

A People of the Book

8-Year Curriculum

A Study of
Selected Texts from

I II Kings

I II Chronicles

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Kings and Chronicles

2014 Quarter 2

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Week 1

Introduction to Kings and Chronicles – Purpose and Theme

In this quarter's study we will be going over the books of Kings and Chronicles. I know that there is a First and Second book of each, but in the original form they were written as one book each. It was not until they were transcribed into the Septuagint, that they were each made into two books.

The exact man who penned each of the books is unknown; of course, we all know that the author was God.

Just as in the New Testament, where primarily the Gospels cover the life of Christ as seen from the view unique to each writer, you get the complete picture. And so it is with Kings and Chronicles. 1st Chronicles is a parallel to 2nd Samuel – both cover the reign of King David. 2nd Chronicles is a parallel to 1st and 2nd Kings and covers the reign of Solomon.

Kings was written to people now in exile in Babylon and continues to tell the history beginning in Samuel of the rulers for Israel and Judah starting with Saul and ending with Zedekiah. Kings picks up the history at the end of the reign of David. It covers a time span of about 400 years starting at the end of David's life, the United Kingdom under the reign of Solomon (971-931 B.C.), the Divided Kingdom (931-722 B.C.), and finally the Surviving Kingdom (722-586 B.C.). The purpose was much more than to simply retell history that they already knew; it was meant to "interpret" history, so that the Jewish people would understand God's judgment concerning their exile. It answered the question of "Why are we here?" God had foretold them that if they failed to follow His commandments He would no longer bless them (1 Kings 9:3-9). The prophets warned them (2 Kings 17:13-23; 21:10-15) that if they did not return to God they would be punished.

While Chronicles covers much of the same historical events, it takes place at an entirely different time. The Jewish people have completed their 70 years of captivity and were returning to the Promised Land. Chronicles is intended to remind the people of God's promises so that they would understand His intentions concerning: 1) the Land; 2) the nation; 3) the Davidic king; 4) the Levitical priests; 5) the temple; and 6) true worship. It has a purpose for them just as it does for us today-to encourage us during difficult time by reminding the Jews and us of our spiritual heritage; ultimately to inspire them to be faithful to God. To accomplish this goal the writer only focuses upon the southern kingdom (Judah) and omits some of the negative aspects of David's kingship. We are going to focus on the lessons that we can learn from the Kings of Judah.

As we study there will be times when the text to read will be from both Kings and Chronicles; or just Kings; or just Chronicles. For example, 2nd Chronicles covers the same historical period as 1st and 2nd Kings.

Week 1

Below is a map which roughly shows the divided kingdom after the reign of Solomon. Israel was comprised of the 10 tribes (Reuben, Simeon, Dan, Naphtali, Gad, Asher, Issachar, Zebulun, Ephraim, and Manasseh); while Judah was composed of the tribes Judah and Benjamin.



Week 1

To better understand how Kings and Chronicles overlap please see the table below.

