

# ***1 Chronicles***

***“The Matters of the Days” or***

***“The Events of the Times”***

By Timothy Sparks

[TimothySparks.com](http://TimothySparks.com)

# ***Title of the Book***

- 1 & 2 Chronicles were originally one book
- In Hebrew the book is called “the matters [of] the days” (events of the times) based on the phrases “book of the days/chronicles of the kings of Judah” and “book of the days of the kings of Israel”—both phrases appear repeatedly in the Books of Kings

# *Title of the Book*

- In the Greek Septuagint (LXX), Chronicles bears the title Παραλειπομένων (*Paraleipomenon*), i.e., "that which has been left out or left to one side"
- Jerome, in the introduction to his Latin translation of the books of Samuel and Kings (part of the Vulgate), referred to the book as a *chronikon* ("Chronicle")
- The book itself is titled *Paralipomenon* in the Vulgate (Latin translation)

# *Human Author*

- According to the Jewish Talmud, Ezra the priest was the human author
- Chronicles is similar to Ezra
  - Priestly viewpoint: genealogies, temple worship, service of the priesthood, obedience to God's law
- Chronicles and Ezra may have been one continuous history as were Luke-Acts

# ***Historical Background***

- Most of 1 Chronicles tells about David's spiritual leadership of Judah
- The account was written probably between 460-425 BC during the Persian period of dominance and during the Jews' struggle for identity and purpose after returning from Babylonian bondage

# ***Historical Background***

- Zerubbabel led the first return in 538 BC
- Ezra led the second return in 458 BC
- Nehemiah led the third return in 444 BC
- The Book of Chronicles was probably written during the period of the second and third returns to the land

# ***Historical Background***

- It answered their questions about identity and purpose by providing the spiritual continuity from God's early promises and provision for the nation to the present generations of Jews
- The Book of Chronicles was written to inspire and challenge the Jews now back in their homeland to live as God's people and to serve him through the law, the temple and the priesthood

# *Scope of Events*

- The Chronicles give a religious history of the Davidic dynasty of Judah
- 1 & 2 Chronicles cover about 3500 years from Adam to the Jews' return from Babylonian captivity
- 1 Chronicles begins with Adam and ends with David's death (1:1 and 29:28-30)

# *Key Words*

- **Ark** (~34 times)
  - Ark of God, ark of the Lord, ark of the covenant
  - 13:3-13; 15:25-29; 16:4-6, 37; 17:1; 22:19; 28:2, 18
- **Establish** (11 times with the Davidic Covenant and Kingdom)
  - 17:11-14, 23-24; 22:10; 28:7

# *Verses to Remember*

- 16:29
- 17:11-14
- 19:13
- 29:10-13, 18-19

# ***Chapter to Remember***

## **Chapter 17**

- God's covenant with David is pivotal to Chronicles and to all the Scriptures
  - Through Nathan the prophet, God promised to establish David's throne
  - Fulfilled in the reign of Christ
  - 2 Samuel 7
  - Acts 2:29-36

# ***Outline***

**Chs. 1-9: The spiritual and physical connections from Adam to David**

- Genealogies: Lists of landowners that were useful after Babylonian captivity in restoring tribal territories**

**Chs. 11-29: David's spiritual leadership and reign**

# ***Outline***

Ch. 1: Adam through Esau (Edom)

Ch. 2: Judah (Jacob [Israel] to David)

Ch. 3: David and Solomon

Ch. 4: Judah and Simeon

Ch. 5: Reuben, Gad, Manasseh

Ch. 6: Levi

Ch. 7: Issachar, Benjamin, Naphtali,  
Manasseh, Ephraim, Asher

# ***Outline***

Ch. 8: Benjamin

Ch. 9: Workers in Jerusalem; Saul

Ch. 10: Saul fell on his sword

Ch. 11: David at Hebron and Jerusalem;  
his mighty men

Ch. 12: Soldiers join David

Ch. 13: The Ark; Uzza

Ch. 14: David's victories and fame

# ***Outline***

- Ch. 15: Levites take Ark to Jerusalem
- Ch. 16: The Ark, celebration and thanks
- Ch. 17: Davidic Covenant
- Ch. 18: David defeats Philistia, Moab,  
Syria
- Ch. 19: Syria and Ammon revolt
- Ch. 20: War with Philistines and giants
- Ch. 21: David's sinful census

# ***Outline***

Ch. 22: David charges Solomon

Ch. 23: Levites assist in temple

Ch. 24: Levites in 24 groups serve

Ch. 25: Musicians serve in temple

Ch. 26: Gatekeepers, treasurers, judges

Ch. 27: Standing Army

Ch. 28: David says, “Build the temple”

Ch. 29: Consecration and offerings

# *Messages*

- The expectation of David, Solomon and the people was that they had a future in their promised land
- This future would be ruled by a king in David's line
- This expectation was based upon God's promise to Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and David
- God upholds his promise

# *Messages*

- As the reminder of God's presence and the pattern of true worship under the Old Covenant was necessary to the Jewish nation (the Law, ark and temple), so the pattern of true worship under the New Covenant for the assembly of believers is equally important today

# *Trivia*

Why was David forbidden to build the temple?

1 Chron. 22:8; 28:3

# ***Memory Verse Review for Ruth—2 Kings***

- Ruth 2:12
- 1 Sam. 16:7b—“The Lord...”
- 2 Sam. 22:47a—“The Lord lives...”
- 1 Kings 22:14—“As the Lord lives...”
- 2 Kings 7:9—“We are not. . .”

# ***Memory Verse for 1 Chronicles***

29:5b

“Who then is willing to consecrate himself this day to the Lord?”