

# 1 & 2 Chronicles

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## Introduction:

1 Chronicles covers the same period as 2 Samuel, they both tell of the reign of David.

2 Chronicles covers the same period as 1 and 2 Kings. They both cover the time from Solomon to the Babylonian Captivity.

There is a difference, Chronicles looks at the kings from a different point of view. Chronicles only tells us about the kings of Judah (the southern kingdom). These are the kings who were in the line of David bringing the lineage of the Messiah.

From the ESV Gospel Transformation Study Bible

As the last books in the Hebrew Old Testament, the books of 1–2 Chronicles prepare God's people for the arrival of Jesus. This preparation begins with genealogies. But these genealogies are not random, wandering collections of paternity records. Rather, they represent the carefully crafted lens through which we observe the plan of God's redemption. They teach us to rest in the unwavering commitment of God to fulfill all of his covenant promises.

The genealogies in 1 Chronicles give attention to each of the tribes of Israel, but clearly focus on two tribes: Judah (1Chr 2:3 - 4:23) and Levi (1Chr 6:1–81). They focus on the tribes of Judah and Levi to identify the royal and priestly lines of Israel, searching for a rightful king and priest for God's people. The genealogies in Matthew (and Luke) find what Chronicles was searching for: Jesus, the true King (Rom 1:3; 2Tim 2:8; Rev 19:16) and Priest (Heb 4:14; 5:5–6; 8:1) for God's people.

The summary of the history of Israel that follows the genealogies is shaped by the emphases of the genealogies—kingship and priesthood—expressed through Israel's inheritance of the land and worship in the temple. The presentations of David and Solomon focus on the building of the temple in Jerusalem. But we quickly encounter royal infidelity and idolatry, eventually resulting in the forfeiture of the land and the destruction of the temple. At the end, we are then left waiting for the true and better Priest King of Israel to come and restore all things.

## 1 Chronicles

**Summary:** King David's is the central figure in this book just as he is in 2 Samuel.

1Chr 17:11-14 "When your days are fulfilled that you must go to be with your fathers, that I will set up one of your descendants after you, who will be of your sons; and I will establish his kingdom. 12 "He shall build for Me a house, and I will establish his throne forever. 13 "I will be his father and he shall be My son; and I will not take My lovingkindness away from him, as I took it from him who was before you. 14 "But I will settle him in My house and in My kingdom forever, and his throne shall be established forever."

David's son Solomon did succeed him. And God did establish his kingdom.

But three times God uses the word "forever". That does not apply to Solomon's kingdom at all. Less than four hundred years later Judah and Jerusalem were totally sacked by the Babylonians, and never again did any descendant of Solomon rule as a king from Jerusalem.

In the 1<sup>st</sup> chapters of Matthew and Luke we see that Jesus is a descendant of King David.

In Hebrews 1 we find the fulfillment of the prophecy, in 1Chr 17:11-14:

Heb 1:5 For to which of the angels did He ever say, "You are my Son, today I have begotten You"? And again, "I will be a Father to Him and He shall be a Son to Me"?

Heb 1:8 But of the Son He says, "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever ..."

Christ is seen as the "Greater King David"

He is seen in establishing the order of worship in the Tabernacle of David,

1Chr 16:1-7 And they brought in the ark of God and placed it inside the tent which David had pitched for it, ... 4 He appointed some of the Levites as ministers before the ark of the LORD, even to celebrate and to thank and praise the LORD God of Israel: ... 7 Then on that day David first assigned Asaph and his relatives to give thanks to the LORD. (Ac 15:15-18; Amos 9:11-12)

He is seen in making all provisions for the building of the temple (1Chr 22).

## 2 Chronicles

The book of 2 Chronicles is similar to the book of Judges in that it shows periods of relapses and periods of reformation.

Summary: The viewpoints of the kingdom period:

1. The books of 1 and 2 Kings are written from a royal point of view emphasizing the throne.
2. The books of 1 and 2Chr are written from the priestly point of view emphasizing the temple.
3. The books of the prophets are written from a prophetic point of view emphasizing the Divine relationship between the throne and the temple.

Christ is seen as our Prophet (Lk 24:19; Dt 18:15-19),  
Priest (Heb 2:17; Ps 110:4),  
and King (Mt 21:5; 1Tim 1:17; Jn 1:49).

Christ is seen as the Cleanser of the Temple

Mal 3:2-3 "But who can endure the day of His coming? And who can stand when He appears? For He is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap. 3 "He will sit as a smelter and purifier of silver, and He will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, so that they may present to the LORD offerings in righteousness.

Christ is seen as the one who brings periods of reformation after periods of relapse.

Heb 9:10-11 since they relate only to food and drink and various washings, regulations for the body imposed until a time of reformation. 11 But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things to come, He entered through the greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this creation;

Heb 9:14 how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?