

## 1 & 2 Kings

### A United Kingdom Becomes Divided and Dissolved

It has been said that the person who does not know history is destined to repeat its mistakes. The books of 1 & 2 Kings were written not only to record the history of the Jewish monarchy, but to teach us lessons based on this history so we might learn from the \_\_\_\_\_ of Israel's \_\_\_\_\_ to God's commands. First and Second Kings were originally written as \_\_\_\_\_ book. They were written from the perspective of the \_\_\_\_\_, whereas 1 & 2 Chronicles, which cover much of the same material and time period, were written from the perspective of the \_\_\_\_\_.

The book of 1 Kings picks up where 2 Samuel leaves off, describing the last days of King David's life. After David's death, his son, Solomon, becomes king over the \_\_\_\_\_ of Israel. Solomon begins his reign humbly dependent on God and is given great \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ by God, far beyond what any king before or after him has ever had. Under Solomon's leadership, Israel rose to the \_\_\_\_\_ of her size and glory, and the great \_\_\_\_\_ to God was constructed. The news of Solomon's great wealth, wisdom, and accomplishments spread throughout the world as a testimony of God's blessing.

Unfortunately, in his later years, Solomon's heart was lured away from God by the influence of his pagan \_\_\_\_\_, and he began to worship the \_\_\_\_\_ of his wives. As a result of Solomon's \_\_\_\_\_, the nation began a downward spiral towards destruction.

The books of 1 & 2 Kings trace the \_\_\_\_\_ from the point of its greatest \_\_\_\_\_ under Solomon to its \_\_\_\_\_. First Kings starts with the reign of Solomon, records how, after Solomon's death the kingdom was split into the two nations of \_\_\_\_\_ (Northern Kingdom) and \_\_\_\_\_ (Southern Kingdom), and traces the history of these two nations as they habitually \_\_\_\_\_ God's Word and God's prophets.

Second Kings continues the drama begun in 1 Kings and ends with the dissolution of both kingdoms through the \_\_\_\_\_ of Israel by the Assyrians in 722 BC, and the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ of Judah by the Babylonians in 586 BC. In all, there

were \_\_\_\_\_ kings who ruled over \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ kings and \_\_\_\_\_ queen who ruled over Judah, only \_\_\_\_\_ of whom were \_\_\_\_\_. Prior to the kingdom being split into Israel and Judah, the United Kingdom had been ruled by \_\_\_\_\_ kings—Saul, David, and Solomon—each of whom reigned for \_\_\_\_\_ years.

Website, [gotquestions.org](http://gotquestions.org), lists and describes the kings of the Divided Kingdom as follows:

#### **KINGS OF ISRAEL:**

Jeroboam I, rebellious, 931–910 BC  
Nadab, bad, 910–909 BC  
Baasha, wicked, 909–886 BC  
Elah, evil, 886–885 BC  
Zimri, sinful, 885 BC  
Tibni, iniquitous, 885–880 BC  
Omri (overlap), extra bad, 885–874 BC  
Ahab, the worst to that point, 874–853 BC  
Ahaziah, disobedient, 853–852 BC  
Joram/Jehoram, mostly rotten, 852–841 BC  
Jehu, not good but better than the rest, 841–814 BC  
Jehoahaz, noncompliant, 814–798 BC  
Joash, wayward, 798–782 BC  
Jeroboam II (overlap), badly behaved, 793–753 BC  
Zechariah, abysmal, 753 BC  
Shallum, full of vice, 752 BC  
Menahem, horrible, 752–742 BC  
Pekahiah, idolatrous, 742–740 BC  
Pekah (overlap), awful, 752–732 BC  
Hoshea, appalling, 732–722 BC

