

Book of 2Chronicles

Synopsis



Introduction

Book No	14
Name	2Chronicles
Written By	Ezra
Testament	Old
Category	History
Date Written	Approx. 450 - 430 BC
Place Written	Jerusalem
Audience	To the people of Israel
Purpose	To unify the nation around true worship of God by showing his standard for judging kings. The righteous kings of Judah and the religious revivals under their rule are highlighted, and the sins of the evil kings are exposed.
History Covered	970 - 586 BC
Chapters	36
Verses	822
Key Verse	If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land. (7:14)
Key People	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Solomon ❖ Queen of Sheba ❖ Rehoboam ❖ Asa

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Jehoshaphat ❖ Jehoram ❖ Joash ❖ Uzziah (Azariah) ❖ Ahaz ❖ Hezekiah ❖ Manasseh ❖ Josiah
Key Places	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Gibeon ❖ Jersusalem ❖ Shechem ❖ Hill country of Ephraim ❖ Aram (Syria) ❖ Samaria ❖ Ramoth gilead

Purpose of the Book

Second Chronicles continues the history of 1 Chronicles. David's son Solomon was inaugurated as king. Solomon built the magnificent Temple in Jerusalem, thus fulfilling his father's wish and last request (chapters 2–5). Solomon enjoyed a peaceful and prosperous reign of 40 years that made him world famous. After Solomon died, his son Rehoboam assumed the throne, and his immaturity divided the kingdom.

In Judah there were a few good kings and many evil ones. The writer of Chronicles faithfully records their achievements and failures, noting how each king measured up to God's standard for success. Clearly a good king obeyed God's laws, eliminated the places of idol worship, and made no alliances with other nations. Judah's good kings include Asa, Jehoshaphat, Uzziah (Azariah), Hezekiah, and Josiah. Of its many evil ones, Ahaz and Manasseh were perhaps the worst. Eventually the nation was conquered and taken captive, and the Temple was destroyed.

The writer's purpose was to reunite the nation around the true worship of God after the captivity. In these pages, he reminds the people of their past. He clearly broadcasts his message through one of the best-known verses in Scripture, "Then if my people who are called by my name will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and

turn from their wicked ways, I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sins and heal their land” (7:14). As you read 2 Chronicles, listen to God’s voice and obey him; and receive his redemptive, healing touch.

Overview

- ❖ 14th book of the BIBLE, Old Testament and 9th among the 12 historical books
- ❖ Includes a detailed record of temple construction
- ❖ The first part of 2 Chronicles (1–9) outlines the reign of King Solomon.
- ❖ 2 Chronicles consists of chapters 10–36. concentrates almost exclusively on the southern kingdom of Judah and treats the history of the northern kingdom of Israel as incidental.
- ❖ Chapters 1-9 cover the 40 years
- ❖ Chapters 10-36 cover the 393 years
- ❖ Approximately 70% of chapters 10-36 deals with the 8 good kings of Judah, leaving only 30% to cover the 12 evil rulers.
- ❖ 6 of the first 9 chapters concern the construction and dedication of the Temple.
- ❖ During Solomon’s reign, Israel’s boundaries extend to their greatest point.
- ❖ Four legendary things about Solomon:
 - His wealth
 - His palace
 - His wisdom
 - His Temple

Hebrew Names of GOD used in 2Chronicles

NA

Revelation of JESUS CHRIST

Christ is foreshadowed in 2 Chronicles in much the same way as He is in 2 Kings. First Chronicles 21 (see also 2 Sam. 24) explains that as a consequence for sin, a death plague had broken out against Israel. David buys a piece of property from Ornan on which to make a sacrifice that stops the plague. This site on Mount Moriah was the very place where Solomon would build the temple (3:1). It is possible that this was the very mountain where Abraham was asked to sacrifice his son Isaac (Gen. 22:2). In the New Testament, three times Paul refers to believers as the “temple of God” (1 Cor. 3:16, 17; 6:19; Eph. 2:19–22). It is Christ who has purchased the ground for this spiritual

temple. It was His sacrifice that delivered us from death (Rom. 5:12–18; 7:24, 25; 1 John 3:14).

Work of THE HOLY SPIRIT

There are three clear references to the Holy Spirit in 2 Chronicles. He is referred to as the “Spirit of God” (15:1; 24:20) and the “Spirit of the LORD” (20:14). In these references, the Holy Spirit was active to give inspired utterances through Azariah (15:1), Jahaziel (20:14), and Zechariah (24:20). This work of the Holy Spirit to inspire people to prophesy is similar to His activity in 1 and 2 Samuel and 1 and 2 Kings. See Introductions to 1 and 2 Kings: The Holy Spirit at Work.

