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