## KINGS OF JUDAH:

Rehoboam, mostly bad, 931–913 BC

Abijah, mostly perverted, 913–911 BC

Asa, good, 911–870 BC

Jehoshaphat (overlap), righteous, 873–848 BC

Jehoram/Joram (overlap), terrible, 853–841 BC

Ahaziah, bad, 841 BC

Athaliah (queen), devilish, 841–835 BC

Joash/Jehoash, mostly virtuous, 835–796 BC

Amaziah, mostly wholesome, 796–767 BC

Uzziah/Azariah (overlap), mostly respectable, 790–739 BC

Jotham (overlap), worthy, 750–731 BC

Ahaz, heinous, 735–715 BC

Hezekiah, the best, 715–686 BC

Manasseh, depraved until he repented at the end, 695–642 BC

Amon, treacherous, 642–640 BC

Josiah, great, 640–609 BC

Jehoahaz, dreadful, 609 BC

Jehoiakim, degenerate, 609–597 BC

Jehoiachin, frightful, 597 BC

Zedekiah, foolish, 597–586 BC

**1 Kings** can be divided as follows:

<u>Chapters</u>	<u>Theme</u>
1–11	_____ Kingdom
12–22	_____ Kingdom

### Some key events in 1 Kings:

1. David appoints his son, \_\_\_\_\_, to be his successor (1 Kgs. 1:28–35).
2. David gives his \_\_\_\_\_ charge to Solomon (1 Kgs. 2:1–4).
3. Solomon asks for, and is granted, great \_\_\_\_\_ by God (1 Kgs. 3:5,9–14; 4:29–34).
4. Solomon prepares to build the \_\_\_\_\_ Jewish \_\_\_\_\_ (1 Kgs. 5:1–5).
5. Solomon builds, and then \_\_\_\_\_, the temple to God (1 Kgs. 8:4,10,11,63).
6. God promises protection for \_\_\_\_\_ and destruction for \_\_\_\_\_ (1 Kgs. 9:4–9).
7. The Queen of Sheba \_\_\_\_\_ Solomon and is amazed (1 Kgs. 10:1–7).
8. Solomon's \_\_\_\_\_ is recounted (1 Kgs. 10:14,18–24).
9. Solomon's \_\_\_\_\_ is demonstrated and punished (1 Kgs. 11:3,4,9–13).
10. Solomon reigned for \_\_\_\_\_ years and then died (1 Kgs. 11:42,43).
11. The kingdom is divided over \_\_\_\_\_ (1 Kgs. 12:4,13,14,19).
12. Jeroboam is made king of \_\_\_\_\_, and Rehoboam is made king of \_\_\_\_\_ (1 Kgs. 12:16–20).
13. Jeroboam makes two golden \_\_\_\_\_ for Israel to worship (1 Kgs. 12:26–29).
14. God judges Jeroboam (and \_\_\_\_\_) severely because of their \_\_\_\_\_ (1 Kgs.14:6–11).
15. God judges Rehoboam (and \_\_\_\_\_) severely because of their \_\_\_\_\_ (1 Kgs. 14:21–26).
16. Asa becomes king of \_\_\_\_\_ and is \_\_\_\_\_ to God (1 Kgs. 15:11–14).
17. Ahab becomes \_\_\_\_\_ most \_\_\_\_\_ king (1 Kgs. 16:29–33).
18. Elijah the prophet works a \_\_\_\_\_ miracle and a \_\_\_\_\_ miracle (1 Kgs. 17:12–24).
19. Elijah \_\_\_\_\_ the prophets of Baal (1 Kgs. 18:25–40).

2 Kings can be divided as follows:

<u>Chapters</u>	<u>Theme</u>
1-17	Divided Kingdom's _____
18-25	Judah's _____

**Some key events in 2 Kings:**

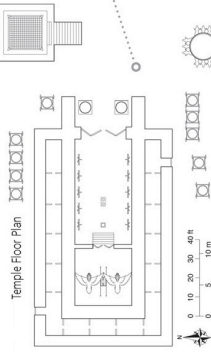
1. Elijah is taken \_\_\_\_\_ up into heaven in a chariot of \_\_\_\_\_ drawn by horses of \_\_\_\_\_ (2 Kgs. 2:11).
2. Elijah's ministry and \_\_\_\_\_ are passed on to Elisha (2 Kgs. 2:8-14).
3. Elisha is \_\_\_\_\_ by a mob of young men who, as punishment, are \_\_\_\_\_ by two bears (2 Kgs. 2:23-25).
4. Elisha and the miracle of the widow's really, really good \_\_\_\_\_ (2 Kgs. 4:1-7)
5. Elisha and the miracles of a \_\_\_\_\_ and a \_\_\_\_\_ (2 Kgs. 4:16-20,32-37)
6. Elisha and the miracle of the deadly \_\_\_\_\_ (2 Kgs. 4:38-41)
7. Elisha and the miracle of Naaman the \_\_\_\_\_ (2 Kgs. 5:1-3,10-14)
8. Elisha and the miracle of the \_\_\_\_\_ axe head (2 Kgs. 6:5-7)
9. Elisha and the miracles that \_\_\_\_\_ the first Syrian attack against Samaria (2 Kgs. 6:15-23)
10. Elisha's prophecy of \_\_\_\_\_ following \_\_\_\_\_ due to the second Syrian attack (2 Kgs. 6:24-29; 7:1-11,16,17)
11. Elisha prophecies that the Syrian king will \_\_\_\_\_, but \_\_\_\_\_ (2 Kgs. 8:7-15).
12. King Joash/Jehoash of Judah starts off \_\_\_\_\_ because he had a \_\_\_\_\_ mentor (2 Kgs. 12:1,2).
13. King Joash/Jehoash \_\_\_\_\_ the Jewish Temple (2 Kgs. 12:4,5).
14. King Joash/Jehoash pays off the Syrian king with \_\_\_\_\_ treasures and is \_\_\_\_\_ by his servants (2 Kgs. 12:17,18,20).
15. Elisha dies, is buried, and his \_\_\_\_\_ bring a dead man back to life (2 Kgs. 13:20,21).

