

I Chronicles

The Book of Preparing for
the Temple

I Chronicles: The Book of Preparing for the Temple

I. Genealogies (1 Chronicles 1-9)

- A. God traced the genealogy of Judah's twenty-one KINGS from King David to the Exile.
- B. God traced the genealogy of the Levites.
 1. All Levites were to SERVE in the temple.
 2. Some Levites, Aaron's sons, were the priests.

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II. David's Reign – Preparing to build the temple (1 Chronicles 10-29)

A. David prepared the place.

1. David captured the city of JERUSALEM.
2. David returned the ARK to Jerusalem.

B. David repeated the promise.

1. David's son SOLOMON would build the temple.

C. David prepared the provisions.

1. David used spoils of battles as building materials.
2. David bought land for the temple SITE.

D. David prepared the people.

1. David prepared the builders.
2. David prepared the Levites and priests.

3. David prepared himself to DIE.
 - a. David declared Solomon king.
 - b. David prepared Solomon to build.
 - c. David prepared the people to give.
 - d. David WORSHIPED God.
 - e. David prayed for the people.

2 Chronicles

The Book of Judah's
Spiritual Descent

2 Chronicles: The Book of Judah's Spiritual Descent

- I. The Nation of Israel in its GLORY: Look to the Past (2 Chronicles 1-9)

- A. King Solomon received WISDOM from God.
- B. Solomon built the temple and it symbolized the PRESENCE of God in the nation.
 1. It took seven years to build the temple.
 2. All of the stones were cut off-site.
 3. The temple was built on Mount Moriah.
 4. The temple was built with cedar, silver, bronze, and gold.

5. The temple contained no idols.
6. There was only one temple in Israel because there was only one God.
7. The temple was thirty feet by ninety feet and forty-five feet high.
8. The temple had only two interior rooms.
9. Only the priests entered the temple.

C. The nation of Israel enjoyed PEACE, prosperity, and prestige under Solomon's rule.

2 Chronicles: The Book of Judah's Spiritual Descent

- II. The Nation of Judah in its Decline and DESTRUCTION: Learn for the Present (2 Chronicles 10)

A. There were twenty kings in Judah.

1. There were EIGHT good kings in Judah and twelve evil kings.

a. AHAZ was an example of an evil king.

b. HEZEKIAH was an example of a good king.

2. There were five revivals recorded in 2 Chronicles.

- B. Jerusalem and the temple were destroyed by Babylon in 586 BC.
- C. Many of the people were taken into EXILE to Babylon.

2 Chronicles: The Book of Judah's Spiritual Descent

III. The Nation Yet to Be: Live for the Future (2 Chronicles 36)

- A. Jeremiah (29:10) had prophesied before the fall of Jerusalem that the people would return from exile after seventy years.
- B. God chose Cyrus, king of Persia, to allow the people to go back to Judah to rebuild the temple.

Ezra

The Book of Rebuilding the Temple

Ezra: The Book of Rebuilding the Temple

I. First Return: Remnant Rebuilt (Ezra 1-6)

A. Released Remnant – Fulfillment of Prophecy (Ezra 1-2)

1. The people were given two choices:
RETURN or SUPPORT the return.
2. A CENSUS was taken to number the returning remnant.

B. Rebuilding Began (Ezra 3)

1. ZERUBBABEL was God's choice to lead the remnant home.
2. The people PRAYED to God because they were motivated by FEAR.
3. Protected by God, the FOUNDATION was laid.

C. Restoration Hindered by Opposition (Ezra 4)

1. The enemy's first tactic was COMPROMISE.
2. The second tactic employed was DISCOURAGEMENT.
3. The third tactic used was ACCUSATION.

D. Remnant Rallied by Prophets (Ezra 5)

E. Rebuilding of Temple Completed (Ezra 6)

Ezra: The Book of Rebuilding the Temple

II. Second Return: Remnant Revived (Ezra 7-10)

A. Readied for Return Under Ezra (Ezra 7-8)

1. The return began as EZRA found favor with the king and the people were allowed to leave.
2. The remnant was counted and prepared through prayer and returned safely to Israel.

B. Recognition of Sin by Ezra (Ezra 9)

1. Reports of UNFAITHFULNESS reached Ezra.
2. REBELLION of the people grieved Ezra. He mourned as the fearful people were summoned.

C. Renewal of Covenant (Ezra 10)

1. RESTORATION of Israel's relationship with God began.
2. REPENTANCE brought revival.

Nehemiah

The Book of
Rebuilding the Wall

Nehemiah: The Book of Rebuilding the Wall

- I. Rebuilding of the Wall: Construction
(Nehemiah 1-7)

A. Nehemiah was PREPARED by God in captivity.

1. He was educated in the courts of Persia.

2. He was a trained leader and organizer of men.

3. He was the cupbearer to the king.

B. Nehemiah was a man of PRAYER.

C. Nehemiah overcame big PROBLEMS with the help of our God.

1. He gave Nehemiah favor in the eyes of the king.

2. He provided the supplies, the safe travel, and the people that were needed to rebuild.

D. Nehemiah took a census of all the PEOPLE who returned.

Nehemiah: The Book of Rebuilding the Wall

II. Rebuilding of the People: Instruction (Nehemiah 8-13)

- A. Ezra PREACHED God's Word to the people.
1. The people were CONVICTED because they realized how far they were from God's Law.
 2. The people CELEBRATED the Feast of the Tabernacles.
 3. After a time of CONFESSION and prayer, the people signed a COVENANT.

- B. Nehemiah had the people cast lots to determine who would POPULATE the city.
- C. Nehemiah and Ezra led the people in dedicating the wall twelve years after its completion.
- D. Nehemiah had to return to Jerusalem when the people suffered a spiritual and POLITICAL relapse.

Esther

The Book of Exiles'
Providential Protection

Esther: The Book of Exiles' Providential Protection

I. Plots of Men (Crisis Anticipated) (Esther 1-5)

- A. Ahasuerus was the KING of Persia.
1. Vashti, the queen, refused the king's command.
 2. The king banished VASHTI from the palace.
- B. ESTHER was crowned as Persia's new queen.
- C. Mordecai, Esther's COUSIN, saved the king's life.

D. Haman, the Agagite, was promoted over all the princes.

1. Mordecai, the Jew, refused to BOW to Haman.

2. Haman sought to destroy all the JEWS.

Esther: The Book of Exiles' Providential Protection

II. The Protection of God (Crisis Averted) (Esther 6-10)

A. God's Perfect Timing

1. God controlled Haman's cast of Pur. The date to destroy the Jews was eleven months in the future.
2. Mordecai commanded Esther to be an ADVOCATE for the Jews.
3. Esther delayed advocating for the Jews until the second banquet. Haman build gallows to KILL Mordecai.

4. King Ahasuerus, unable to SLEEP, read how Mordecai saved his life.
5. Haman arrived at the exact time the king desired Mordecai honored.

B. God's People Protected

1. Esther exposed Haman's plot at the second banquet.
2. Haman was KILLED on gallows he prepared for Mordecai.
3. Mordecai replaced the irrevocable decree with a new one: The Jews can defend themselves.

4. The Feast of Purim was established to remember and celebrate God's hidden hand of PROTECTION.