

Unleashing the Old Testament

with Alan Gilman
Bible Teacher

Session 12



3

The Monarchy: Part 2
(1 & 2 Kings)



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Unleashing the Old Testament

Getting our bearings

- ❖ Introduction
- ❖ Torah (Books of Moses)
- ❖ Pre-Monarchy/Monarchy
- ❖ Next week: Taste of Hebrew (handouts!)
- ❖ The Prophets
- ❖ The Writings (Psalms, Proverbs, etc)
- ❖ Wrap up



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**1 & 2 Kings
(Introduction)**

- ❖ From death of David to divided kingdom to exile
- ❖ Probably originally one book
- ❖ Probably written a few generations after events



6

1 & 2 Kings

Solomon is made King

- ❖ David near end of life
- ❖ Adonijah's conspiracy
- ❖ Nathan's plan
- ❖ Solomon is made king



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1 & 2 Kings

David's final words to Solomon

When David's time to die drew near, he commanded Solomon his son, saying, "I am about to go the way of all the earth. Be strong, and show yourself a man, and keep the charge of the LORD your God, walking in his ways and keeping his statutes, his commandments, his rules, and his testimonies, as it is written in the Law of Moses, that you may prosper in all that you do and wherever you turn, that the LORD may establish his word that he spoke concerning me, saying, 'If your sons pay close attention to their way, to walk before me in faithfulness with all their heart and with all their soul, you shall not lack a man on the throne of Israel.'" (1 Kings 2:1-4)



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1 & 2 Kings

David's final words to Solomon

"Moreover..." (1 Kings 2:5-9)



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1 & 2 Kings

Solomon's beginnings

Solomon made a marriage alliance with Pharaoh king of Egypt. He took Pharaoh's daughter and brought her into the city of David until he had finished building his own house and the house of the LORD and the wall around Jerusalem. The people were sacrificing at the high places, however, because no house had yet been built for the name of the LORD. Solomon the loved the LORD, walking in the statutes of David his father, only he sacrificed and made offerings at the high places (1 Kings 3:1-3)



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1 & 2 Kings

Solomon's dream

- ❖ God's invitation
- ❖ Solomon's request
- ❖ God's response (1 Kings 3:10-14)



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1 & 2 Kings

Solomon's dream

It pleased the LORD that Solomon had asked this. And God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, behold, I now do according to your word. Behold, I give you a wise and discerning mind, so that none like you has been before you and none like you shall arise after you. I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor, so that no other king shall compare with you, all your days. And if you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your days." (1 Kings 3:10-14)



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1 & 2 Kings

An example of Solomon's wisdom

- ❖ Two women and a baby
- ❖ Solomon's decision
- ❖ The nation's reaction

And all Israel heard of the judgment that the king had rendered, and they stood in awe of the king, because they perceived that the wisdom of God was in him to do justice. (1 Kings 3:28)



13

1 & 2 Kings

Solomon's wealth & wisdom

Judah and Israel were as many as the sand by the sea. They ate and drank and were happy. Solomon ruled over all the kingdoms from the Euphrates to the land of the Philistines and to the border of Egypt. They brought tribute and served Solomon all the days of his life. (1 Kings 4:20-21)



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1 & 2 Kings

Solomon's wealth & wisdom

All King Solomon's drinking vessels were of gold, and all the vessels of the House of the Forest of Lebanon were of pure gold. None were of silver; silver was not considered as anything in the days of Solomon.
(1 Kings 10:21)



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1 & 2 Kings

Solomon's wealth & wisdom

And God gave Solomon wisdom and understanding beyond measure, and breadth of mind like the sand on the seashore, so that Solomon's wisdom surpassed the wisdom of all the people of the east and all the wisdom of Egypt...He also spoke 3,000 proverbs, and his songs were 1,005. He spoke of trees, from the cedar that is in Lebanon to the hyssop that grows out of the wall. He spoke also of beasts, and of birds, and of reptiles, and of fish. And people of all nations came to hear the wisdom of Solomon, and from all the kings of the earth, who had heard of his wisdom. (1 Kings 4:29-34)