16. The \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ of Israel, the Northern Kingdom, by Assyria (2 Kgs. 17:5–12)
17. King Hezekiah, king of Judah, prays for God's \_\_\_\_\_ and Judah is miraculously delivered from the King of Assyria (2 Kgs. 19:32–37).
18. Hezekiah prays to God, is \_\_\_\_\_ from a \_\_\_\_\_ illness, and God \_\_\_\_\_ his life \_\_\_\_\_ years (2 Kgs. 20:1–6).
19. Hezekiah's son, Manasseh, born after Hezekiah was \_\_\_\_\_, becomes Judah's most \_\_\_\_\_ king (2 Kgs. 21: 1–6).
20. Josiah becomes king of Judah at the age of \_\_\_\_\_, begins seeking the Lord at age \_\_\_\_\_, and at age \_\_\_\_\_ starts purging the land from idolatry (2 Chron. 34:1–3). Then, at age \_\_\_\_\_ he \_\_\_\_\_ the temple, \_\_\_\_\_ the Book of the Law, and has it \_\_\_\_\_ to the people (2 Kgs. 22:1,2; 23:1–3,25).
21. King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon's \_\_\_\_\_ siege against Jerusalem (597 BC) results in the temple being ransacked and King Jehoiachin and other prominent people of Judah being led into \_\_\_\_\_ in Babylon (2 Kgs. 24:10,14).
22. King Nebuchadnezzar's \_\_\_\_\_ siege against Jerusalem occurs a decade later (587–586 BC), resulting in the destruction of the \_\_\_\_\_, the destruction of Solomon's \_\_\_\_\_, more \_\_\_\_\_ to Babylon, and the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Kingdom of Judah (2 Kgs. 25:1,9–11).

A structure was built around the walls of the temple containing three levels. The lower chamber was 7.5 feet (2.3 m) wide, the middle chamber was 9 feet (9 m) wide, and the upper chamber was 10.5 feet (3.2 m) wide (1 Kings 6:5–6, 8, 10).

Two ornate wooden doors, overlaid with gold, separated the inner sanctuary from the nave (1 Kings 6:31–32).

The nave had clerestory windows with recessed frames (1 Kings 6:4).



The hollow bronze pillar on the north was called "Boaz," and the one on the south was called "Jachin" (1 Kings 7:2, 1; cf. 2 Chron. 3:17).

Two ornate wooden, folding doors, overlaid with gold, separated the nave from the vestibule (1 Kings 6:33–35).

The bronze altar for burnt offerings was 15 feet (4.6 m) high and 30 feet (9.1 m) long and wide (cf. 2 Chron. 4:1).

The inner sanctuary (or Most Holy Place) was a 30-foot (9.1-m) cube (1 Kings 6:15–29; 2 Chron. 3:8–14). Sixty rooms were often elevated in temples of the ancient Near East. Two massive golden cherubim were on either side of the ark, each 15 feet (4.6 m) tall with 15-foot (4.6-m) wingspans (1 Kings 6:23–28). The ark of the covenant was between the two cherubim (1 Kings 8:1–11; cf. 2 Chron. 5:2–14).

The nave (or Holy Place) was 60 feet (18.3 m) long and 30 feet (9.1 m) wide (1 Kings 6:15, 17–18; cf. 2 Chron. 3:5–7). It contained the golden altar for incense, the golden table for the bread of the Presence, and ten golden lampstands, five on the north and five on the south (1 Kings 7:48–49; cf. 2 Chron. 4:7).

Ten bronze wheeled stands and basins held water for mixing oil that was used for the burnt offerings (1 Kings 7:27–38; cf. 2 Chron. 4:6).

The "Sea" was a metal basin 7.5 feet (2.3 m) tall and 15 feet (4.6 m) in diameter. It held 12,000 gallons (44,000 liters) of water for the priests to wash in. It was supported by twelve bronze oxen in sets of three, facing in each direction (1 Kings 7:23–26; cf. 2 Chron. 4:2–5).

**SOLOMON'S TEMPLE**

Solomon began to build "the house of the Lord" in Jerusalem on Mount Moriah in the spring of 967 or 966 B.C. (1 Kings 6:1, 2; Chron. 3:1–2) and completed it seven years later, in the fall of 960 or 959 B.C. (1 Kings 6:38). The temple itself, not including the surrounding chambers on three sides, was 90 feet (27.4 m) long, 30 feet (9.1 m) wide, and 45 feet (13.7 m) high. It resided in the middle of a court with boundary walls.

