

# 1 CHRONICLES

DATE	BOOK	KEY THOUGHT	CONTENT	KEY LESSONS	JESUS IN THE BOOKS OF THE BIBLE
	Old Testament				
	<b>Israel's History</b>				
450 - 430 BC	<b>I Chronicles</b> 29 Chapters	United kingdom divided – priestly view.	Israel's history is repeated from the priestly perspective. Emphasis is given to Judah and the nation's deportation to Babylon.	Godliness is a choice of each person (it does not carry from generation to generation)	Jesus is the Son of David that is coming to rule

# 1 CHRONICLES

The books of 1–2 Samuel and 1–2 Kings reveal the monarchies of Israel and Judah and their sins that resulted in their exile.

The books of Chronicles, written after the time of the exile, focus on those elements of history that God wanted the returning Jews to meditate upon: **obedience that results in God's blessing**, the **priority of the temple and priesthood**, the **unconditional promises to the house of David** and **the proper way to worship God**.

David's prayer in 1 Chron. 29: 10-19 summarizes the themes the writer wished to communicate: **glory to God**, **gratitude for gifting David's family with leadership of the nation** and **the desire that David's descendants continue to devote themselves to God**.

Remaining faithful to God would reap blessings.

# 1 CHRONICLES

In chapters 1 – 9 the writer shares with the reader various genealogies.

In chapter 10 we read about the tragic end of Saul's reign.

In chapters 11 – 21 the writer shares with the reader the reign of David in Israel.

In Chapters 22 – 29 we read about preparations for constructing the temple.

# 1 CHRONICLES

1 Chronicles gives the history from Adam to King David.

1 Chronicles wants to show Jews who have come back to Israel that it was God's forgiveness that brought them home.

1 Chronicles encourages the remnant.

God tells David not to build a temple for Him because he shed blood as a warrior.

# 1 CHRONICLES

This book reviews the Hebrew history.

The sons of Israel were the 12 tribes of Israel:

Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Issachar, Zebulun, Dan, Joseph, Naphtali, Gad, Asher, Judah and Benjamin

The last two eventually became the "Southern Kingdom," and the others the "Northern Kingdom."

# 1 CHRONICLES

## 1 CHRON. 4: 10

**10** Now Jabez called on the God of Israel, saying, “Oh that You would bless me indeed and enlarge my border, and that Your hand might be with me, and that You would keep *me* from harm that *it* may not pain me!” And God granted him what he requested.

# 1 CHRONICLES

The writer of chronicles is acting as the first commentary on the Old Testament.

He's offering us a prophetic interpretation of Israel's history that is meant to guide the reader's attention forward to the hope of a coming king who will restore order and pursue the Lord, as David did for Israel.

1 – 2 Chronicles are a “prophetic work.” The books represent God's point of view on Israel's past, and announce that exile and disappointment is not the end of the story.

The writer of 1 – 2 Chronicles is offering the same prophetic hope we find in the books of Isaiah, Jeremiah, and in the rest of the prophets.

# 1 CHRONICLES

The books of Samuel and Kings focus on the history of Israel and its kings, with the emphasis on the responsibility of man.

In the books of Chronicles, the emphasis will be more on the history of Judah and the kings with the accent on the grace of God.

After man has totally failed in his responsibility in the books of Kings, we see in the books of Chronicles the God of grace.



# 1 CHRONICLES

## 1 Chron. 16: 34

**34** O give thanks to the Lord, for *He is good*; For His lovingkindness is everlasting.

## 1 Chron. 22: 7-8

**7** David said to Solomon, “My son, I had intended to build a house to the name of the Lord my God.

**8** “But the word of the Lord came to me, saying, ‘You have shed much blood and have waged great wars; you shall not build a house to My name, because you have shed so much blood on the earth before Me.

# 1 CHRONICLES

One of the reasons for King Saul's problems was his consulting a medium (1 Chronicles 10: 13; 1 Samuel 28). Jerusalem was called Jebus (from where the Jebusites, the original inhabitants, lived), and then "Fortress of Zion," and later "City of David," before finally Jerusalem (1 Chronicles 11: 4-6).

The Lord told King David (1 Chronicles 17: 11-12) that his line would always be the royal line but that his son would build the temple.

David's census, showing 1,570,000 men of military age, was not authorized by God (1 Chronicles 21).

David was given credit for getting the materials ready for the temple, although not for its construction.

