

The Age of 1 & 2 Kings

- ▶ 971 B.C. to 586 B.C. (384 years)
- ▶ 19 of 39 books of Old Testament
- ▶ All but 4 of the prophets (Dan. Hag. Zech, Mal.)
- ▶ 20 remaining books
 - 13 precede & 7 follow
 - David – 4 books (1&2 Samuel, 1 Chronicles, Psalms)
- ▶ History of Israel before 1 & 2 Kings
 - 2100 – Promise of God to Abraham
 - 1876 – Patriarchs enter Egypt
 - 1446-1406 – The Exodus
 - 1406-1010 – Pre-kingdom era
 - anarchy and king Saul
 - Joshua, Judges, Ruth, 1 Samuel 1-15, 1 Chronicles 1-10
 - 1010 – David's throne established
 - Second half of 1 Samuel, 2 Samuel, 1 Chronicles
- ▶ Key dates in 1 & 2 Kings, 2 Chronicles
 - 971 – Solomon's reign begins
 - 931 – Kingdom divides
 - 722 – Fall of Israel/Samaria
 - 586 – Fall of Judah/Jerusalem
- ▶ Critical points in Israel's history
 - Promise to Abraham – Blessing + Great Nation
 - Law of Moses – Holy Nation + Kingdom of Priests
 - Promise to David – An Eternal Kingdom
 - Writings of the Prophets – current conditions + future hope
 - Wisdom Literature – Job, Psalms, Prov., Eccl., Song of Solomon

SOLOMON BECOMES KING – 1 KINGS 1-2

1. The frail king (1:1-4)

“He gat no heat.” (KJV)

Abishag, the Shunammite

2. The attempted coup (1:5-9)

Adonijah – 4th son (2 Sam 3:4)

– Well aware of David’s plan to promote Solomon

– Handsome man – contrast with David.

– Unrestrained

The plot

– Abiathar, Joab, the king’s sons, royal officials of Judah

– Excluded Zadok, Benaiah, David’s mighty men,
Solomon, Nathan

– A coronation feast (1:13, 24-25)

3. The counter coup (1:10-40)

Nathan – prophet

Bathsheba – wife of David

David’s frailty noted (1:15)

David’s decisive action

The coronation of Solomon

4. The plot dissolves (1:41-53)

Guests feared and left

Adonijah feared and went to the Temple

Solomon’s mercy

5. David instructs Solomon (2:1-9)

Spiritual – Legalistic

Vengeance

- Joab – treatment of David, Abner, Amasa
- Barzillai the Gileadite – loyalty to David
- Shimei – cursed David

6. Death of David (2:10-11) – accession of Solomon

7. Solomon's justice (2:13-46)

Adonijah

- A new plot
- Execution by Benaiah

Abiathar

- Removal from priesthood
- The curse on Eli

Joab

- A familiar friend of David . . . but not entirely
- Murdered Abner and Amasa
- Execution by Benaiah

Shimei

- House arrest – observed for 3 years
- Shimei despises Solomon's mercy
- Execution

The kingdom established in the hand of Solomon

OBSERVATIONS ON 1 KINGS 1-2

This is not ordinary history

- ▶ The plan of God and the Messiah are in view
- ▶ The issue is opposition or support of God's plan

The need for Divine intervention

- ▶ The enemies of the purpose of God are many and relentless
- ▶ The instruments of God's purposes are weak

The importance of the vessels of clay

- ▶ God looks beyond the frailty of human vessels
- ▶ God identifies with human vessels – claims them as His own.

Wrath and mercy

- ▶ Wrath because of treatment of God's revealed will
- ▶ Wrath deferred but certain

The Kingdom established in the hand of Solomon

- ▶ An uncertain instrument
- ▶ Hope in the Promise and Power of God