

Bible Training Institute

To proactively accelerate the spiritual growth of Grace Bible Church for the purpose of knowing God more intimately and becoming more effective servants of God in the world

A scroll of aged, yellowish parchment is unrolled against a dark red background. The scroll has a slightly textured appearance with some faint, darker spots. The text "1 & 2 Kings" is written in a bold, black, sans-serif font in the center of the unrolled portion. The scroll is partially rolled up at the top and bottom edges.

1 & 2 Kings

Introduction to 1 & 2 Kings

- Title
 - Hebrew = “Kings”
 - LXX (Septuagint) = 3 and 4 Book of Kingdoms
 - Latin Vulgate = 3 and 4 Kings
- Author—unknown, but Jeremiah is a candidate
- Date of Events—from the death of David (970BC) to the release of Jehoiachin (561BC)

Highlights of the Story of Kings

- The reign of Solomon
- The miracles of Elijah and Elisha
- The fall and repopulation of Samaria (northern kingdom)

Historical and Theological Themes

- The Kings
 - Solomon
 - Requirement of Obedience (1 Kings 2:2-4, 6:11-13, 8:56-61)
 - Solomon claimed to be the “Seed” (1 Kings 5:5)
 - Solomon was not the “Seed” (1 Kings 11:1, 4)
 - Solomon is a riddle—had much but failed much

Historical and Theological Themes

- The Kings—Northern Kingdom
 - Jeroboam I--Introduced alternate worship of YHWH
 - Ahab—evaluation: 1 Kings 16:30—state-sanctioned worship of Baal
 - Jehu—raised up to exercise judgment of Omri, (Ahab's father)

Historical and Theological Themes

- The Kings—Southern Kingdom of Judah
 - Hezekiah—most trusting in YHWH
 - Josiah—most obedient to Torah
- The Prophets
 - Individual Prophets: Nathan, Ahijah, Jehu, Elijah, Micaiah, Elisha, Jonah, Isaiah, Huldah
- The Temple— centerpiece of book, but polluted

Historical and Theological Themes

- The Sovereignty of YHWH
 - Fulfilled Word of the Prophets
 - At least 21 instances of prophecies given and fulfilled

THE PROPHET	PROPHECY	FULFILLMENT
Ahijah	I, 11: 29-39	I, 12:20
Shemaiah	I, 12:22-24a	I, 12:24b
A Man of God from Judah	I, 13:2-3	II, 23:15-16
A Man of God from Judah	I, 13:3	I, 13:5
A Man of God from Judah	I, 13:9, 16-17	I, 13:20-26
Ahijah	I, 14:6-11	I, 15:29
Ahijah	I, 14:12	I, 14:17-18
Jehu	I, 16:1-4, 7	I, 16:12-13
Elijah	I, 17:1	I, 18:1-2
A Prophet	I, 20:13	I, 20:20
A Prophet	I, 20:22	I, 20:26
A Man of God	I, 20:28	I, 20:29-30
A Man of the Sons of the Prophets	I, 20:35-36a	I, 20:36b
A Man of the Sons of the Prophets	I, 20:42	I, 22:38
Elijah	I, 21:23	II, 9:30-37; 10:10
Micaiah	I, 22:19-23	I, 22:40
Elisha	II, 3:16-19	II, 3:20-25
Elisha	II, 9:10	II, 9:30-37; 10:10
Elisha	II, 13:19	II, 13:25
Isaiah	II, 19:6-7	II, 19:35-37
Huldah	II, 22:15-20	II, 23:29-30

Historical and Theological Themes

- United and Divided Kingdoms
 - Solomon's son, Rehoboam, cannot keep the kingdom together
 - God continues to raise up prophets to both kingdoms to urge obedience to the Law
 - Fall of North in 722BC to Assyria
 - Fall of South in 586/7 BC to Babylon
 - MOSES—Prophesied the fall in Deuteronomy 28:49-50 (ESV)

Purpose of Kings

The human monarchy, including the House of David, failed to follow YHWH with the result that Israel and Judah were taken from the land in fulfillment of the prophetic word.

Literary Structure

- I. Kingdom United Under Solomon (1 Kings 1-11)
- II. Kingdom Divided Under Many Kings (1 Kings 12-22)
- III. Fall of Israel in the North (2 Kings 1-17)
- IV. Fall of Judah in the South (2 Kings 18-25)

Interpretive Issues

- Chronology
 - Kingdom of Israel: ca. 931-722 BC = 210 years
 - Kingdom of Judah: ca. 931-586 BC = 345 years
 - PROBLEM: Kings lists 394 ½ years for Judah and 241 ½ years for Israel—not enough time for each
 - SOLUTION(S)
 - Different calendars
 - Accession vs. Non-accession year dating
 - Co-Regencies

Interpretive Issues

The High Places

- Were they EXCUSABLE? (as long as not associated with Canaanite practices), until the building of the Temple?
- They were INEXCUSABLE both before and after the building of the Temple.

Interpretive Issues

The Portrayal of Solomon

1. A flawed follower of YHWH? (1 Kings 3:3)
 2. An apostate who turned completely away from YHWH? (1 Kings 11:9)
 3. Inconclusive, but Solomon is a Type of Christ? (Luke 11:31)
- **CONCLUSION:** Difficult to say, but likely combination of #1 and #3 due to Solomon as an author of Scripture