

Bible Overview: understanding the message in the different books of the Bible.

Video 5—The Divided Kingdom—1 and 2 Kings and 2 Chronicles

What does this part of the Bible tell us about each of the following?

1. What foolish and sinful things did King Solomon do?
2. What good things did the Lord accomplish through Solomon?
3. What happened to the land of Israel at the time of Solomon's son, Rehoboam?
4. Fill in the blanks

The Northern Kingdom was called _____ and had _____ kings.

The Southern Kingdom was called _____ and had some _____ and some _____ kings.

5. What happened to the Northern Kingdom of Israel?

The book of 1 and 2 Kings for knowing where you are as you read your Bible.

1 Kings 4:29 *God gave Solomon wisdom and very great insight, and a breadth of understanding as measureless as the sand on the seashore.*

Like Samuel, this was one book divided into two because of its size. Kings begins with the beginning of the reign of King Solomon, King David's son and continues through to the end of the period of when God's people Israel was ruled by kings. After the death of King Solomon, the kingdom of Israel was divided into 2: The Northern Kingdom (also called "Israel" or "Samaria" after its capital, the city of Samaria) and the Southern Kingdom (also called "Judah" after the tribe of Judah; its capital was Jerusalem). The Northern Kings were all unfaithful to God and in the end, the Lord let the Northern kingdom disappear as a nation forever when it was conquered by the Assyrians. The Southern Kingdom had some good kings, some bad kings, and was finally taken into exile, but God would restore them to keep His promise of the Savior.

2 Chronicles

A Chronicle is a record of historical events. 2 Chronicles covers many of the same events in the book of Kings, but often gives us additional details, especially about God's people in Judah. Though some of these historical books can be tougher reading, it is also very rewarding, for it is God's Word and contains some very powerful and comforting verses and Bible Lessons.

These books continue the history of God's promise of the Savior Jesus, passed on from one generation to the next, God keeping his promise and preparing the people from whom the Savior would come. In all these historical books, we find our Gracious God faithfully reaching out to stubborn sinners (what's new?!) and we see God in His undeserved love working to keep his ancient promise of the Savior.