iniquites. <u>Be not angry with me for ever</u>, by reserving evil for me; neither condemn me to the lower parts of the earth. For thou art the God, even the God of them that repent; and in me thou wilt shew all thy goodness: for thou wilt save me, that am unworthy, according to thy great mercy. Therefore I will praise thee for ever all the days of my life: for all the powers of the heavens do praise thee, and thine is the glory for ever and ever. Amen."

WHY SHOULD GOD HEAR A PRAYER OF SUCH A WICKED MAN?

The LORD is compassionate and gracious slow to anger and abounding in love. Psalms 103:8

HOW CAN GOD DELIVER & FORGIVE SUCH A WICKED MAN?

MURDERER, IDOLATER, DEVIL WORSHIPPER

THE LORD, THE LORD IS GOD

COMPASSIONATE AND GRACIOUS, SLOW TO ANGER ABOUNDING IN LOVE AND FAITHFULNESS, MAINTAINING LOVE TO THOUSANDS AND FORGIVING WICKEDNESS, REBELLION AND SIN. YET HE DOES NOT LEAVE THE GUILTY UNPUNISHED...EX 34:6-7 "Yet He does not leave the guilty unpunished; He punishes the children and their children for the sins of the fathers to the third and fourth generation"

Exodus 34:7b

