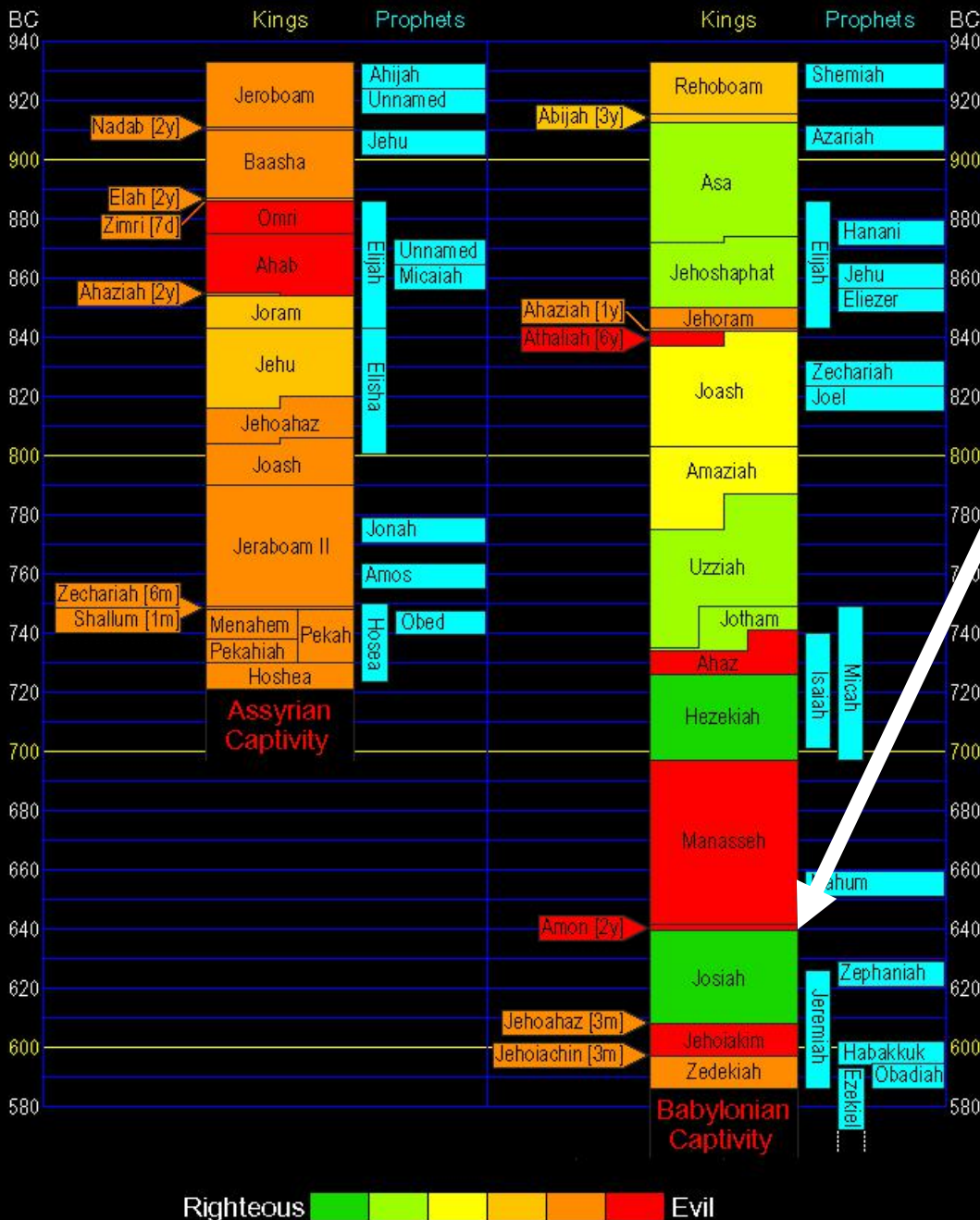


Israel

Judah



JOSIAH KING OF JUDAH

- *Yoshiyahu* = Josiah
- Became king in 641 B.C.
- His father Amon murdered
- Judah went back and forth between good and evil kings
- Manasseh's reign, first 49 years evil, last 6 good