King	Kingdom	Kings	Chronicles	Samuel
Saul	United		1 Chronicles 10:1-14	1 Samuel 9:1-31:13
David	United	1 Kings 1:1-2:9	1 Chronicles 11:1-29:30	2 Samuel
Solomon	United	1 Kings 2:10-11:43	2 Chronicles 1:1-9:31	
Rehoboam	Southern	1 Kings 12:1-14:31	2 Chronicles 10:1-12:16	
Jeroboam I	Northern	1 Kings 12:25-14:20		
Abijam (Abijah)	Southern	1 Kings 15:1-8	2 Chronicles 13:1-22	
Asa	Southern	1 Kings 15:9-24	2 Chronicles 14:1-16	
Nadab	Northern	1 Kings 15:25-31		
Baasha	Northern	1 Kings 15:32-16:7		
Elah	Northern	1 Kings 16:8-14		
Zimri	Northern	1 Kings 16:15-20		
Tibni	Northern	1 Kings 16:21,22		
Omri	Northern	1 Kings 16:21-28		
Ahab	Northern	1 Kings 16:29-22:40		
Jehoshaphat	Southern	1 Kings 22:41-50	2 Chronicles 17:1-20:37	
Ahaziah	Northern	1 Kings 22:51-53; 2 Kings 1:1-18		
Jehoram (Joram)	Northern	2 Kings 2:1-8:15		
Joram (Jehoram)	Southern	2 Kings 8:16-24	2 Chronicles 21:1-20	
Ahaziah	Southern	2 Kings 8:25-29	2 Chronicles 22:1-9	
Jehu	Northern	2 Kings 9:1-10:36		
Athaliah (Queen)	Southern	2 Kings 11:1-16	2 Chronicles 22:1-23:21	
Joash (Jehoash)	Southern	2 Kings 11:17-12:21	2 Chronicles 23:16-24:27	
Jehoahaz	Northern	2 Kings 13:1-9		
Jehoahaz (Joash)	Northern	2 Kings 13:10-25		
Amaziah	Southern	2 Kings 14:1-22	2 Chronicles 25:1-28	
Jeroboam II	Northern	2 Kings 14:23-29		
Uzziah (Azariah)	Southern	2 Kings 15:1-7	2 Chronicles 26:1-23	
Zechariah	Northern	2 Kings 15:8-12		
Shallum	Northern	2 Kings 15:13-15		
Menahem	Northern	2 Kings 15:16-22		
Pekahiah	Northern	2 Kings 15:23-26		
Pekah	Northern	2 Kings 15:27-31		
Jotham	Southern	2 Kings 15:32-38	2 Chronicles 27:1-9	
Ahaz	Southern	2 Kings 16:1-20	2 Chronicles 28:1-27	
Hoshea	Northern	2 Kings 17:1-41		
Hezekiah	Southern	2 Kings 18:1-20:21	2 Chronicles 29:1-32:33	
Manasseh	Southern	2 Kings 21:1-18	2 Chronicles 33:1-20	
Amon	Southern	2 Kings 21:19-26	2 Chronicles 33:21-25	
Josiah	Southern	2 Kings 22:1-23:30	2 Chronicles 33:1-35:27	

Week 1

Jehoahaz	Southern	2 Kings 23:32-33	2 Chronicles 36:1-4	
Jehoiakim	Southern	2 Kings 23:34-24:7	2 Chronicles 36:5-8	
Jehoiachin	Southern	2 Kings 24:8-16	2 Chronicles 36:9,10	
Zedekiah	Southern	2 Kings 24:18-25:21	2 Chronicles 36:11-21	

We will not spend extensive amount of time going over the specific genealogy in 1st Chronicles 1:1-9:34 or the Divisions of the Priests in 1st Chronicles 24:1-27:34 in class. But I do encourage you to at least read it once or twice to fully understand the lengths that God went through to ensure that even today we can understand that He has always had a plan and is willing to put it out in full view for all who desire to see it.

The sources from which I gathered information from in preparation for this study was:

- God's lessons from history; by Philip Smith - www.easyenglish.info
- Matthew Henry's Concise Commentary – www.christnotes.org
- Harmonized Chronology of the Hebrew Kings; by Dan Bruce
- The MacArthur Study Bible; by John MacArthur

I ask that you join me in studying the text for each week, preparing, and coming ready to share and discuss your thoughts on the lessons. I make no assertions that I have an adequate level of wisdom to present all that God has placed in these books. However, through our combined wisdom we will gain much, much more than relying upon me to 'teach' you. We each will see these topics from our view and in doing so may provide a view that allows the others in the class to see God's Word as we never had before.

Week 2

David

(Read 1 Chronicles Ch. 11 - 17)

Questions:

- 1. What lessons can we learn from Ch. 11:10 through 12 concerning the mighty men of David?**
- 2. What 3 promises did God give to David in Ch. 17? What is the benefit to us today?**
- 3. What lessons can we learn from David's plan to bring the Ark back to Jerusalem?**
- 4. The writer of Chronicles identifies that David had two major religious events. What lessons can we learn from that?**

Week 2

5. **Why did Michal (Ch. 15:29) despise David? What lesson can we learn from this?**

6. **What are the actions that we can learn from David’s psalm in Ch. 16:8-13?**

7. **What is so important concerning the institution of regular worship as mentioned in Ch. 16:37-42? What does it represent to us today?**

8. **What lessons can we learn from David’s request of God in Ch. 17:16-27?**

Week 3

David

(Read 1 Chronicles Ch. 18 - 21)

- 1. How was David and the Jewish nation blessed in Ch. 18, 19, 20? And why?**

- 2. What were the consequences of David's actions in Ch. 18, 19, and 20? What lessons can we learn from this?**

