1-2 Chronicles

Old Testament Workshop
Morrison Heights Baptist Church
November 10, 2019
**Overview**

Originally one book, divided by the translators of the Septuagint (Greek translation of the Old Testament)

**1 Chronicles**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapters 1-9</th>
<th>Genealogy</th>
<th>History from Adam to Saul</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 10</td>
<td>Narrative</td>
<td>Death of Saul</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapters 11-29</td>
<td>Narrative</td>
<td>Reign of David</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

From **Genesis 1**
To **1 Kings 2**
Overview

2 CHRONICLES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapters 1-9</th>
<th>Narrative</th>
<th>Reign of Solomon</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 10-36</td>
<td>Narrative</td>
<td>Divided Monarchy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**IDEALIZATION OF DAVID**

- NO mention of the Bathsheba Scandal (SEE 1 Chr. 20:1-3)
- NO mention of Solomon’s Polygamy
- Little attention given to the Northern Kingdom

“to legitimate the cultic office of David as a guardian of Israel’s messianic hope”

Brevard S. Childs, *Biblical Theology of the Old and New Testaments*
Authorship

officially anonymous
Old Testament scholars call him the “Chronicler.”
Fleming James, Professor of Literature and Interpretation of the Old Testament (Berkeley Divinity School, affiliated with Yale University), believed that the author was a Levite and a Temple singer.

Based upon literary style, the same writer is responsible for Ezra and Nehemiah.
According to the Talmud (rabbinic teaching), Ezra wrote the books of 1-2 Chronicles, Ezra, and Nehemiah. Nehemiah completed what Ezra wrote.
“To try to understand the history of Israel without comparing Chronicles with Samuel and Kings would be comparable to studying the life of Christ by reading only one Gospel.”

Ben F. Philbeck, Jr., “1-2 Chronicles,” The Broadman Bible Commentary

1-2 Samuel and 1-2 Kings read like a newspaper account; 1-2 Chronicles, written centuries after its content, resembles a history textbook.
Perspective

1-2 Chronicles supplements 1-2 Samuel and 1-2 Kings. The historical “distance” qualified the Chronicler to reflect and to clarify.

EXAMPLE: REFLECTION

“And those who had escaped from the sword [Nebuchadnezzar] carried away to Babylon; and they were servants to him and to his sons until the rule of the kingdom of Persia, to fulfill the word of the Lord by the mouth of Jeremiah, until the land had enjoyed its sabbaths. All the days of its desolation it kept sabbath until seventy years were complete.”

2 Chronicles 36:20-21
2 Samuel 6:1-11
Why did God kill Uzzah during the transportation of the ark to Jerusalem?
ANSWER: 1 Chronicles 15:11-15

2 Samuel 24
Why did David disobey God with a military census?
ANSWER: 1 Chronicles 21:1

Examples: Clarification

Battle Won by Praise (2 Chr. 20:1-30)
Treachery of Joash (2 Chr. 24:17-22; SEE Lk. 11:47-51)
Cause of Uzziah’s Leprosy (2 Chr. 26:16-23)
Repentance of Manasseh (2 Chr. 33:10-17)

Examples: Supplementation
“If 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.”

“For the eyes of the Lord move to and fro throughout the earth that He may strongly support those whose heart is completely His.”
Content: Highlights

1 CHRONICLES

Reign of David
- Davidic Covenant
- Preparations for Construction of the Temple

11:1-29:30

2 CHRONICLES

Reign of Solomon
- Construction of the Temple

1:1-9:31

Civil War: Split of the Kingdom

10:1-11:5

Reign of Asa

14:1-16:14
Content: Highlights

- Reign of Jehoshaphat
  - Alliance with Ahab, King of the Northern Kingdom
  - Battle against Moab, Ammon and Edom: Won by Praise

- Reign of Queen Athaliah

- Reign of Jehoash

- Reign of Uzziah

2 Chronicles

Isaiah 6:1
Content: Highlights

Reign of Hezekiah
- Reformation + Passover Celebration
- Miraculous Defeat of Invading Assyrians | SEE Isaiah 36-37

Reign of Josiah
- Reformation ➔ Discovery of the Law Book
- Passover Celebration

Babylon conquers the Southern Kingdom

The Chronicler only mentions 10 of the 19 Northern Kingdom rulers. NO Reference to the Fall of the Northern Kingdom