

**1-2 Chronicles “God is faithful to his people”**      March 5, 2006  
Revised 3/18/06

First and second Chronicles were originally one book (possibly in conjunction with Ezra). It was likely compiled by Ezra about the time the children of Israel were returning to the land after the exile. The books recount God’s preservation of his people through past ages to encourage them that God has been and will continue to be faithful to his covenants with them. It is important to understand this purpose as you read through the various genealogies, lists and histories. As God has been faithful to his people in the past, and he will be in the future. It was true for Israel. It is true for us.

1Chronicles

- 1-9 As you read these chapters, note what is uniquely mentioned about each tribe and clan. Note the details that are given about certain individuals (e.g. 4:10, 7:20-24).
- 9,12 The New Testament references the different gifts that God bestows on his children, and that all of these are to be used for the service of the church as a whole (Rom 12:4-8; 1Co 12). Note the contribution of these various groups and the loss if any of them withdrew from service. Consider applications for us in the church.
- 13,15 Contrast these two chapters. What do they teach about God, his ways, our attitudes, our obedience. Is there anything in your life that may be being handled more like 13:7 instead of 15:2?
- 14:12 Contrast this verse with what happened with the children of Israel during the period of the Judges when God initially gave his children victory over the people of the land, and their gods, and their ensuing actions.

2Chronicles

- 6-7 Solomon prayed a great prayer for God to be attentive to the cries of his people (ch. 6). Solomon and the people worshiped God (7:1-10) and God answered Solomon’s prayer (7:12-16). In 7:14 God identified the conditions that would have to be met for him to hear their prayers and heal their land. List those conditions. Are they applicable to us today? Do we need to follow this formula for God to hear our prayers? Why or why not? How should we approach God in prayer?
- 12:1 Consider Deut 6:10-12 in light of 2Ch 12:1. What was the key factor that led to Rehoboam and Israel’s departure from God? It’s a good thing that we’re not that way isn’t it? What are the critical times that we might be most likely to fall? What can we do in times like that to ensure our staying true to God?
- 23-26 Joash, Amaziah, and Uzziah: All three started out following the Lord but ended up forsaking him. Why? (cf. 24:17, 25:14, 26:16) What can we learn from them?
- 36:11-21 Why did Israel end up this way (vv. 12-16)? List the various sins of the leaders and the people. From the glorious beginning of Solomon’s temple (ch. 1-5) it now lay as a desecrated ruin (36:17-19, with vv. 7 & 10). Does God care about the value of expensive buildings? To ask the obvious: why not? What do you think most greatly grieved God in chapter 36? Why?
- 36:22-23 Chronicles doesn’t end with the bleak comments of vv. 17-21. Instead it ends with a new king making new proclamations. God is in control. It suggests that in spite of their waywardness, God is faithful to his people. Thank God for his mercy and grace!