Besides these references, many see a picture of the Holy Spirit in 2 Chronicles 5:13, 14 (cf. also 1 Kin. 8:10, 11) at the dedication of the temple. This temple, which was built on a place that was purchased, a place where sacrifice was made for sin, is now filled with the presence of God. In the New Testament, Paul explains that believers are the temple of God, the dwelling place of the Holy Spirit (1 Cor. 3:16; 6:19).

Finally, there is a possible reference to the Holy Spirit in 18:23. This is a parallel reference to 1 Kings 22:24.

Mega Themes of 2Chronicles

TEMPLE

The Temple was the symbol of God’s presence and the place set aside for worship and prayer. Built by Solomon from the plans God gave to David, the Temple was the spiritual center of the nation.

As Christians meet together to worship God, they experience the presence of God in a way that no individual believer can, for the dwelling place of God is the people of God. The body of Christ is God’s temple.

PEACE

As Solomon and his descendants were faithful to God, they experienced victory in battle, success in government, and peace with other nations. Peace was the result of the people being unified and loyal to God and his law.

Only God can bring true peace. God is greater than any enemy, army, or nation. Just as Israel’s faithful response was key to her peace and survival as a nation, so our obedience to God as individuals and nations is vital to peace today.

PRAYER

After Solomon died, David's kingdom was divided. When a king led the Israelites into idolatry, the nation suffered. When the king and his people prayed to God for deliverance and they turned from their sinful ways, God delivered them.

God still answers prayer today. We have God's promise that if we humble ourselves, seek him, turn from our sin, and pray, God will hear, heal, and forgive us. If we are alert, we can pray for God's guidance before we get into trouble.

REFORM

Although idolatry and injustice were common, some kings turned to God and led the people in spiritual revival—renewing their commitment to God and reforming their society. Revival included the destruction of idols, obedience to the law, and the restoration of the priesthood.

We must constantly commit ourselves to obeying God. We are never secure in what others have done before us. Believers in each generation must dedicate themselves to the task of carrying out God's will in their own lives as well as in society.

NATIONAL COLLAPSE

In 586 B.C. the Babylonians completely destroyed Solomon's beautiful Temple. The formal worship of God was ended. The Israelites had abandoned God. As a result, God brought judgment upon his people, and they were carried off into captivity.

Although our disobedience may not be as blatant as Israel's, quite often our commitment to God is insincere and casual. When we forget that all our power, wisdom, and wealth come from God and not ourselves, we are in danger of the same spiritual and moral collapse that Israel experienced.

Life Lessons in 2Chronicles

Truth	Lesson
<p>Growing in Godliness</p> <p>Godliness grows as our heart knowledge and understanding of God increases.</p>	<p>❖ Declare the greatness of God. As we understand the grandeur of God, we see our work and ourselves with greater clarity and perspective.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Draw near to God; delight in His ways, and godliness will flourish.
<p>Cultivating Dynamic</p> <p>Devotion</p> <p>The primary goal of wholehearted devotion is to know God, which opens to the benefits of His blessing.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Seek God; ask for His wisdom to complete the task that lies before you. He will honor you as you seek to honor Him. ❖ Be confident that when you wholeheartedly seek God, you will find Him. ❖ Rejoice in knowing that the Lord is searching for people like you—people whose hearts will be loyal to Him, that He may strengthen and support and use them for His glory.
<p>Pursuing Holiness</p> <p>Scripture makes it very clear that there are consequences for sin, but that never leaves us without a remedy.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Confess sin, and walk away from it. Turn toward the Lord, and receive His forgiveness and restoration. Remember, Jesus brings the fullness of God’s glory and forgiveness (John 1:14). ❖ Humble yourself, pray, seek God’s face, and turn away from evil. This is the action that God directs when we pray for our nation. ❖ Identify the sins of your city or nation, and confess them to God (Neh.1). ❖ be careful not to promote the ungodly or to support those whose ways contradict the scriptures and thus displease the LORD ❖ avoid the evil ethic of expediency ❖ do not employ procedures or practices you suspect of being unethical or ungodly even if they promise success