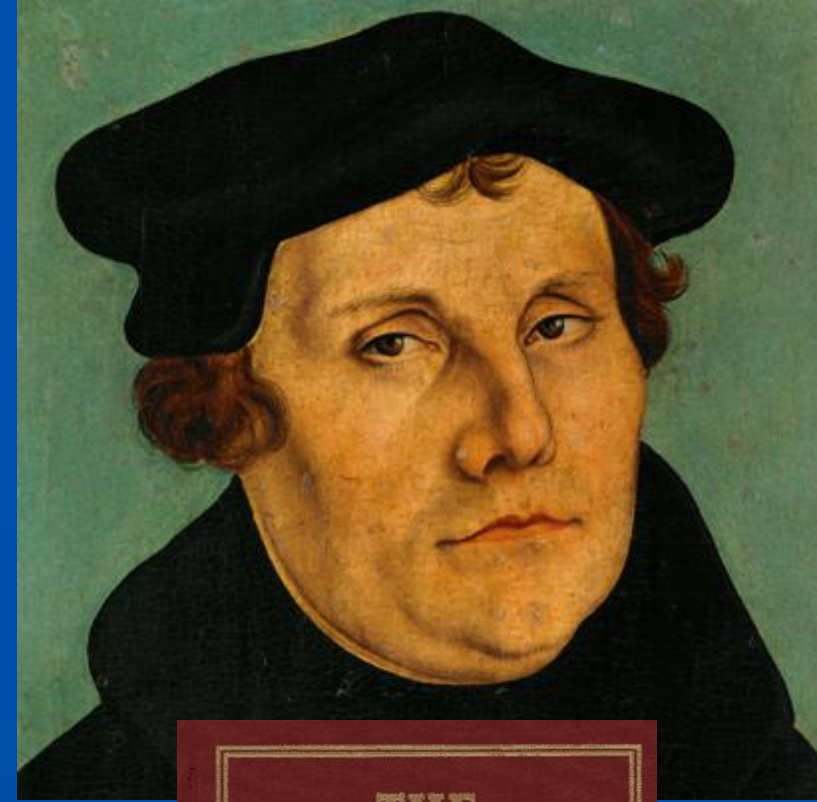
MANASSEH'S REPENTANCE



- Manasseh taken to Babylon where he had a change of heart
- We don't read about his repentance in 2nd Kings 21, but we do in 2nd Chronicles 33
- We don't find Manasseh's Prayer in most bibles, but it seems it might be a good prayer model if it was there

MARTIN LUTHER REMOVED THE APOCRYPHA

- Apocrypha always part of the Christian Bible until the 1500's when Luther removed it
- However, Luther wanted Manasseh's Prayer to remain
- Eastern Orthodox Christianity continues to use Apocrypha
- 1543 A.D "On the Jews and Their Lies" Anti-Semitic rant
- Modern bibles reflect Luther's views on the worthlessness of Jews, the Apocrypha, the Torah (the Law), and the Old Testament in general
- So, Manasseh's Prayer is missing



THE MANMADE “SILENT PERIOD”

