



# Chronicles of Israel

**A study on Israel, her kings, and truth versus consequence**

High Meadow Ranch Men's Bible Study | Lesson #15 – Tuesday, May 9, 2023

True Reformation (2 Chronicles 29:1 – 32:33)

Provided in the table below is a high level overview of 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Chronicles. As we go through this series it will be useful to keep this overview in mind in relation to the overall framework of this study.

Chapters	Content	Significance
1 Chronicles 1 – 9	Genealogies, emphasis on tribes of Judah and Levi	Preparing the stage for the Kingdom of Judah and the priestly tribe
1 Chronicles 10	Reign of Saul	Transition to David's Kingdom; declaration that the throne belonged to the tribe of Judah
1 Chronicles 11 – 29	Reign of David	Phase 1 of the ideal Kingdom; detailed preparation for the Temple
2 Chronicles 1 – 9	Reign of Solomon	Phase 2 of the ideal Kingdom; construction and installation of the Temple
2 Chronicles 10 – 26	Kings of Judah	Succession of kings, all of whom were descended from David; implemented the standards of David and Solomon to varying degrees

This is the seventh of nine lessons dealing with the kings of Judah after Solomon. In this lesson we'll talk about Hezekiah, who was one of the greatest kings of Judah, especially considering some of the evil that preceded his reign (not significantly different than what we are experiencing in America today). Listed below are some of the things that Hezekiah did to distinguish himself as king for the Lord.

- 2 Chronicles 29:3–11: Once he took charge of the throne, he immediately started restoring the Temple and undo the damage caused by his father, Ahaz.
- 2 Chronicles 29:25–30: Just as David had done, he instituted music as part of the Temple practice.
- 2 Chronicles 29:31–36: He took sacrifice seriously and offered six hundred bulls and three thousand sheep and goats.
- 2 Chronicles 30:1–12: Although he had no legal responsibility for doing so, he extended an invitation to the residents of the Northern Kingdom to participate in the celebration honoring God.
- 2 Chronicles 32:1–21: When King Sennacherib of Assyria attempted to conquer Jerusalem, the king relied on God and the Lord protected Hezekiah with a miracle.

As we do each week, let's ask ourselves the following questions:

1. Was the king good or bad?
2. For the bad kings, what factors contributed to their downfall?
3. For the good kings, what factors contributed to their success?
4. What lessons can we learn from these kings that apply to our own lives?



### Questions

1. In reading through the assigned text for this week (2 Chronicles 29 – 32), what specific actions did Hezekiah execute to make him an effective reformer?
  
2. Read 2 Chronicles 30:6–13. What were the various responses of the people received by the messengers sent by Hezekiah? Remember by this time period the Northern Kingdom had already fallen to Assyria and that the residents of this region had no king.
  
3. Read 2 Chronicles 31:20–21. What resulted from Hezekiah’s obedience? Considering all he did, why do you think the Lord subsequently allowed the threat imposed by Sennacherib, King of Assyria (See 2 Chronicles 32)?
  
4. Read 2 Chronicles 32 and answer the following questions.
  - a. What threat was imposed by the Assyrians?
  
  - b. How did Hezekiah respond to the threat?
  
  - c. What was the eventual outcome?
  
5. Contrast Solomon showing his treasure to the Queen of Sheba (2 Chronicles 9:3) with Hezekiah’s action of showing off his treasure to the King of Babylon. What are the similarities and differences?
  
6. What admonishment can we glean as Christians from Hezekiah’s slip into pride and conceit late in his reign?

**Next Meeting (Lesson #15, Tuesday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>; I’m sorry I’ve gotten us off schedule!):** In our next lesson we’ll read 2 Chronicles 33:1 – 35:27 and discuss Manasseh’s repentance and Josiah’s reign as a good and Godly king.