- 3. In Ch. 21 what provides the true piece promised to Israel?**

- 4. What caused David to number the people in Ch. 21? When he repented of his sin he still suffered consequences. Was that fair?**

Week 4

David

(Read 1 Chronicles Ch. 22 - 29)

- 1. The third promise that God had made to David was that His house (the Temple) would be built by his son. What can we learn from David's actions to accomplish this?**

- 2. How did David's actions to prepare for the building of the temple encourage the Jewish people returning from exile? What can we learn this?**

- 3. What was the qualification of God's promise made to David in Ch. 22:8? Why is this so important?**

- 4. What are the lessons that we can learn from the amount of details concerning the plans David presented to Solomon for the temple? Why is this so important?**

Week 4

5. What are the lessons we can learn from offerings made to build the temple?

Week 5

Solomon

(Read 1 Kings Ch. 2:9 – 5; 2 Chronicles Ch. 1-2)

- 1. What can we learn from Solomon when God asked him what could He give him? (1 Kings 3:5, 2 Chronicles 1:7)**

- 2. What is to be learned from the example of Solomon's wise judgment in 1 Kings 3:18-27?**

- 3. What was the result of Solomon's wisdom to the surrounding nations? See 1 Kings 4:29-34.**

- 4. What is the lesson we can learn from the agreement between Hiram and Solomon? (1Kings Ch. 5; 2 Chronicles Ch. 2)**

Week 6

Solomon

(Read 1 Kings 6 and 7; 2 Chronicles 3 and 4)

- 1. What is the significance of the gold used in the temple Holy of Holies (~23 tons)?**
- 2. Why was it so important to point out to those in exile the greatness of the temple that Solomon constructed?**
- 3. What was the significance of the veil in the temple? How has that changed for us today?**
- 4. What is the Sea mentioned in 1 Kings 7:23 and 2 Chronicles 4:2?**
- 5. Where was the stone for the temple finished? What significance can this have for us?**
- 6. What were the names of the two pillars outside the temple? What did the names mean?**

Week 6

- 7. What was the significance of the Most Holy Place? Is there a parallel example for us today?**

Week 7

Solomon

(Read 1 Kings 8-9:14; 2 Chronicles 5-7)

1. How did God demonstrate His acceptance of the temple? How does He show His acceptance of us today?

2. In Solomon’s prayer of dedication he described 7 situations when he asked the Lord to intervene. What examples do we have for prayer today for things to request intervention?

3. What does Solomon ask for in 2 Chronicles 6: 32-34? How are we supposed to treat those that are not in the church today?

4. How has the need for sacrifices changed since 1 Kings 8:62-64?

5. How does the promise that God made to Solomon in 1 Kings 9:1-8 apply to us today?

Week 8

Solomon / Rehoboam

(Read 1 Kings 10-14; 2 Chronicles 8-12)

- 1. Why do you think that 2 Chronicles fails to mention any of the failures of Solomon? What lesson is there in this for us?**
- 2. What had Solomon accomplished for God as a result of Queen of Sheba and all the earth seeking his presence? (See Ex. 19:5-6) What is the expectation of us today as Christians?**
- 3. What is the meant in 2 Chronicles 8:24 by Solomon not letting the daughter of Pharaoh stay in the house of David?**
- 4. In what way did Solomon gain much of his wealth? What lesson is there in that for us today?**

Week 8

5. What can we learn from 1 Kings 11 concerning what happened to Solomon?

6. What can we learn from how Rehoboam took advice?

7. What are the lessons that we can learn from Jeroboam's attempt to provide a means to worship?

Week 9

Abijah / Asa / Jehoshaphat

(Read 1 Kings 15:1-24 22:41-50; 2 Chronicles 13 - 20)

- 1. What is the significance of the covenant of salt mentioned in 2 Chronicles 13:5? What does it refer to? Why do you think that salt was so important?**

- 2. What is the difference about how 1 Kings discusses Abijah and 2 Chronicles? Why do you think that there was a difference?**

- 3. What can we learn from Asa's reign?**

- 4. What do we learn from 2 Chronicles 15:9? How is it applicable to us today?**

- 5. What was Asa's sin that he committed in the 2 Chronicles 16? How is this applicable for us in our lives?**

Week 9

6. What were the 3 strategic spiritual moves that Jehoshaphat made? What was accomplished by performing these actions? In what ways is this applicable to our lives?