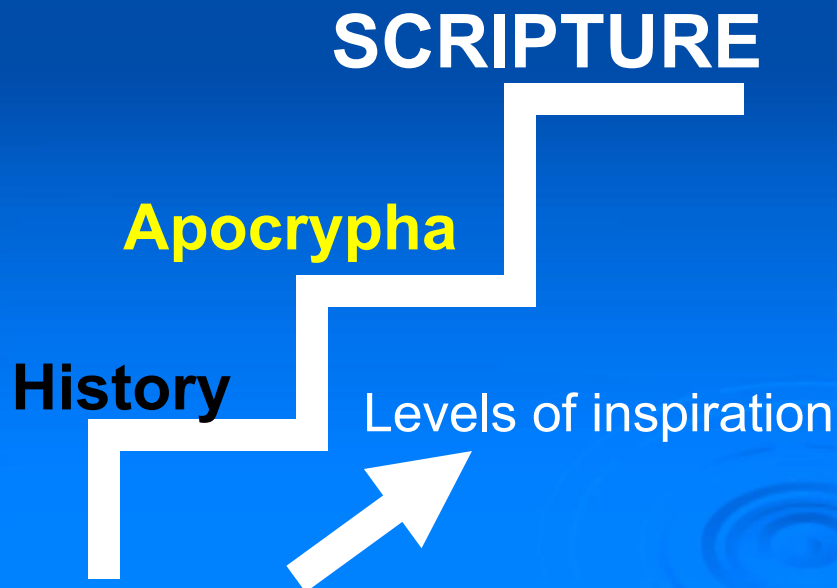
- Ezra and Nehemiah by timeline are the latest books of the OT (400 B.C.)
- Western Church says there's a “hole” in our bibles from 400 B.C. until Christ is born (1 A.D.)
- The Apocrypha covers that time period, but it has been removed
- Since the 1960's even the OT has come to be seen as irrelevant to salvation efforts and to Believers so now many bibles are New Testament only
- John says the Word is BOTH Christ and His given Word, the entire bible

**4
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YEARS
GAP
???????**

NATURE OF THE APOCRYPHA

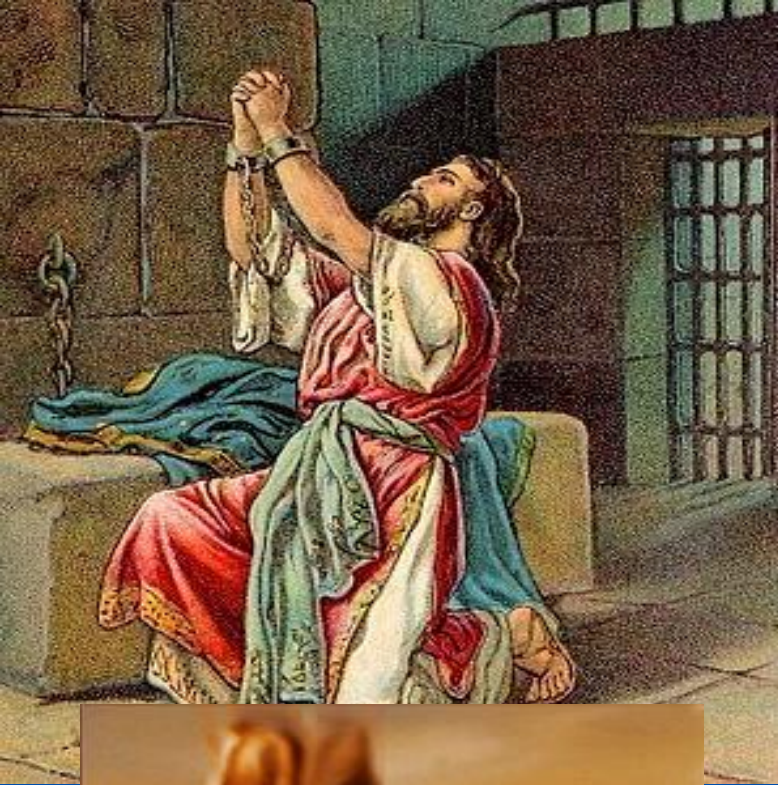


- Should we read the Apocrypha? **YES !**
- Should we take it seriously? **YES !**
- Is it Holy Scripture? **NO !**
- Is “Manasseh’s Prayer” in the form we have it the original? We don’t know for certain.
- However.....it WAS recorded in the Annals of the Kings of Israel, so it could be very close
- KJV with Apocrypha version of Manasseh’s Prayer



A CHANGED MAN A REFORMED KING

- A pattern played out when Judah was taken to Babylon in chains, like Manasseh was
- Up in Babylon the Jews realized their error and repented, like Manasseh did
- Manasseh's Prayer expresses our hope for eternal survival
- Speaks powerfully of God's love for humanity and provision for redemption