# 1 CHRONICLES

**1 Chronicles focuses our attention on God's sovereign purposes in Christ Jesus.**

1 Chronicles helps Christians see how the Old Testament consistently uses types and shadows to point out the realities that are ultimately found in Christ Jesus.

# 1 CHRONICLES

**1 Chronicles equips the church to persevere as pilgrims.**

1 Chronicles reminds Christians to focus on God's promises and learn from the past about how to endure amid a sinful world.

1 Chronicles exhorts Christians to pray faithfully and live by His Word.

# 1 CHRONICLES

**1 Chronicles reminds God's people to keep praying.**

1 Chronicles repeatedly emphasizes the value of prayer.

**Pro. 15: 29**

**29** The Lord is far from the wicked, But He hears the prayer of the righteous.

**James 5: 16**

**16** Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another so that you may be healed. The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much.

# 1 CHRONICLES

**1 Chronicles emphasizes the importance of godly leadership and faithful worship.**

## **1 Chron. 11: 1-3**

1 Then all Israel gathered to David at Hebron and said, "Behold, we are your bone and your flesh.

2 "In times past, even when Saul was king, you *were* the one who led out and brought in Israel; and the Lord your God said to you, 'You shall shepherd My people Israel, and you shall be prince over My people Israel.' "

3 So all the elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron, and David made a covenant with them in Hebron before the Lord; and they anointed David king over Israel, according to the word of the Lord through Samuel.

## **John 4: 24**

24 "God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."

## **Rom. 12: 1-2**

1 Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, *which is* your spiritual service of worship.

2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.

**All Christians' greatest need, privilege and duty is to worship God.**

# 1 CHRONICLES

## David's attitude towards God

### 1 Chron. 29: 11

11 “Yours, O Lord, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty, indeed everything that is in the heavens and the earth; Yours is the dominion, O Lord, and You exalt Yourself as head over all.

# 1 CHRONICLES

## A Christian's attitude towards God

### 1. Christians should seek things from above

#### **Col. 3: 1-4**

**1** Therefore if you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.

**2** Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth.

**3** For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

**4** When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory.



# 1 CHRONICLES

## A Christian's attitude towards God

### 2. Christians should be joyous

**1 Thess. 5: 16**

**16** Rejoice always;

Christians rejoice as a response to whatever they face *because* of what Christ has done for them. Christians know that they have peace with God. They are living in His grace, being embraced by His presence, and have a hope that is indescribable.

# 1 CHRONICLES

## A Christian's attitude towards God

### 3. Approach God with humbleness

#### Phil. 2: 3-8

**3** Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves;

**4** do not *merely* look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others.

**5** Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus,

**6** who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped,

**7** but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, *and* being made in the likeness of men.

**8** Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

Jesus humbled Himself more than any of us could ever imagine. He left the glory of Heaven and came down to us to die for us. His humility is our example. Christians are to approach every situation with an attitude of humility. Christians realize that it's not about them, but it's about God's kingdom.

# 1 CHRONICLES

## A Christian's attitude towards God

### 4. Display a life of love

#### 1 John 4: 8-9

8 The one who does not love does not know God, for God is love.

9 By this the love of God was manifested in us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world so that we might live through Him.

# 1 CHRONICLES

## A Christian's attitude towards God

### 5. Should expect to grow

#### 2 Peter 3: 17-18

**17** You therefore, beloved, knowing this beforehand, be on your guard so that you are not carried away by the error of unprincipled men and fall from your own steadfastness,

**18** but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him *be* the glory, both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.

God is actively working in you to change you, renew you, and shape you - for His glory.

Christians can expect to grow. They can expect to put on something new and put off the old.

# 2 CHRONICLES

DATE	BOOK	KEY THOUGHT	CONTENT	KEY LESSONS	JESUS IN THE BOOKS OF THE BIBLE
	Old Testament				
	<b>Israel's History</b>				
450 - 430 BC	<b>2 Chronicles</b> 26 Chapters	United kingdom divided – priestly view	Israel's history is repeated from the priestly perspective. Emphasis is given to Judah and the nation's deportation to Babylon.	Godliness is a choice of each person (it does not carry from generation to generation)	Jesus is the King who reigns eternally

# 2 CHRONICLES

The first section discusses the reign of King Solomon (2 Chronicles 1—9).

Solomon is crowned king (2 Chronicles 1).

Chapters 2—7 provide the Bible's most detailed accounts of the building of the Jewish temple.