7. What can we learn from 2 Chronicles Chapter 18?

8. What can we learn from 2 Chronicles Chapter 19?

9. What can we learn from Jehoshaphat in 2 Chronicles Chapter 20?

Week 10

Jehoram / Ahaziah / Athaliah/ Joash / Amaziah

(Read 2 Kings 8, 11 – 12:21, 14:1-22; 2 Chronicles 21 - 25)

- 1. Why do you feel Jehoram did the evil things of his reign? What were they? Is there a lesson in this for us?**
- 2. What can we learn from the reign of Ahaziah and then Athaliah in Chapter 22?**
- 3. Why was it such an important event that Joash was made king?**
- 4. What can we learn from Joash's efforts to rebuild the temple?**
- 5. How could someone such as Joash who made great efforts to rebuild the temple, turn so far from God as he did? (2 Chronicles 24:15 and following) What lesson is there for us?**

Week 10

6. How is Amiziah's attitude towards God an example for us today?

Week 11

Uzziah / Jotham / Ahaz / Hezekiah

(Read 2 Kings 15:1-7, 15:32-38, 16, 18-20; 2 Chronicles 26-29, 31)

- 1. Uzziah accomplished great things for Judah and directing them towards God. What was his downfall? What is the lesson for us?**
- 2. What can we learn from Jotham concerning doing what is right even if we encounter difficulties?**
- 3. What is the result of Ahaz's failure to follow God? Is it possible to succeed by following the success of others?**
- 4. What does it mean for us today when Hezekiah described the lighting of lamps and burning of incense? (2 Chronicles 29)**
- 5. How can we learn from Hezekiah in how he restored the temple worship? (2 Chronicles 29)**

Week 11

- 6. Who did Hezekiah welcome to the Passover? What lesson is there for us in this? (2 Chronicles 30)**

- 7. What lesson do we learn from 2 Chronicles 30:13-20? (2 Chronicles 30)**

- 8. What was the result of properly worshiping God during the Passover? How did this effect the people? What is the impact on properly worshiping God for us today? (2 Chronicles 31)**

Week 12

**Manasseh / Amon / Josiah / Jehoahaz / Jehoiakim / Jehoiachin /
Zedekiah****(Read 2 Kings 21 – 25:21; 2 Chronicles 33 – 36)**

- 1. Manasseh had the ability to carry on all the great things that his father Hezekiah had done, but failed. What would cause us to fail to continue the work of the Lord? What lesson can we learn in how God forgave Manasseh?**

- 2. What impact do you think Manasseh's attitude towards God had on his son Amon?**

- 3. What can we learn from Josiah concerning the age at which we can start to be impactful for God? What effect does developing a life for God early give us the ability to do?**

- 4. What impact did finding the Book of the Law have on Josiah? How would we feel if we did not have God's Word and "found" it? Do we feel this way about the Word of God today?**

Week 12

5. Should Josiah have listened to Necho because he said that he spoke the word he was commanded of God?

6. What effect did the three kings of Judah have on their nation in following God?

A People of the Book

8-Year Curriculum

	January - March	April - June	July - September	October - December
2007	<i>Matthew</i>	<i>Genesis</i>	<i>Galatians & Ephesians</i>	<i>Isaiah</i>
2008	<i>Exodus</i>	<i>I & II Timothy, Titus</i>	<i>Hebrews</i>	<i>Minor Prophets I (Hosea-Obadiah)</i>
2009	<i>Mark</i>	<i>Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy</i>	<i>Romans</i>	<i>Jeremiah & Lamentations</i>
2010	<i>I & II Thessalonians</i>	<i>Joshua, Judges, Ruth</i>	<i>James, I & II Peter</i>	<i>Minor Prophets II (Jonah-Habakkuk)</i>
2011	<i>Luke</i>	<i>I & II Samuel</i>	<i>I Corinthians</i>	<i>Daniel</i>
2012	<i>Acts</i>	<i>Special Study: The Foundations (Psalm 11:3)</i>	<i>Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther</i>	<i>Minor Prophets III (Zephaniah-Malachi)</i>
2013	<i>Gospel of John, I, II, & III John</i>	<i>Job</i>	<i>Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon</i>	<i>Psalms</i>
2014	<i>Philippians, Colossians, Philemon & Jude</i>	<i>Kings & Chronicles</i>	<i>Revelation</i>	<i>Ezekiel</i>
2015	<i>II Corinthians</i>			

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