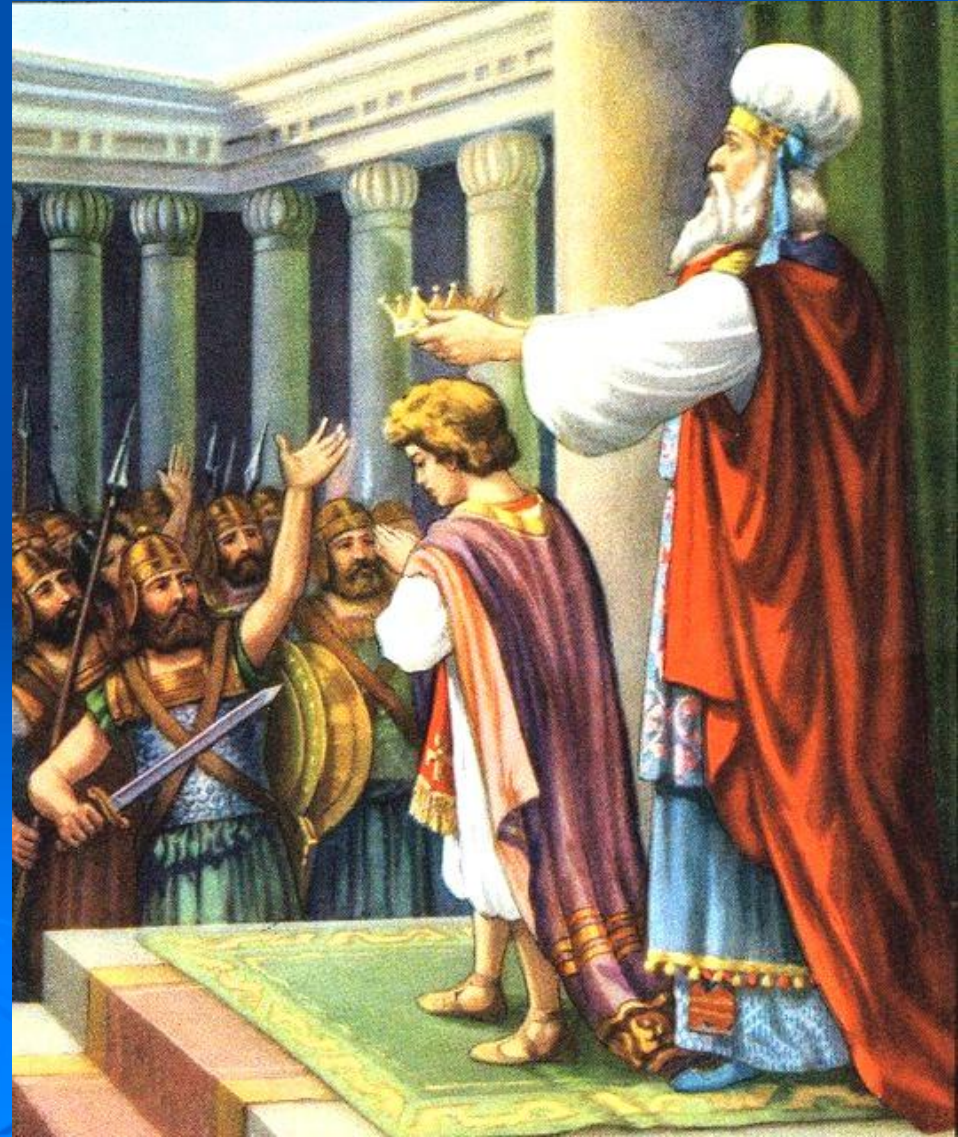


GRACE !

