

1 Kings  
"The Reigning King"  
Jan 22, 2023

**Summary:**

1Kings covers the glorious reign of Solomon, and the dividing of the Kingdom after his death.

It is the history of the divided Kingdom:

Israel (the northern kingdom) from Jeroboam through the reigns of Ahab.

Judah (the southern kingdom) from Rehoboam through the reign of Jehoshaphat.

**Outline:**

The kingdom united .... Chapters 1 – 11

The kingdom divided ... Chapters 12 – 22

**Christ is seen as:**

The King of Peace

Solomon's reign was one of peace (1Chr 22:6-9).

1Ki 4:24 For he (Solomon) had dominion over everything west of the River, ... Over all the kings west of the River; and he had peace on all sides around about him.

Jesus is the Prince of Peace (Isa 9:6-8). He gives us a supernatural peace (Phil 4:7).

Eph 2:14 For He Himself is our peace, ...

The Wisdom of God

Solomon possessed great wisdom (more than any other King) given to Him by God. (1Ki 3:5-15, 2Chr 9:22-23). Solomon was able to resolve complex problems (1Ki 3:16-28).

Jesus is the wisdom of God "But by His doing you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God", ...(1Cor 1:30)

In Christ are hidden all treasures of wisdom and knowledge (Col 2:2-3). No problem is too difficult for Him to resolve!

The Builder of God's temple (Heb 3:4-6)

Solomon built a great Temple (1Ki 6).

Jesus is building a Temple (His church), of which the gates of hell can't destroy (Mt 16:18).

Eph 2:20-22 ... Christ Jesus Himself being the corner stone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, is growing into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit.

Jesus is the "greater than Solomon"

Mt 12:42 The Queen of the South will rise up with this generation at the judgment and will condemn it, because she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and behold, something greater than Solomon is here.

Solomon was anointed with oil, a symbol of the Holy Spirit (1Ki 1:34-39).

Jesus was anointed with the actual Holy Spirit. (Mt 3:13-14; Lk 3:21-22)

Solomon's reign began with judgment. When Solomon began to reign, men that had gotten away with crimes during the reign of David were "executed" (1Ki 2:25-26, 1Ki 2:32-34, 1Ki 2:44-46).

Jesus' reign on earth will begin with Judgment. He will gather the nations before Him and separate the faithful from the unfaithful (Mt 25:31-32).

## Elijah as a Type of Christ

Elijah was a prophet during the time of King Ahab of the northern kingdom of Israel. His name means "Yahweh is my God." He was a mighty prayer warrior who was not afraid to confront the enemies of God. There are many similarities between Elijah and Jesus.

Elijah rebuked Israel and called the nation to turn from idolatry and follow the God of Israel. He asked the people, "How long will you waver between two opinions? If the Lord is God, follow him; but if Baal is God, follow him." (1Ki 18:21)

Jesus rebuked the religious leaders for leading the people away from God and having outward righteousness while their hearts were far from God (Matthew 23:13-28).

Elijah prophesied it would stop raining for years (1Ki 17:1) and then predicted when it would return (1Ki 18:41-45).

Jesus calmed the storm (Mark 4:35-41).

Elijah multiplied oil and flour for a hungry widow and her son (1Ki 17:14).

Jesus multiplied loaves of bread and fish to feed a hungry crowd (Jn 6:1-15).

Elijah raised a widow's son from the dead (1 Kings 17:22). When the widow saw her son was alive, she proclaimed, "Now I know that you are a man of God, and that the word of the Lord in your mouth is truth" (1Ki 17:24).

Jesus raised a widow's son from the dead, causing the people to exclaim, "God has visited his people" (Lk 7:14-15)

Elisha asked Elijah for a double portion and Elijah agreed on the condition that Elisha remained with him and saw him when he left the earth (2Ki 2:9-10).

Jesus promised that His followers who believe in Him would do greater works than He did (Jn 14:12) these greater works would be possible once He went to the Father.

A chariot of fire took Elijah up to heaven in a whirlwind while Elisha watched (2Ki 2:11).

Jesus ascended to heaven in the clouds as his disciples watched (Acts 1:9-11).

## Elisha as a Type of Christ

Like with his predecessor Elijah, there are many similarities between Elisha and Jesus. Their names have similar meanings:

Elisha means "God is Salvation."  
Jesus means "Yahweh will save"

Both Elisha and Jesus' ministries got underway on the Jordan River.

Elisha takes up Elijah's mantle at the River Jordan and starts his ministry (2Ki 2:11-14).

Jesus is baptized by John in the Jordan and begins his ministry there as well (Mt 3:13-17).

Both Elisha and Jesus raise a woman's adult son from the dead.

Elisha raises the son of the 'Shunammite woman' from the dead (2Ki 4:8-37).

Jesus raises the son of the 'widow of Nain' from the dead (Lk 11:7-17).

Both Elisha and Jesus feed a large number of people with a small quantity of food.

Elisha feeds 100 men with a few barley loaves, and there are leftovers (2Ki 4:42-44).

On two occasions, Jesus provides 5,000 and then 4,000 with a few loaves and fishes, with food left over. (Mt 14:13-21; 15:32-39)

Both Elisha and Jesus turn a small amount of liquid into more than enough.

Elisha turns a little bit of oil into enough oil to fill every vessel in the village (2Ki 4:1-7).

Jesus turns water into a huge quantity of wine (Jn 2:1-11).

Both Elisha and Jesus heal lepers.

Elisha heals Naaman, the Syrian commander of leprosy. (2Ki 5:1-19)

Jesus heals many lepers. (Mt 8:1-4)

Both were betrayed by those close to them for money.

Elisha is betrayed by his servant Gehazi because Gehazi sees an opportunity to make money if he betrays Elisha (2Ki 5:20-27).

Jesus is handed over by his disciple Judas because Judas sees a chance to make money from betraying Jesus. (Mt 26:14-16)

For both Elisha and Jesus, death brings new life.

Elisha's tomb was a place of resurrection. Moabite raiders interrupted a burial, and the body was thrown hurriedly into Elisha's tomb. On touching Elisha's bones, the dead person came back to life (2Ki 13:20-21).

Jesus' tomb is a place of resurrection. He was raised to life and brings the promise of new life to all.

## Conclusion:

Solomon, Elijah, and Elisha give us a taste of the coming Savior. The similarities between them and Christ are striking and hint at who to look for in the future. They are imperfect representations of the coming King, imperfections that allow us to see Jesus more clearly.