

A Tour Through the Divine Library
(2 Chronicles)

Introduction

Joshua → **Judges/Ruth** → **1 Samuel–2 Chronicles**
(Entrance into Canaan) (Israel after Joshua) (Monarchy; Exile from Canaan)

1 Chronicles = 2 Samuel; 2 Chronicles = 1 Kings, 2 Kings

I. General Introduction to 2 Chronicles

- Title: first half of ‘The Words of the Days’ (Hebrew Bible); ‘The First Book of Things Omitted’ (Greek LXX); *Chronicorum Liber* (Later Latin Bible)
- Author: Ezra? (cf. 2 Chronicles 36:22, 23 with Ezra 1:1-3a); compiled from various historical sources (9:29; 12:15; 13:22; 16:11; 20:34; 24:27; 25:26; 26:22; 32:32; 33:19; 35:4)
- Structure and Date:
 - I. The Reign of Solomon (chs. 1-9): 971-931 BC
 - II. The Reigns of the Kings of Judah (chs. 10-36): 931-538 BC
- Compiled after the return from exile (~ 450–430 BC)
- Purpose and Theme: religious rather than political; display God’s faithfulness; encourage the returning exiles

II. General Overview of 2 Chronicles

- The Reign of Solomon: Solomon becomes king (ch. 1); Solomon builds the temple (chs. 2-7); Solomon attains great prosperity (chs. 8, 9)
- The Reigns of the Kings of Judah: twenty kings, eight good, all flawed (chs. 10-36:10); reason for exile (ch. 36:11-21); return from exile (ch. 36:22, 23)

III. Prominent People and Themes in 2 Chronicles

- People: Solomon; Queen of Sheba (Matt. 12:42); Rehoboam; Asa, Joash, Amaziah, Uzziah; Mannaseh; Hezekiah, Josiah
- Themes: Sinfulness of Idolatry; Importance of Obedience; Temple, Worship; God’s Faithfulness

IV. Christ in 2 Chronicles

- In Solomon (Matt. 12:42)
- In the Temple (Matt. 12:6; John 2:19, 21; Rev. 21:22)

V. Practical Lessons in the Chronicles

- 1) The Chronicles provide proper perspective concerning the plan of God.
- 2) The Chronicles display the glorious attributes of God.
- 3) The Chronicles point ultimately to the Son of God.