He Walked In The Ways of His Father

Jackson Cook · 2 Kings 21

INTRODUCTION

- The text tells us that Amon walked in the ways of his father.
- How could this happen to the people of God who had just reformed themselves and revived their relationship with God and drawn nearer to him?
- We can all see the importance of being a good example to others, whether that be our own kids or others in the church, or even those outside of the gospel.

1 Good Fathers Lead as Good Examples

2 Kings 18:3–7; 2 Samuel 7

- And he did what was right in the eyes of the Lord, according to all that David his father had done.
- For he held fast to the Lord. He did not depart from following him, but kept the commandments that the Lord commanded Moses.
- The foundation for Manasseh was there through his father's example.
- We cannot expect our children, we cannot expect young people to fall into their faith.
- There is a spiritual war for our children. And what children are going to need is their example of those closest to them to follow.
- For our children to be raised up by good examples, whether that be our physical children or children in the faith, it does not matter. We must be intentional in our example.

2 It Is Up to the Son to Choose to Follow

2 Kings 21:9; Galatians 1:6

- It is also the case that it is up to the son to choose to follow that example.
- Manasseh led them astray to do more evil than the nations had done, whom the Lord destroyed before the people of Israel.
- Manasseh could be described as reversing time to wrong the rights of his father.
- I am astonished that you were so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel.
- It is up to each individual whether they are going to choose to serve God or serve a different path.
- Parental influence does play a key role in that decision.

3 Bad Fathers Tend to Lead as Poor Examples

2 Kings 21:21–22

- The Bible teaches us continually that bad fathers tend to lead as poor examples for children.
- No doubt Manasseh has stamped the image of himself. He imprinted himself upon his son.

- Even though he had made his own sinful decisions, we can see that his father's example resulted in his downfall.
- Our example too will have consequences and effects that those closest to us will ultimately face, often our children.
- It makes us recognize that sin is serious and our examples are important.

4 Children Can Choose God

2 Kings 22; Deuteronomy 17:18–20

- Just as children can choose to neglect godly examples, on the other hand, children can choose God, even in the most dire and broken familial circumstances.
- Josiah here in 2 Kings chapter 22 chooses to imitate a more godly example, one that is more righteous.
- Seen first in his righteous leadership as a king and his repairs to the temple.
- Secondly, in his love for the word of God, by recording his own copy of the law.
- He recognized where God was and chose to pursue a relationship with him.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **For young people, find a strong spiritual example to follow. Find somebody in your life who you can view as a role model that helps you to choose God and to serve him.**

MY NOTES