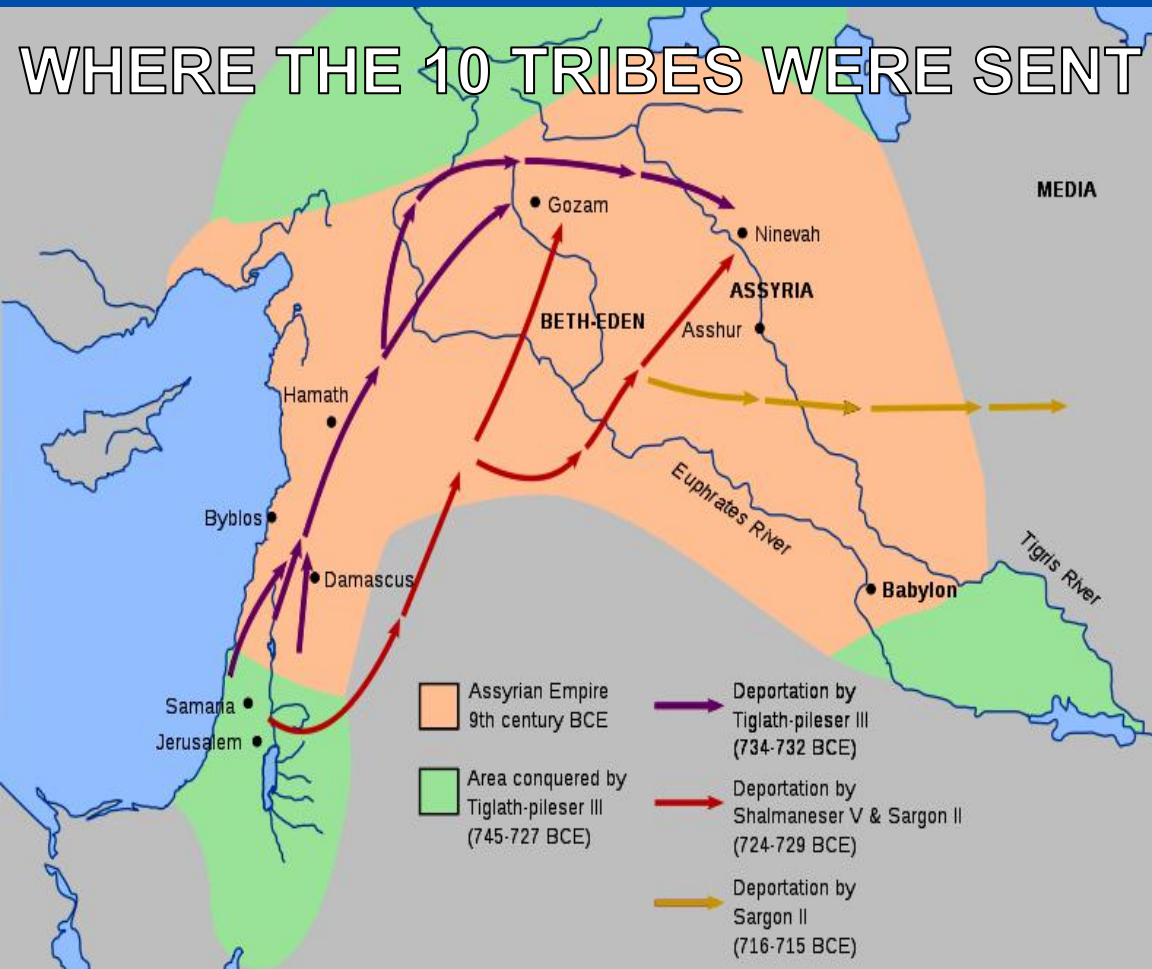


2ND KINGS CHAPTER 22: JOSIAH THE BOY-KING

- 2nd Chronicles 34, 35 add much to the story
- ***Yoshiyahu*** = Josiah
- Prophecy of 1st Kings 13 says, “...***a son will be born his name.....Yoshiyahu.... He will sacrifice the priests...***”
- Prophecy made 300 years earlier as Jeroboam was about to burn incense
- 10 tribes gone now for over 90 years



THE HISTORICAL CONTEXT



- During Manasseh's time Assyria was in control
- But now, Egypt's and Babylon's influence was on the rise
- Assyria's golden age was over
- Josiah becomes King of Judah at 8 years old (NOT a co-regency)
- ***Am eretz*** put Josiah onto the throne

