

1. Almost all the material found in the reading today is replicated elsewhere in Scripture:

1 Chronicles 1-21 is paralleled in the Books of Samuel.

The genealogies of 1 Chronicles 1-9 can be found in Nehemiah, Matthew and Luke.

1 and 2 Chronicles are written after the Babylonian exile in an effort to recite Israel's whole history in a way relevant to post-exilic Israel.

2. 1 Chronicles 22-29 is unique material to this book.

1. Chapters 23-27 - David divides the priests and Levites into groups, some by family and some by function and lays down an order for life in the new temple that is to be constructed.

David (and his generals) chose the musicians for the worship of the temple. Life after David is going to revolve around worship, not warfare.

2. David was very concerned that proper care be given to doing everything as carefully and as well as possible precisely because it was the worship of God that was in view.

God Himself gives the details for how He was to be worshipped in the temple.

"Near enough is good enough" was not the attitude for worship in the temple. They wanted to present their very best to God.

Good worship does not need to be spontaneous (though the Spirit can lead that way). The Spirit of God is as present in planning as he is in spontaneity.

3. Chapters 22, 28 and 29

Building the temple was a team effort between David the father and Solomon the son - David planned; Solomon built.

One of the reasons for the temple being built during the reign of Solomon is clearly connected to the long-recognized goal of establishing the Israelites in the Promised Land and giving them "rest".

Solomon was God's choice to succeed David as king, not just David's choice.

In Chapter 22, Solomon is privately instructed to build the temple.

The public charge occurred in Chapter 28:9, 10 - "Acknowledge the God of your father and serve Him with wholehearted devotion and with a willing mind, for the Lord searches the heart and understands every motive behind the thoughts. If you seek Him He will be found by you; but if you forsake Him He will reject you forever."

An enormous amount of wealth was dedicated to the temple.

1. 1 and 2 Kings were originally one book. Jewish tradition says they were written by Jeremiah but there is no textual evidence to support that.
2. Adonijah, David's oldest surviving son, tries to set himself up as King of Israel. David was old, sick and isolated and Adonijah saw his chance.
He tried to exalt himself (50 men running before his chariot..)
Joab and Abiathar the priest chose to side with Adonijah.
Nathan and Zadok chose the side of Solomon.
3. Adonijah and Joab flee to the Tent of Meeting and grab the horns of the altar - the origin of the practice of 'claiming sanctuary'. Adonijah schemes to claim David's concubine Abishag as his own to strengthen a subsequent claim to the throne.

5. A way to remember the history of Israel:

C: The Camp Period - from Abraham through Moses to the edge of the Promised Land; in the first 5 books of Moses; covers over 600 years

C: The Commonwealth Period - in the books of Joshua, Judges and Ruth; covers about 360 years

C: The Crown Period - in Samuel, Kings and Chronicles; covers about 460 years

C: The Captivity period - in Ezra, Nehemiah and Esther; covers 160 years

6. Recall of the most significant people in David's life:

The prophets:

Samuel

Nathan

Gad

The Philistines:

Goliath

King Achish

The family of Saul:

Saul himself

Jonathan

Ish-bosheth

Michal

Mephibosheth

The wives of David (besides Michal):

Abigail

Bathsheba

David's children:

Amnon

Tamar

Absalom

Adonijah

Solomon

The mighty men:

Joab

The "3"

The "30"

The priests:

Abiathar

Zadok

The advisors:

Ahitophel

Hushai

His father: Jesse

1. Psalms 57, 6, 7, 9, and 30 are Psalms of David. He wrote at least 75 of the Psalms.
2. Psalm 57 is an early Psalm of David, before the kingdom of Israel passed to him as king.
 - *a prayer for deliverance, with the right motive - stanza one
 - * a song of praise for the help that God has sent - stanza two
3. Psalm 6 - a penitential Psalm
 - *a prayer for healing from sickness (that appears to be the result of sin)
 - * David has an incomplete knowledge of life after death - in the progress of revelation it becomes more and clearer as we go through the Old Testament to the New Testament
4. Psalm 7 - Cush, a Benjaminite is persecuting David
 - *an opening plea for deliverance
 - * a confident assertion of faith
5. Psalm 9 - A shout of praise to God for the victory He has given David over his enemies
 - *A strong appeal to the Lord to mete out justice
 - * “the nations have fallen into the pit they have dug” - becoming a familiar phrase
6. Psalm 30 - a Psalm written at the end of David’s life
 - *Solomon was to use this Psalm at the dedication of the Temple, which he was to build.
 - *Reflective of David’s experiences, but used later to reflect on Israel’s experiences in exile - “Lord, I owe everything to you. When I was down you lifted me up. Your presence and your pleasure are the only things that really matter. When I am conscious of your favor, Lord, I cannot be shaken, but when I do not have the awareness of that presence, then I cannot stand. Lord, you have turned my wailing into dancing.”
7. The Psalms are a model for us: Prayer and Praise
 - *Pray - when we are in trouble - when we need to repent - when we are fearful - when we are confused - when we are depressed - when we are in victory - it is the highest form of worship
8. Even after huge failures, David’s heart stayed tender toward God because David knew how to pray.
9. Important places in the life of David:
 - *Bethlehem - birthplace and anointing by Samuel
 - *Gath - where Goliath was from and from which David twice had to flee
 - *Gibeah - Saul’s capital city, where Jonathan’s arrow was shot to warn David to flee
 - *Nob - where David sought help from Ahimelech the priest, with such dire results
 - *Adullam and En-Gedi - 2 caves which sheltered David during his long years of hiding from Saul
 - *Forest of Hereth and the wilderness of Ziph - other places of shelter during those years
 - *Keilah - the city he rescued from the Philistines, who then refused him help
 - *Carmel - where he met Nabal and Abigail
 - *Ziklag - David’s city of refuge, subsequently sacked by the Amalekites
 - *Mt Gilboa - where Saul died
 - *Hebron - where David was anointed King of Judah
 - *Jabesh Gilead - the men of this city recovered the bodies of Saul and his sons
 - *Jerusalem - David’s capital, taken from the Jebusites