<p>The Walk of Faith</p> <p>Battles are won through faith's warfare, but ultimately belong solely to the Lord. We are instructed to pray, praise the Lord, and stand in faith. This is how we will see the salvation and victory of the Lord.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Be intentional; ask God for His strategy for victory when you face a personal struggle. ❖ Acknowledge your weaknesses, and look to the Lord; He will give you direction. ❖ Trust the Bible as God's living Word to you and as the ultimate standard of revealed truth. ❖ Be open to receiving prophetic words given by godly men and women. Seek the Lord for confirmation, test such words by Scripture, and submit them to the Lord in prayer. ❖ Lead with praise. Learn from the faith of the singers going into battle in front of the army, and remember how God brought a mighty victory.
<p>Steps in developing humility</p> <p>The humble person sees himself in the light of his relationship with almighty GOD. A truly humble individual regards others more highly than himself because this self assessment puts others in a better perspective. Also the humble person is grateful for what he has received from the LORD and not lifted up in pride as a result of success or prosperity</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ understand that GOD fills the universe. Know that nothing we build can contain HIM. The best we can do is reflect HIS glory ❖ beware of the test of prosperity ❖ guard against pride when you have experienced success. Be certain pride will lead to your downfall. Repent if pride is found in you
<p>Guidelines to gaining victory</p> <p>Exodus 17's revelation of GOD as "The LORD our banner" that is our victory or our miracle forever</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ rely on GOD's wisdom strength and abilities when confronting spiritual opposition. Be assured that this is the quickest way to victory

<p>secures victory for GOD's people. Victory in spiritual battles comes as we rely upon the LORD to fight on our behalf. This is what it means to trust the LORD in battle and stand still to see HIS deliverance</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ rely upon the LORD when the ungodly oppose or persecute you. ❖ Be assured that man who is finite can not prevail against GOD ❖ Covet the presence of the LORD. Depend upon HIS presence when confronting any opposition. ❖ Know that the battle is not yours but HIS ❖ Trust the LORD to do your fighting for you
<p>A key to contentment</p> <p>Contentment results from knowing that the LORD is a ready resource for those who trust in HIM</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Never allow finances to determine obedience. ❖ Know that GOD will supply all you need to do HIS will ❖ Confess poor stewardship. Accept GOD's forgiveness and obey
<p>Lessons for leaders</p> <p>The spiritual leader praised in the scriptures is faithful to instruct GOD's people in GOD's WORD making sure they know thoroughly and are careful to obey it. GOD consistently honors those who speak only the message HE has put in their mouths</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Leaders teach your people to seek the LORD and put HIS WORD into practice. Trust that the LORD will cause them to prosper if they do ❖ Leaders make sure that your people are thoroughly taught and well read in the scriptures ❖ Leaders be steadfast in speaking only what GOD has given you to say ❖ Pursue the reputation of being someone in whose mouth is the WORD of the LORD

Praise Points in 2Chronicles

- ❖ Leaders who look to God for wisdom and knowledge (1:10)
- ❖ His greatness, which is beyond compare (2:5)
- ❖ His responses to our worship (5:13-14)
- ❖ His blessings for obedience and his discipline for rebellion (6:20-39)
- ❖ His attentiveness to our prayers of humble repentance (7:13-15)

- ❖ His sovereignty over all things, both good and bad (10:12-15)
- ❖ The strength he gives to those whose hearts are fully committed to him (16:9)
- ❖ Parents who set godly examples for their children (26:4; 27:2)
- ❖ Children who follow God despite their poor parental examples (29:2)
- ❖ Humble leaders (32:24-31)
- ❖ The power of his Word to change our heart and actions (34:14-21).

Worship Insights in 2Chronicles

Second Chronicles also extols the episodes of worship renewal in Judah. We learn that Rehoboam humbled himself before the Lord, that Asa led the people in a recommitment to the covenant, and that Jehoshaphat won a battle by sending a chorus of priests ahead of the army. We are also told of Temple repairs organized by Joash, Hezekiah, and Josiah.

Judah was in trouble, and King Jehoshaphat was alarmed. A large army was about to attack Judah, so Jehoshaphat proclaimed a fast and called the people together to pray. While the people were praying, suddenly the Lord spoke through one of his prophets: “Do not be afraid! Don’t be discouraged by this mighty army, for the battle is not yours, but God’s” (20:15). The prophet then outlined a battle plan for Judah, and Jehoshaphat put the plan into action the next day. After encouraging his people, Jehoshaphat appointed people to go ahead of the army singing praises to the Lord: “Give thanks to the LORD; his faithful love endures forever!” (20:21). This song was no prebattle ceremony; it was the battle plan itself. When the singers began to praise the Lord, the enemy armies turned on each other and destroyed themselves. The army of Judah returned to Jerusalem with shouts of joy and the sounding of trumpets and other instruments.