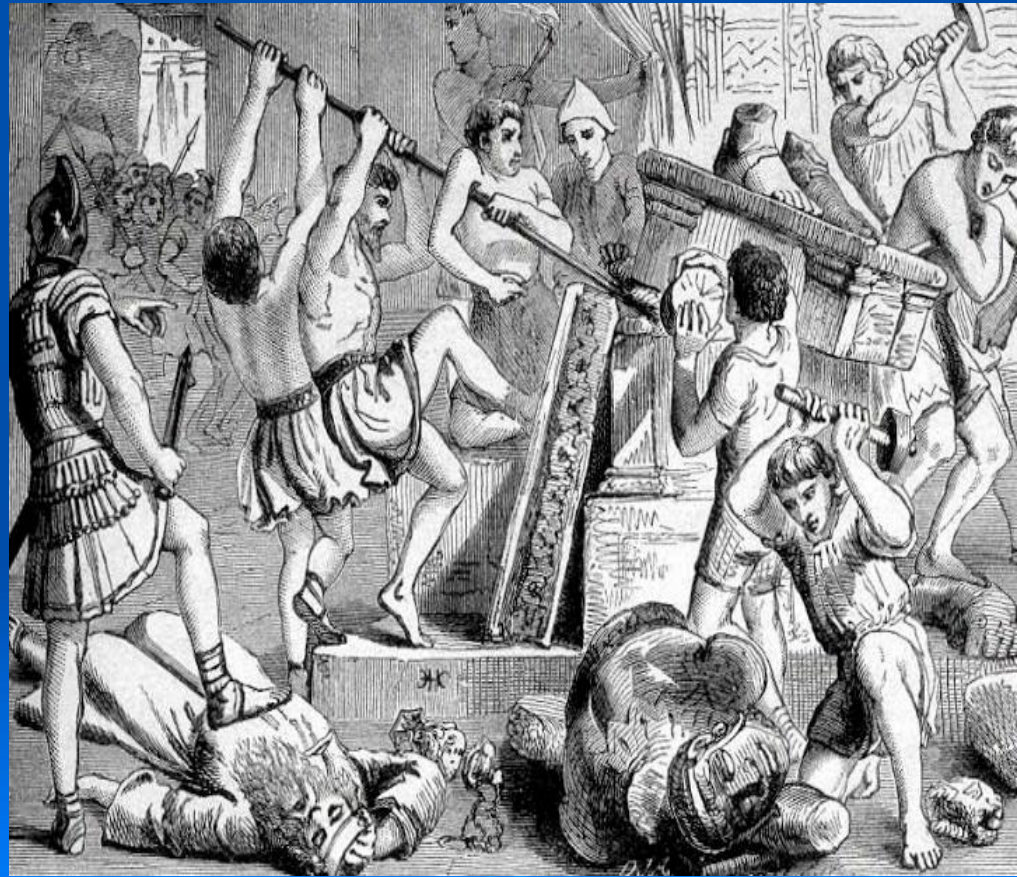
THE 18TH YEAR OF JOSIAH

- 18th year refers to his reign, not his age
- 1st recorded act to order repairs to the Temple
- Over 200 years since King Joash made extensive refurbishment
- Josiah follows pattern of Joash
- What happened between 1st year and 18th year is contained in 2Chron. 34:1-8



JOSIAH DESTROYS THE IDOLS

- Writer/editor of 2nd Chronicles gives us an evolving process
- At 16 years old Josiah gained an independent interest in the Lord
- 4 years later he set out to destroy all the idols
- **Bamot** = high places for worship to YHWH
- From time of Joshua to time of Josiah, many Israelites wanted to have their own altars and sacrifices without the priests and Levites



JOSIAH FULFILLS THE PROPHECY OF 1ST KINGS 13



- Burning up the priests and the idols was a purification by fire
- Josiah then went up north to the former territory of the 10 tribes to do the same
- Some of the remnant of the 10 tribes inter-married with foreigners who brought their false gods and idols
- An unholy and strange mix of religion going on in Samaria