1. We are now a little more than 40% of the way through our Bible reading.
2. We are going to look at the life of Solomon and some of his writings before returning to the New Testament.
3. The Ben-Hur (“son of Hur”) of 1 Kings 4 was a real district governor under Solomon.
4. Solomon married an Egyptian princess to secure a military treaty with Egypt. Israel had become an important nation under David.
 - *This looked good from the human side. It was a terrible liability to the nation spiritually.
 - *The worship situation before the building of the Temple:
 1. The Israelites had taken over some of the high places of the overthrown Canaanites for the worship of Jehovah - Scripture condemns this practice, but it happened.
 2. God allowed Israel to build altars to worship Him in other places.
 3. The Tabernacle was located in Gibeon.
 4. All these places are referred to in Scripture as “High Places”.
 5. The ones that had been used for pagan worship originally were not approved by God; the others were approved by Him.
 - *Solomon both tolerated and encouraged “syncretism” in the religion of Israel because of his many foreign wives.
5. Solomon kept 12,000 horses. Dt. 17: 16, 17: “The king, moreover, must not acquire great numbers of horses for himself...he must not take many wives...he must not accumulate large amounts of silver and gold.”
6. But before Solomon did all these things, he actually did start well. When God says He will give him anything he wants, Solomon asks for wisdom. “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.”
7. An example of Solomon’s wisdom - Who is the true mother of the one surviving baby?
8. “Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things will be added unto you...”
9. Wisdom in the delegation of authority in Israel - unwise people try to everything themselves; wise leaders put a high priority upon delegation.
10. Psalm 20 is the reason for the prohibition against so many horses: “Some trust in horses and some trust in chariots, but we will trust in the name of the Lord our God. They will fall down but we will rise up and stand firm.” The army was not Israel’s defense or real strength.
11. The extent of Solomon’s kingdom: From the Euphrates River in the east and north, far to the north of Syria and to the border of Egypt in the south and west - as much as 50,000 square miles.

1. Proverbs 1-4, written by Solomon, and devoted to the subject of wisdom. (He wrote 3000 proverbs, of which we have about 800.) A proverb is: simply, a short sentence drawn from long experience; a mixture of “horse sense” and “holy sense”; the wisdom of many and the wit of one; the ability to see the world as God sees it in a way that will be memorable.

2. Knowledge is the ability to acquire facts; wisdom is the ability to rightly apply those facts to the business of living.

3. The loose idea that ties all the proverbs together: a young man is starting out in life and he is constantly confronted by 2 “schools” - the schools of “wisdom” and “unwisdom” (or fools).

4. The wisdom of these proverbs is good for the young, and for the old and wise, who can always become wiser. It will protect her students; it will direct her students; it will perfect her students.

5. General information about The Book of Proverbs:

1. There are 8 main sections.
2. Chapters 1-9: The general introduction on wisdom
3. There are 6 collections of sayings in Chapters 10 through the beginning of Chapter 31
4. Chapter 31:10-31 - the acrostic poem on the “perfect” wife
5. The content of Proverbs belongs to the days of the early kings of Israel.
6. Solomon wrote much of it.
7. King Hezekiah (250 years after Solomon) organized much of the material.
8. The book was finalized about 150 B.C. by a man named Ben-Seriah.
9. Solomon draws many of his proverbs from his study of nature.
10. He draws some from the wisdom of other nations, but he wrote it all under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit of God.
11. The purpose of the book focuses on the importance of gaining wisdom and living by it in order to experience the blessing of God.
12. It deals with precepts, not promises!

6. The Prologue:

*written to give prudence to the simple, knowledge and discretion to the young; to make wise men wiser, and with many references to “my son.”

*The fear (reverence, not terror) of the Lord is the path to life and security.

7. Chapter 3 - the allusion to the “the tree of life”

*By wisdom the Lord laid the earth’s foundations

*By understanding He put the heavens in place

*By His knowledge the deeps were divided and the clouds dropped their dew

*Wisdom governed all the actions of the Lord in creating the world, in creating us, and in establishing the way we should live our lives.

* By paying attention to that same wisdom, we are lining ourselves up with His purpose and plan for our lives.

8. Discover 2 or 3 verses that are especially meaningful to you and memorize them.

9. “Wisdom is understanding what God says about life and then obeying it. The getting of wisdom is the most important thing that we can do in our lives.”