

Bible that Mennesseh's long reign was succeeded by a man who had a very short reign. Amman had only two years. The Bible says he followed in the wicked steps of his father. Now this does not mean that the story of Mennesseh's conversion is necessarily false. The son would have been brought up before the father's conversion, and the fact that the son followed in the wicked footsteps of his father would not mean that the father might not have changed his ways in his old age. The son followed that which was characteristic of the father in the greater part of his life. In only two years there is little more to say about Amman so we can move on to number 3, Josiah.

Josiah Dr. Albright dates from 640 to 609, and we are now getting to the place where there need not be much question as to the accuracy of the date. 640 to 609 ~~isx~~ certainly the dates are within two or three years correct at least. This man, Josiah, became king as a very young boy, his father having died after only two years reign. Josiah was extremely young when he began to reign. He desired to follow in the footsteps of his great grandfather, Hezekiah, and of his ancestor, David. He tried to be true to the word of the Lord. There is an extremely important incident which is described in Kings and ~~Chron~~ Chronicles in which the book of the law was found in the temple. Finding the book of the law in the temple, they brought it to him and he read it and he said, "Great harm has come to our nation because we have disregarded the words of this law." Josiah began to carry out the words of the law and he utterly destroyed the high places and caused that the worship should be centered in Jerusalem. He also went up into the northern kingdom which now was available to him because the Assyrians had conquered it and it was pretty much in a state of ruin. He went to the borders of that ~~xxx~~ area and destroyed the center at Bethel where the calf worship had been carried on and carried out the predictions of the man of God in I Kings 13. The whole critical theory revolves around the story of Josiah's discovery of the book in the temple. It is unquestionably true that that book was the Penteteuch. Whether it had more of the Bible in it or not it at least had the Penteteuch in it.