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1 & 2 Kings

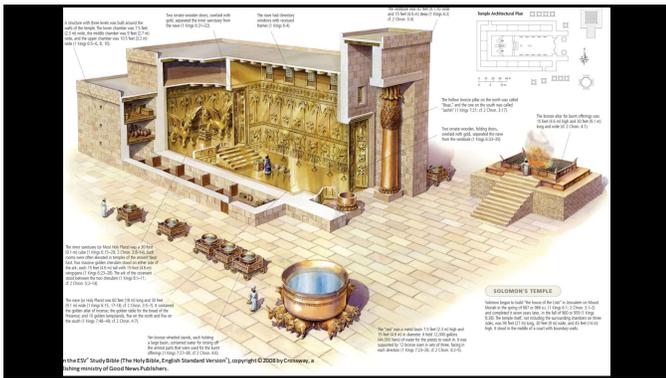
Solomon's wealth & wisdom

Thus King Solomon excelled all the kings of the earth in riches and in wisdom. And the whole earth sought the presence of Solomon to hear his wisdom, which God had put into his mind. Every one of them brought his present, articles of silver and gold, garments, myrrh, spices, horses, and mules, so much year by year.

(1 Kings 10:23-25)



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1 & 2 Kings

The Temple & the Palace

In the fourth year the foundation of the house of the LORD was laid, in the month of Ziv. And in the eleventh year, in the month of Bul, which is the eighth month, the house was finished in all its parts, and according to all its specifications. He was seven years in building it.
(1 Kings 6:37-38)

Contrast with...

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1 & 2 Kings

The Temple & the Palace

Solomon was building his own house thirteen years, and he finished his entire house. (1 Kings 7:1)

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1 & 2 Kings

God's glory fills the Temple

And when the priests came out of the Holy Place, a cloud filled the house of the LORD, so that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud, for the glory of the LORD filled the house of the LORD.

(1 Kings 8:10-11)



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1 & 2 Kings

Solomon's blessing and prayer



25

1 & 2 Kings

God's response

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 and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

(2 Chronicles 7:14)



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1 & 2 Kings

The Queen of Sheba

And when the queen of Sheba had seen all the wisdom of Solomon, the house that he had built, the food of his table, the seating of his officials, and the attendance of his servants, their clothing, his cupbearers, and his burnt offerings that he offered at the house of the LORD, there was no more breath in her.

(1 Kings 10:4-5)



27

1 & 2 Kings

Solomon's demise

Now King Solomon loved many foreign women, along with the daughter of Pharaoh: Moabite, Ammonite, Edomite, Sidonian, and Hittite women, from the nations concerning which the LORD had said to the people of Israel, "You shall not enter into marriage with them, neither shall they with you, for surely they will turn away your heart after their gods." Solomon clung to these in love...



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1 & 2 Kings

Solomon's demise

He had 700 wives, who were princesses, and 300 concubines. And his wives turned away his heart. For when Solomon was old his wives turned away his heart after other gods, and his heart was not wholly true to the LORD his God, as was the heart of David his father. For Solomon went after Ashtoreth the goddess of the Sidonians, and after Milcom the abomination of the Ammonites...



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1 & 2 Kings

Solomon's demise

So Solomon did what was evil in the sight of the LORD and did not wholly follow the LORD, as David his father had done. Then Solomon built a high place for Chemosh the abomination of Moab, and for Molech the abomination of the Ammonites, on the mountain east of Jerusalem. And so he did for all his foreign wives, who made offerings and sacrificed to their gods. (1 Kings 11:1-8)



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1 & 2 Kings

Solomon's demise

And the LORD was angry with Solomon, because his heart had turned away from the LORD, the God of Israel, who had appeared to him twice and had commanded him concerning this thing, that he should not go after other gods. But he did not keep what the LORD commanded...



