

2 Chronicles

“The Matters of the Days” or

“The Events of the Times”

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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

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

Content

- 2 Chronicles tells about the instability and unfaithfulness of Judah
- The road to captivity is seen from the reign of Solomon to the destruction of Jerusalem by Nebuchadnezzar (36:14-21) and then the granting of their freedom by Cyrus (36:22-23)

Scope of Events

- 2 Chronicles covers about 430 years:
 - the reign of Solomon, building of the temple, the history of Judah after the kingdom was divided, finding the book of law during Josiah's reign, religious reforms, destruction of Jerusalem and Babylonian captivity

Key Words

- **House of the Lord** (~69 times)
 - 3:1; 5:1
- **Temple** (~43 times)
 - 2:1, 4-9
- **House of God** (22 times)
 - 3:3; 4:11, 19

Key Words

- **Seek** (15 times)

- 7:14; 11:16; 12:14; 14:4; 15:2,
12-13; 16:12; 17:3; 19:3; 20:3-4;
30:18-19; 31:20-21; 34:3

- **Sought** (the Lord—9 times)

- 1:5; 14:7; 15:4, 15; 17:4; 22:9;
26:5

Key Words

- **Evil** (13 times)
 - 12:14; 21:6
- **Wicked** (7 times)
 - 6:23, 37; 22:3; 24:7

Verses to Remember

- 1:5-13
- 7:19-22 (see 1 Kings 11:1-13)
- 13:12
- 14:11
- 16:9
- 17:9
- 36:15-16

Chapter to Remember

Chapter 34

- 2 Chronicles records the reforms under Asa, Jehoshaphat, Joash, Hezekiah and Josiah
- Chapter 34: Spiritual revival under Josiah (Manasseh's grandson)
 - Killed in battle (~39 years old; 34:1)
 - 1 Kings 13:2; 2 Kings 23:24-25

Outline

Chs. 1-9: Solomon's reign, temple,
fame and wealth

Chs. 10-36: The twenty kings of Judah,
spiritual failure, the
resultant destruction of the
temple & Jerusalem and
national exile

Outline

Ch. 1: Wisdom and knowledge

Ch. 2: Plans and materials for temple

Ch. 3: Builds the temple

Ch. 4: Temple utensils and furniture

Ch. 5: Ark into the temple

Ch. 6: Blessing and prayer

Ch. 7: Dedicating the house of God

Outline

Ch. 8: Built cities; organized work

Ch. 9: Queen of Sheba; Solomon's death

Ch. 10: Rehoboam rebels and divides the kingdom

Ch. 11: Rehoboam's three good years

Ch. 12: Rehoboam forsakes the Lord

Ch. 13: Abijah, Jeroboam and God

Ch. 14: Asa did good and right

Outline

Ch. 15: Asa's partial reform

Ch. 16: Asa's spiritual regression

Ch. 17: Jehoshaphat's reforms

Ch. 18: Jehoshaphat allies with Ahab

Ch. 19: Jehoshaphat seeks God

Ch. 20: Jehoshaphat did right and wrong

Ch. 21: Jehoram did evil

Outline

Ch. 22: Ahaziah did evil; Athaliah

Ch. 23: Jehoida anoints Joash king

Ch. 24: Joash good and evil

Ch. 25: Amaziah would not listen

Ch. 26: Uzziah smitten with leprosy

Ch. 27: Jotham did right

Ch. 28: Ahaz unfaithful to the Lord

Ch. 29: Hezekiah cleanses temple

Outline

- Ch. 30: Hezekiah celebrates Passover
- Ch. 31: Hezekiah destroys idols
- Ch. 32: Hezekiah & Sennacherib
- Ch. 33: Manasseh's evil; repentance
- Ch. 34: Josiah; Hilkiah finds God's Law
- Ch. 35: Josiah celebrates Passover
- Ch. 36: Last kings, Jerusalem destroyed,
Cyrus' decree

Messages

- Evil leadership greatly harms a nation
 - Consequences of departing from God
- God's Word stresses the importance of true worship, morality and leadership
- God wants us to have the right attitude, the right heart
 - An attitude of seeking God

Trivia

Who built an extensive water tunnel?

2 Chron. 32:30

Memory Verse Review (1 Samuel—1 Chronicles)

- 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. . .”
- 1 Chron. 29:5b—“Who then . . .?”

Memory Verse for 2 Chronicles

7:14

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