



Chronicles of Israel

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

High Meadow Ranch Men's Bible Study | Lesson #6 – November 29, 2022

Solomon Takes the Throne (2 Chronicles 1)

Provided in the table below is a high level overview of 1st and 2nd 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 first of three lessons focused on the life and reign of Solomon. The life and reign of Solomon is one of the great character studies in the Bible. David provided the Kingdom to Solomon in a good condition. David had subdued his enemies and spent countless days in battle. Ironically, Solomon would never go into battle and his reign was one of peace and tranquility. Because of the time of peace, Solomon was able to focus on building and construction. He likely had numerous building projects, but the two most noteworthy were the construction of a palace for himself and The Temple. However, Solomon accumulated great wealth, wives, and concubines that caused him distraction and he did not finish as strong as he started in terms of pursuing God.

Listed below are some interesting facts about Solomon.

- King Solomon ruled for 40 years and became king at the age of 20 (c. 968 to 928 B.C.E.).
- It is estimated that in today's money Solomon would have a fortune in excess of \$2 trillion.
- Solomon did not have the strongest claim to the throne. From a birth order standpoint, Adonijah was actually a more likely candidate because he was older than Solomon.
- He was recognized throughout the known world for his wisdom.
- He was the primary author of Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Solomon.
- He had 700 wives and 300 concubines.



Questions

1. Read 2 Chronicles 1:1 – 17.
 - a. When given the opportunity, for what did Solomon ask?

 - b. What did God wind up giving Solomon in addition to his request?

 - c. If God came to you as He did Solomon and offered you the opportunity to have anything, for what would you ask?

 - d. In your life who would you consider as someone who has (or had) great wisdom? What made them wise.

 - e. Are there areas in your life where you need God to give you wisdom?

2. Read James 1:2 – 8. What does this passage say to those who ask for wisdom?

3. Read Proverbs 3:5 – 6. In the life of a Believer (follower of Jesus) how do wisdom and trust work together? Is this a hard concept for some people to grasp?

4. Read 2 Chronicles 1:14 – 17.
 - a. What were some of the things Solomon accumulated?

 - b. What are some of the **benefits** associated with having assets?

 - c. What are some of the downsides associated with having significant assets?

5. Why do you think God chooses to bless some people more than others in terms of talents, resources, health, and wealth?

Next Meeting (Lesson #7, 12.06.22): In our next lesson we'll read 2 Chronicles 2:1 – 7:22 and discuss Solomon's building the Temple in Jerusalem.