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1 & 2 Kings

Solomon's demise

Therefore the LORD said to Solomon, "Since this has been your practice and you have not kept my covenant and my statutes that I have commanded you, I will surely tear the kingdom from you and will give it to your servant. Yet for the sake of David your father I will not do it in your days, but I will tear it out of the hand of your son. However, I will not tear away all the kingdom, but I will give one tribe to your son, for the sake of David my servant and for the sake of Jerusalem that I have chosen." (1 Kings 11:9-13)



32

1 & 2 Kings

Jeroboam

And if you will listen to all that I command you, and will walk in my ways, and do what is right in my eyes by keeping my statutes and my commandments, as David my servant did, I will be with you and will build you a sure house, as I built for David, and I will give Israel to you.
(1 Kings 11:38)



33

1 & 2 Kings

The kingdom divides

So the king (Rehoboam) did not listen to the people, for it was a turn of affairs brought about by the LORD that he might fulfill his word, which the LORD spoke by Ahijah the Shilonite to Jeroboam the son of Nebat.
(1 Kings 12:15)



34



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1 & 2 Kings

Jeroboam's unfaithfulness

And Jeroboam said in his heart, "Now the kingdom will turn back to the house of David. If this people go up to offer sacrifices in the temple of the LORD at Jerusalem, then the heart of this people will turn again to their lord, to Rehoboam king of Judah, and they will kill me and return to Rehoboam king of Judah." (1 Kings 12:26-27)



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1 & 2 Kings

Rehoboam's reign

And Judah did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, and they provoked him to jealousy with their sins that they committed, more than all that their fathers had done. For they also built for themselves high places and pillars and Asherim on every high hill and under every green tree, and there were also male cult prostitutes in the land. They did according to all the abominations of the nations that the LORD drove out before the people of Israel.

(1 Kings 14:22-24)



37

1 & 2 Kings

Asa, King of Judah

He also removed Maacah his mother from being queen mother because she had made an abominable image for Asherah. And Asa cut down her image and burned it at the brook Kidron. But the high places were not taken away. Nevertheless, the heart of Asa was wholly true to the LORD all his days. And he brought into the house of the LORD the sacred gifts of his father and his own sacred gifts, silver, and gold, and vessels.

(1 Kings 15:9-15)



38

1 & 2 Kings

Ahab, King of Israel

And Ahab the son of Omri did evil in the sight of the LORD, more than all who were before him. And as if it had been a light thing for him to walk in the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, he took for his wife Jezebel the daughter of Ethbaal king of the Sidonians, and went and served Baal and worshiped him. He erected an altar for Baal in the house of Baal, which he built in Samaria. And Ahab made an Asherah. Ahab did more to provoke the LORD, the God of Israel, to anger than all the kings of Israel who were before him. (1 Kings 16:30-33)



39

1 & 2 Kings

Elijah

- ❖ The drought
- ❖ God's provision (ravens, brook, widow)
- ❖ The widow's son
- ❖ The challenge
- ❖ The rain returns
- ❖ Elijah runs for his life (despondency)
- ❖ Elijah's renewal



40

1 & 2 Kings

Ahab's humility

And when Ahab heard those words, he tore his clothes and put sackcloth on his flesh and fasted and lay in sackcloth and went about dejectedly. And the word of the LORD came to Elijah the Tishbite, saying, "Have you seen how Ahab has humbled himself before me? Because he has humbled himself before me, I will not bring the disaster in his days; but in his son's days I will bring the disaster upon his house." (1 Kings 21:27-29)



41

1 & 2 Kings

Ahab's death

But a certain man drew his bow at random and struck the king of Israel between the scale armor and the breastplate. Therefore he said to the driver of his chariot, "Turn around and carry me out of the battle, for I am wounded." And the battle continued that day, and the king was propped up in his chariot facing the Syrians, until at evening he died. (1 Kings 22:34-35)