2 Chronicles 8—9 we read of Solomon's wealth and accomplishments concluding with his death.

# 2 CHRONICLES

2 Chronicles 10—36 we read of the list of the kings of Judah between Rehoboam, son of Solomon, and the exile to Babylon under Zedekiah. Twenty separate kings of Judah are mentioned.

2 Chronicles 10—12 we read of the reign of Rehoboam.

2 Chronicles 17: 1—21: 3 we read of the reign of Jehoshaphat.

2 Chronicles 36: 1—4 we read of the reign of Jehoahaz.

2 Chronicles 36: 9—10 we read of the reign of Jehoiachin.

2 Chronicles 36: 17-21 we read of the exile into Babylon.

2 Chronicles 36: 22—23 we read of the proclamation of King Cyrus for the Jewish people to return to Jerusalem and rebuild the temple. These final words offer significant hope, confirming Old Testament prophecies regarding a return to the land after seventy years of exile.

## 2 CHRONICLES

In 2 Chronicles, Solomon prays to God for wisdom instead of long life, power or money, so he is given all.

The Queen of Sheba visits Solomon.

King Cyrus of Persia, rebuilds the temple after releasing Israel from the Great Exile to Babylon.



# 2 CHRONICLES

## 2 Chron. 1: 11-12

**11** God said to Solomon, “Because you had this in mind, and did not ask for riches, wealth or honor, or the life of those who hate you, nor have you even asked for long life, but you have asked for yourself wisdom and knowledge that you may rule My people over whom I have made you king,

**12** wisdom and knowledge have been granted to you. And I will give you riches and wealth and honor, such as none of the kings who were before you has possessed nor those who will come after you.”

# 2 CHRONICLES

## 2 Chron. 7: 14

**14** and My people who are called by My name humble themselves and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, will forgive their sin and will heal their land.

## 2 Chron. 13:10

**10** “But as for us, the Lord is our God, and we have not forsaken Him; and the sons of Aaron are ministering to the Lord as priests, and the Levites attend to their work.

# 2 CHRONICLES

This book continues with the history of the Hebrews with Solomon and his being given great wisdom from God.

The temple construction on the top of Mount Moriah in Jerusalem was described, with the size being 90 ft. long, 30 ft. wide, and 180 ft. high, with much gold throughout. The "Holy of Holies" was 30 ft. square, overlaid with gold. The Ark was transferred to this place.

The Queen of Sheba's visit and great impression with Solomon was described (2 Chronicles 9).

# 2 CHRONICLES

The story of King Jehoshaphat of Judah (Southern Kingdom) and his alliance with King Ahab of Israel (Northern Kingdom) and their consulting Micaiah the prophet is described in detail (2 Chronicles 18; see also 1 Kings 22). King Jehoram of Judah, a "wicked" king, died of what- appeared-to-be bowel cancer (2 Chronicles 21:18-19).

King Uzziah of Judah got leprosy by entering the forbidden sanctuary.

King Hezekiah of Judah restored the Temple of the Lord God and had burnt offerings and sin offerings for the nation: young bulls, rams, lambs, and goats were sacrificed for the sin offering (2 Chronicles 29: 20-24). Much celebration occurred with this re-dedication of the Temple at Jerusalem.

## 2 CHRONICLES

The finding of the scroll of the laws of God by Hilkiah and King Josiah's destroying the idols and altars to "gods" such as Baal was described (2 Chronicles 34). The end of the independence of the Southern Kingdom of Judah occurred when King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon took over and destroyed Jerusalem -- around 586 B.C.

# 2 CHRONICLES

2 Chronicles describes how God gives splendor to his kings in order for the nations to recognize His greatness.

This is evident in the conversations between King Solomon and two foreign rulers: Hiram king of Tyre (chapters 3-4), and the Queen of Sheba (chapter 9).

# 2 CHRONICLES

2 Chronicles repeatedly describes how the kings of Israel stopped reflecting the ways of their God by following the pagan ways of the nations ([2 Chron. 25:14–16; 33:2–9; 36:11–14](#)).

These sins lead to a major shift in how the nations relate to Israel.

Rather than being co-worshipers of God with Israel, they are now commissioned as his agents to punish Israel's disobedience.

# 2 CHRONICLES

2 Chronicles describes the hope and restoration of Israel.

Jeremiah the prophet predicts that after a foreign nation (Babylon) takes Israel into exile (2 Chron. 36: 21), another foreign nation (Persia) will be moved by God's mighty hand to reverse this exile (2 Chron. 36: 22).

