

## 1 – HISTORICAL BOOKS: KINGS & SECOND CHRONICLES

### I. The Nature of the Historical Books

- The historical books are known as "narratives."
- Biblical narratives tell us about what happened - but not just any things.
- They are not just stories about people who lived in Old Testament times.
- They are stories about what God did to and through his people.
- They are not allegories or stories filled with hidden meanings.
- They do not always teach directly.
- Each narrative within a narrative does not necessarily have a moral all its own.

### II. Reading Old Testament Historical Books

- A narrative does not directly teach a doctrine.
- They usually illustrate a doctrine or doctrines taught propositionally elsewhere.
- They record what happened - not necessarily what should have or ought to have happened.
- What people do is not necessarily a good example to the reader.
- Most of the characters are far from perfect and their actions are too.
- We are not always told the end of a narrative, whether what happened was good or bad.
- All narratives are selective and incomplete.
- They are not written to answer all of our theological questions.
- They teach either explicitly (clearly stating) or implicitly (clearly implying).
- Implicit does not mean secret.
- God is the hero of all Old Testament narratives.

### III. The Books of 1 & 2 Kings

#### A. The Title

- 1 & 2 Kings were originally one book in Hebrew.

# Israel's Kings & Prophets: A Survey of 1 & 2 Kings, 2 Chronicles

- It was called Kings because it covers the history of the kings of Judah and Israel.
- Jerome called the two books “The Book of the Kings.”

## B. Authorship & Date

- The identity of the author is unknown.
- He may have been an exile who lived in Babylon.
- The author utilized various source materials in writing 1 and 2 Kings.
- The book bears the marks of single rather than multiple authorship.

## C. General Observations

- This is not a western history but an ancient near eastern theological history.
- The Books of Kings were written to teach the lessons of history.
- All the kings of the north are condemned because of the golden calves that represent YHWH.
- Kings shows the progressive deviation of the people of God from the Mosaic Covenant.

## D. Outline of the Books

### 1. 1 Kings

### The Structure of the Book of 1 Kings

	Solomon					The Kingdom Divided			The Northern and Southern Kingdoms						
	The Selection of Solomon	Solomon's Early Reign	Solomon's Temple & Palace	The Covenant with Solomon	Solomon's Apostasy & Death	The Rebellion of the Northern Tribes	Jeroboam	Rehoboam	Abijah & Asa	Nadab, Baasha, Elah, Zimri & Omri	Ahab	Jehoshaphat & Ahaziah			
Chapter	1	2	4	5	8	9	10	11	12:1-24	12:25-14:20	14:21-31	15	16:1-28	16:29-22:40	22:41-53

- The Book of 1 Kings can be divided into three main sections.
  - a. Solomon (1 Kings 1:1-11:43)

# Israel's Kings & Prophets: A Survey of 1 & 2 Kings, 2 Chronicles

- b. The Kingdom Divided (1 Kings 12:1-14:31)
- c. The Northern and Southern Kingdoms (1 Kings 15:1-22:33)

## 2. 2 Kings

### The Structure of the Book of 2 Kings

	The Northern and Southern Kingdoms			The Kingdom of Judah				
	Ahaziah	Good and Evil Kings In Samaria and Judah	The Defeat & Captivity Of The Northern Kingdom	Hezekiah	Manasseh & Amon	Josiah	Jehoa-haz, Jehoiakim, Jehoiachin & Zedekiah	Babylonian Occupation
<b>Chapter</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2 17:6</b>	<b>17:7-41</b>	<b>18 20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22:1-23:30</b>	<b>23:31-25:7</b>	<b>25:7-30</b>

- The Book of 2 Kings can be divided into two main sections.
  - a. The Northern and Southern Kingdoms (2 Kings 1:1-17:41)
  - b. The Kingdom of Judah (2 Kings 18:1-25:30)

## IV. The Book of 2 Chronicles

### A. The Title

- The name of the book in Hebrew is "the words (events) of the days (years)."
- The Septuagint entitled it "the things omitted."
- Jerome entitled it "Chronicle of the whole sacred history."
- They were originally one book in Hebrew which was divided by the Septuagint.

### B. Authorship & Date

- Concerning the author, the Bible itself is silent.

# Israel's Kings & Prophets: A Survey of 1 & 2 Kings, 2 Chronicles

- Jewish tradition has suggested that it was Ezra.
- It has become customary to refer to the author as “the chronicler.”
- They could not have been written later than the end of the fifth century B.C.
- There are two texts in the books that imply a period after the return of the Exile for the writing.

## C. General Observations

- It primarily focuses on God's promises to the House of David.
- There is also an emphasis on all of God's people being united.

## D. Outline of the Book

### The Structure of the Book of 2 Chronicles

	Solomon			The Davidic Dynasty														
	Solomon's Wisdom & Prosperity	Solomon's Temple	Solomon's Successes	Rehoboam	Abijah	Asa	Jehoshaphat	Jehoram	Ahaziah & Athaliah	Joash	Amaziah	Uzziah	Jotham	Ahaz	Hezekiah	Manasseh & Amon	Josiah	Jehoahaz, Jehoiakim, Jehoiachin, Zedekiah, Babylonian Captivity & Cyrus' Decree
Chapter	1	2-7	8-9	10-12	13	14-16	17-20	21	22-23	24	25	26	27	28	29-32	33	34-35	36

- The Book of 2 Chronicles can be divided into two main sections.
  - Solomon (2 Chronicles 1:1-9:31)
  - The Davidic Dynasty (2 Chronicles 10:1-36:23)