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1 & 2 Kings

Elisha

- ❖ Servant of Elijah
- ❖ Called to be a successor
- ❖ The double portion



43

1 & 2 Kings

Elisha

And he took up the cloak of Elijah that had fallen from him and went back and stood on the bank of the Jordan. Then he took the cloak of Elijah that had fallen from him and struck the water, saying, "Where is the LORD, the God of Elijah?" And when he had struck the water, the water was parted to the one side and to the other, and Elisha went over. (2 Kings 2:13-14)



44

1 & 2 Kings

Jehu, King of Israel

Thus Jehu wiped out Baal from Israel. But Jehu did not turn aside from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, which he made Israel to sin—that is, the golden calves that were in Bethel and in Dan. And the LORD said to Jehu, "Because you have done well in carrying out what is right in my eyes, and have done to the house of Ahab according to all that was in my heart, your sons of the fourth generation shall sit on the throne of Israel." But Jehu was not careful to walk in the law of the LORD, the God of Israel, with all his heart. He did not turn from the sins of Jeroboam, which he made Israel to sin. (2 Kings 10:28-31)



45

1 & 2 Kings

Jehoash (Joash), King of Judah

Joash was seven years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Zibiah of Beersheba. And Joash did what was right in the eyes of the LORD all the days of Jehoiada the priest.
(2 Chronicles 24:1-2)



46

1 & 2 Kings

Jehoash (Joash), King of Judah

Now after the death of Jehoiada the princes of Judah came and paid homage to the king. Then the king listened to them. And they abandoned the house of the LORD, the God of their fathers, and served the Asherim and the idols. And wrath came upon Judah and Jerusalem for this guilt of theirs. Yet he sent prophets among them to bring them back to the LORD. These testified against them, but they would not pay attention.
(2 Chronicles 24:17-19)



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1 & 2 Kings

Azariah / Uzziah, King of Judah

Uzziah was sixteen years old when he began to reign, and he reigned fifty-two years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Jecoliah of Jerusalem. And he did what was right in the eyes of the LORD, according to all that his father Amaziah had done. He set himself to seek God in the days of Zechariah, who instructed him in the fear of God, and as long as he sought the LORD, God made him prosper...But when he was strong, he grew proud, to his destruction. For he was unfaithful to the LORD his God and entered the temple of the LORD to burn incense on the altar of incense.

(2 Chronicles 26:3-5,16)



48

1 & 2 Kings

The fall of Israel

In the ninth year of Hoshea, the king of Assyria captured Samaria, and he carried the Israelites away to Assyria and placed them in Halah, and on the Habor, the river of Gozan, and in the cities of the Medes.

(2 Kings 17:6)



49

1 & 2 Kings

Hezekiah, King of Judah

In the third year of Hoshea son of Elah, king of Israel, Hezekiah the son of Ahaz, king of Judah, began to reign. He was twenty-five years old when he began to reign, and he reigned twenty-nine years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Abi the daughter of Zechariah. And he did what was right in the eyes of the LORD, according to all that David his father had done. He removed the high places and broke the pillars and cut down the Asherah. ... (2 Kings 18:1-6)



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1 & 2 Kings

Hezekiah, King of Judah

And he broke in pieces the bronze serpent that Moses had made, for until those days the people of Israel had made offerings to it (it was called Nehushtan). He trusted in the LORD, the God of Israel, so that there was none like him among all the kings of Judah after him, nor among those who were before him. For he held fast to the LORD. He did not depart from following him, but kept the commandments that the LORD commanded Moses. (2 Kings 18:1-6)



51

1 & 2 Kings

Manasseh, King of Judah

Manasseh was twelve years old when he began to reign, and he reigned fifty-five years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Hephzibah. And he did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, according to the despicable practices of the nations whom the LORD drove out before the people of Israel. (2 Kings 21:1-2)



