



2 Chronicles 20:12 *“Our God, will you not judge them? For we have no power to face this vast army that is attacking us. We do not know what to do, but our eyes are on you.”*

2 Chronicles

1 Chronicles 29 ended with a send-off. The kingdom was established and David had set everything in motion. Yet, something is different than the Kings books. David isn't telling Solomon to kill off those who opposed David. Solomon is given 8 chapters chronicling the good things he had done. God is blessing Solomon. This king is not like David. Sometimes there are leaders that are raised up for affluent times. Others like Sir Winston Churchill were made for war. Solomon is a peacetime king. He grew in wisdom but he equally grew in wealth and women.

Narrative

Second chronicles begins with a bang too. God blesses Solomon. The temple is built. Like I said already, something is wrong. Solomon is honoring God but he is equally obtaining riches, power, and so much more. The land is resting and all seems well. Even the glory of the Lord ascended upon the temple. Then Solomon made an error. He began a tradition of inviting the world to see his wealth. Wealth that they would desire. The scene is set for the rest of the Kings of the nation. Right after Solomon passes on, his son Rehoboam decides to tax the people

harder. What we find out is that Solomon had been taxing the people unjustly to built all his splendor. Rehoboam took it to another level.

From this moment on the kingdom becomes divided between Israel and Judah. What does God do? He steps back and lets man take the reign. Jehoshaphat is a great example of a double minded kingdom. He tries hard to be close to God. It begins well. However, this king decides to make an alliance with a very bad king named Ahab. Then He continues this trend sinking even lower giving alliances to more bad kings. From here on in is utter chaos. Joash tried to turn things around by rebuilding the temple of the Lord. Yet the course has been set. The divided kingdom will be lost. This book then goes into a pattern very similar to the book of Judges. A king sins and the nation is judged. A good king rises and then dives deep into sin. In the end we find the nation taken into captivity. Yet, just before the end, the book of the law is found. God will always leave a remnant to save the nation.

Intent

If you have read the Kings why read the same stuff in the books of Chronicles? The Chronicles get to the point. Some things are left out. We get time stamps more than story. Hezekiah is a great king yet; one verse says he prays and is restored. The next verse tells of his bad decision that ultimately leads to the destruction of the nation. It's quick and fast. God is outside of time. What would he see? It is a series of events that are cause and affect. For the most part the prophets are missing in this book. In many ways God is missing in this book. Behind the scenes we do see God allowing forces to press on his children. We see God trying to bless a nation hell bent on sin. In the end what do we find? Babylonia takes them captive. Yet, again God will not be taken. Cyrus king of Persia for unknown reasons allows Jerusalem to rebuild the temple and walls.

Characters

Solomon, The other Kings

Who wrote this book?

By tradition Ezra wrote the book.

Famous verses

1. 2 Chronicles 4:9-10 The prayer of Jabez
2. 2 Chronicles 16:26 idols vs God
3. 2 Chronicles 16:31 the Lord reign
4. 2 Chronicles 17:5 God does not dwell in a house
5. 2 Chronicles 17:11-12 the Davidic covenant
6. 2 Chronicles 21 David dealing with his sin

Controversies, issues, and Questions

1. Chronicles and kings are different

By tradition the Books of the Kings is mans view. We have more story. The Chronicles are an account. Some say Gods view. History writing is factual. That is what Chronicles is. It is not flowery or epic. This is who is king and this is their path to sin.

2. Good view vs not so good view

How would God view us? Is the book of life a story? Or, is it a list of events that we chose. The outcome and story do not really matter. You either sinned or you made good choices. Did you call on God or yourself? The books of Chronicles are a snapshot of the book of life. What did

they choose in the choices given? Did these kings call on God and let Him lead the way, or was God just part of being Jewish?

Connections

1 Chronicles 17:5 (John 15:26) God will dwell in people.

1 Chronicles 17:12 (Matthew) 1:1 Jesus is in the line Of David