The book then concludes with an imperial Persian decree for the Jews to go home and worship the only true God



# 2 CHRONICLES

2 Chronicles shows God is sovereign in the relationship between his people and the nations.

The rulers of this world may be ignorant of or even opposed to him. Cyrus was only dimly aware of his place in God's plans (Isa. 45: 4–5).

The leaders who executed Jesus did not grasp the significance of their actions (Luke 23: 34; 1 Cor. 2: 8).

God uses the nations in mysterious ways to deal with the disobedience of his people is still at work today—God has creatively bound together the fate of his people and the nations for the sake of his redemptive purposes in Christ (Rom. 15: 8–12).

# 2 CHRONICLES

As with all references to kings in the Old Testament, we see in them a reflection of the true King of Kings—Jesus Christ.

Jesus will reign on earth and in heaven as the rightful heir of David. He is a perfect King who will reign in righteousness and holiness.

# 2 CHRONICLES

Earthly temples will not last forever. Christians have the message of truth and the promise of the Holy Spirit as a pledge of our inheritance.

## **Eph. 1: 13-14**

**13** In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation—having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise,

**14** who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of *God's own* possession, to the praise of His glory.

# 2 CHRONICLES

As it did for the Israelites, history can jog our memories. Such memories are blessings in themselves, as well as encouragements to press on in holiness, with hope and confidence.

If you are hard-pressed to recall specific times when God worked in your life, consider your devotional habits.

A prayer journal that recalls prayers asked and those answered can act as your own “history” manual.

God wants us to remember His works, so we, too, can praise Him for His goodness and have hope for our future!

# 2 CHRONICLES

Christians should evaluate each generation from the past (2 Chronicles) and discern why each was blessed for their obedience or punished for their wickedness.

Christians should compare the plight of these generations to our own, both corporately and individually.

Chronicles teaches us that God desires to forgive and heal those who will humbly pray and repent.

## **1 John 1: 9**

**9** If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

# 2 CHRONICLES

Solomon asked God for wisdom and knowledge to complete the task God had assigned to him.

God has given every Christian a commission to fulfill and the greatest blessing we can seek from God is the ability to carry out His will for our lives.

## 2 CHRONICLES

Christians need the “wisdom from above” to discern His will.

### **James 3: 17**

**17** But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, reasonable, full of mercy and good fruits, unwavering, without hypocrisy.

# 2 CHRONICLES

Christians need the understanding and intimate knowledge of Him in order to motivate them to Christlikeness in both deed and attitude.

## **James 3: 13**

**13** Who among you is wise and understanding? Let him show by his good behavior his deeds in the gentleness of wisdom.



# EZRA

DATE	BOOK	KEY THOUGHT	CONTENT	KEY LESSONS	JESUS IN THE BOOKS OF THE BIBLE
	Old Testament				
	<b>Israel's History</b>				
457 - 444 BC	<b>Ezra</b> 10 Chapters	Israel released from captivity returns to promised land.	Israel returns to Canaan after 70 years of exile, with emphasis on the spiritual and moral restoration of Jerusalem.	God is Faithful to His people.	Jesus is the Priest proclaiming freedom

# EZRA

In the book of Ezra, the rebuilding of the temple is the center of it all. It shows the unity among returning tribes as they returned from the Babylonian Exile.

Ezra arrived with another 2,000 people. His enthusiasm from the Lord sparked a spiritual revival.

By the end of Ezra, Israel had renewed its relationship with God and were obedient.

# EZRA

## **Ezra 1: 5**

**5** Then the heads of fathers' *households* of Judah and Benjamin and the priests and the Levites arose, even everyone whose spirit God had stirred to go up and rebuild the house of the Lord which is in Jerusalem.

## **Ezra 3: 11**

**11** They sang, praising and giving thanks to the Lord, *saying*, "For He is good, for His lovingkindness is upon Israel forever." And all the people shouted with a great shout when they praised the Lord because the foundation of the house of the Lord was laid.

# EZRA

After the takeover by Nebuchadnezzar, eventually King Cyrus of Persia came to power, and he decided to help the Jews to return to Jerusalem (around 520 B.C.) and to rebuild the Temple of Jehovah, the God of Israel and of Jerusalem. The temple was rebuilt with a height of 90 ft. and a width of 90 ft. Ezra, high priest, dedicated the temple but was not happy with the priests marrying heathen wives, or intermarriage - mixed marriages of Jews and non-Jews.