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1 & 2 Kings

Manasseh, King of Judah

The LORD spoke to Manasseh and to his people, but they paid no attention. Therefore the LORD brought upon them the commanders of the army of the king of Assyria, who captured Manasseh with hooks and bound him with chains of bronze and brought him to Babylon. And when he was in distress, he entreated the favor of the LORD his God and humbled himself greatly before the God of his fathers. He prayed to him, and God was moved by his entreaty and heard his plea and brought him again to Jerusalem into his kingdom. Then Manasseh knew that the LORD was God. (2 Chronicles 33:10-13)



53

1 & 2 Kings

Josiah, King of Judah

Josiah was eight years old when he began to reign, and he reigned thirty-one years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Jedidah the daughter of Adaiah of Bozkath. And he did what was right in the eyes of the LORD and walked in all the way of David his father, and he did not turn aside to the right or to the left. (2 Kings 22:1-2)



54

1 & 2 Kings

Josiah, King of Judah

Still the LORD did not turn from the burning of his great wrath, by which his anger was kindled against Judah, because of all the provocations with which Manasseh had provoked him. And the LORD said, "I will remove Judah also out of my sight, as I have removed Israel, and I will cast off this city that I have chosen, Jerusalem, and the house of which I said, My name shall be there." (2 Kings 23:26-27)



55

1 & 2 Kings

Demise and fall of Jerusalem

- ❖ Jehoahaz, son of Josiah
- ❖ Jehoiakim (son of Josiah), installed by Pharaoh Neco
- ❖ Jehoiachin (son of Jehoiakim)
- ❖ Zedekiah (Mattaniah, Jehoiachin's uncle)
- ❖ Gedaliah (governor, not king)



56

1 & 2 Kings

Demise and fall of Jerusalem

Then all the people, both small and great, and the captains of the forces arose and went to Egypt, for they were afraid of the Chaldeans. And in the thirty-seventh year of the exile of Jehoiachin king of Judah, in the twelfth month, on the twenty-seventh day of the month, Evil-merodach king of Babylon, in the year that he began to reign, graciously freed Jehoiachin king of Judah from prison.



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1 & 2 Kings

Demise and fall of Jerusalem

And he spoke kindly to him and gave him a seat above the seats of the kings who were with him in Babylon. So Jehoiachin put off his prison garments. And every day of his life he dined regularly at the king's table, and for his allowance, a regular allowance was given him by the king, according to his daily needs, as long as he lived.

(2 Kings 25:26-30)



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1 & 2 Kings

Summary

- ❖ God is the true king
- ❖ The seriousness of sin
- ❖ Life is not straightforward (ambiguity)
- ❖ God's faithfulness
- ❖ Faith (trusting God) in the midst of dysfunction



59

1 & 2 Chronicles

Title**Hebrew**

דברי הימים (divrei hayyamim)
The Events of the Years (Annals)

Greek (LXX)

Παραλειπομένων (paraleipomenon)
The Things Omitted (Supplement)



60

1 & 2 Chronicles

Title**English**

“Chronicles” from Martin Luther’s derivation of Jerome
(translator of the Vulgate): “the chronicle of the whole sacred
history.”



61

1 & 2 Chronicles

Items of note

- ❖ Part of the “Writings” / Final books of the Tenach
- ❖ May or may not have drawn from Samuel & Kings
- ❖ Genealogies
- ❖ Stresses the David Covenant
- ❖ Strong Temple theme
- ❖ Focus on Kingdom of Judah
- ❖ Stresses future hope



62

1 & 2 Chronicles

Return

Now in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, that the word of the LORD by the mouth of Jeremiah might be fulfilled, the LORD stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, so that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom and also put it in writing: "Thus says Cyrus king of Persia, 'The LORD, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth, and he has charged me to build him a house at Jerusalem, which is in Judah. Whoever is among you of all his people, may the LORD his God be with him. Let him go up.'" (2 Chronicles 36:22-23)



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Chronology of the Persian era

Ezra 1-6 (537 – 515): Initial return under Cyrus's decree / Rebuilding of Temple under Zerubbabel

Esther (483 – 473): Annihilation threat

Ezra 7-10 (458 – 457): Ezra's reforms

Nehemiah (445 – 432): Rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem



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