Jehoshaphat’s victory illustrates a truth about worship: It is a form of spiritual warfare. Another well-known battle that demonstrates this same truth is Joshua’s siege of Jericho (Joshua 6:1-21). In this battle, the victory was won, not by fighting, but by following the Lord’s instructions to march around the city and shout. As with these battles, when we begin to praise and worship God, he will enable us to overcome those who oppose his will and his people.

- ❖ Worship often precedes guidance (1:5-7).
- ❖ God’s greatness ought to move us to offer our best to him (2:5).

- ❖ Prayers of dedication invoke God's blessing on our work while reminding us of our responsibilities to him (6:14-42).
- ❖ Repentance leads to healing, forgiveness, and renewed worship (7:13-14).
- ❖ Removing loyalties that separate us from God is essential for restoring true worship (14:3-6).
- ❖ We should always turn to God when we feel threatened, and fasting can often help us focus on him (20:2-4).
- ❖ Our offerings form part of our worship (24:8-14; 31:2-21).
- ❖ Music, offerings, humility, and praise all contribute to meaningful worship (29:25-30).
- ❖ Meaningful worship establishes a solid foundation for revival (30:6–31:1).
- ❖ Reading and understanding God's Word lays the groundwork for worship (34:14-32).

An Outline of 2Chronicles

I. A Great Work for a Great God: 2Ch. 1:1-5:1

A. Qualifications: [2Ch_1:1-17](#)

B. Preparations: [2Ch_2:1-18](#)

C. Implementation: 2Ch. 3:1-5:1

II. God's House, People, and King: 2Ch. 5:2-9:31

A. The Glory of the Lord: 2Ch. 5:2-6:11

B. Answered Prayer: 2Ch. 6:12-7:22

C. A Blueprint for God's Kingdom: 2Ch. 8:1-9:31

III. The Parting of the Ways: 2Ch. 10:1-12:16

A. The Value of Listening: 2Ch. 10:1-11:4

B. The Virtue of Obedience: [2Ch_11:5-23](#)

C. The Vanquishing of Self-Will:

[2Ch_12:1-16](#)

IV. Relying on God: 2Ch. 13:1-16:14

A. Fidelity Versus Infidelity: [2Ch_13:1-22](#)

B. True Faith: 2Ch. 14:1-15:19

C. Counterfeit Faith: [2Ch_16:1-14](#)

V. Keeping the Right Company: 2Ch. 17:1-20:37

- A. God's Presence in Blessing: 2Ch_17:1-19**
- B. Wrongful Alliance: 2Ch. 18:1-19:3**
- C. God's Presence in Social Reform: 2Ch_19:4-11**
- D. God's Presence in Deliverance: 2Ch_20:1-30**
- E. Wrongful Alliance Again: 2Ch_20:31-37**

VI. God's Royal Lamp: 2Ch. 21:1-23:21

- A. The Flickering Lamp: 2Ch. 21:1-22:12**
- B. The Lamp Relit: 2Ch_23:1-21**

VII. How to Be a Loser: 2Ch. 24:1-26:23

- A. Listening to the Wrong Voices: 2Ch_24:1-27**
- B. Finding a Newfangled Faith: 2Ch_25:1-28**
- C. Overstepping God's Limits: 2Ch_26:1-23**

VIII. Images of Right and Wrong: 2Ch. 27:1-28:27

- A. A Success Story: 2Ch_27:1-9**
- B. A Tale of Woe: 2Ch_28:1-8, 2Ch_28:16-27**
- C. A Reversal of Roles: 2Ch_28:9-15**

IX. Potential Attained: 2Ch. 29:1-32:33

- A. Spiritual Restoration: 2Ch_29:1-36**
- B. United Celebration: 2Ch. 30:1-31:1**
- C. Religious Reformation: 2Ch_31:2-21**
- D. Divine Approbation: 2Ch_32:1-33**

X. Ascents to Glory: 2Ch. 33:1-35:27

- A. An Apostate Redeemed: 2Ch_33:1-20**
- B. A Spiritual Revolution: 2Ch. 33:21-35:27**

XI. Plunging to Ruin: 2Ch_36:1-23

- A. Forebodings of Doom: 2Ch_36:1-10**
- B. Final Disaster: 2Ch_36:11-20**
- C. A Favorable Denouement: 2Ch_36:21-23**