

THE BOOKS OF  
1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup>  
CHRONICLES

*a*  
**HISTORY** with  
**HOPE**



THROUGH THE BIBLE

# “THE DIVIDED KINGDOM”

The Two Kingdoms



**Kingdom  
of Israel**  
("Samaria" 880 BC)

**Northern Kingdom  
("Israel") Conquered  
by the Assyrians**

**Kingdom  
of Judah**

**Southern Kingdom  
("Judah") Conquered  
by the Babylonians**

# THE JEWS IN BABYLON

## THE BOOK OF DANIEL

PART 1:

**DANIEL & HIS FRIENDS**



THROUGH THE BIBLE



# THE JEWS IN PERSIA

THE BOOK OF

## ESTHER

*For Such a Time as This*



THROUGH THE BIBLE

STUDIES AVAILABLE ONLINE AT:  
[CCYUBACITY.COM](http://CCYUBACITY.COM) or [YOUTUBE.COM/CCYUBACITY](http://YOUTUBE.COM/CCYUBACITY)

## **CHECK OUT OUR PREVIOUS STUDIES!**

Jeremiah 29:10: **“For thus says the LORD: After seventy years are completed at Babylon, I will visit you and perform My good word toward you, and cause you to return to this place.”**

Isaiah 44:28: **“Cyrus... is My shepherd, and he shall perform all My pleasure, saying to Jerusalem, “You shall be built,” and to the temple, “Your foundation shall be laid.”**



**150 YEARS BEFORE CYRUS!**

# COMPARING EZRA 1 WITH 2<sup>ND</sup> CHRONICLES 36

Ezra 1:1-3: “in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, that the word of the LORD by the mouth of Jeremiah might be fulfilled, the LORD stirred up the spirit of Cyrus... so that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom... saying... ‘the LORD God of heaven... has commanded me to build Him a house at Jerusalem...’ – “Who is among you of all His people? May his God be with him, and let him go up to Jerusalem... and build the house of the LORD God of Israel...”

538 B.C.



FULFILLMENT OF  
ISAIAH'S PROPHECY

# COMPARING EZRA 1 WITH 2<sup>ND</sup> CHRONICLES 36

2 Chron. 36:22-23: “Now in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, that the word of the LORD by the mouth of Jeremiah might be fulfilled, the LORD stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, so that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom, and also put it in writing, saying, ‘Thus says Cyrus king of Persia: All the kingdoms of the earth the LORD God of heaven has given me. And He has commanded me to build Him a house at Jerusalem which is in Judah. Who is among you of all His people? May the LORD his God be with him, and let him go up!’

538 B.C.

◀ INCOMPLETE  
THOUGHT

# COMPARING EZRA 1 WITH 2<sup>ND</sup> CHRONICLES 36

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1 & 2 CHRONICLES ARE THE LAST BOOKS  
OF THE HEBREW OLD TESTAMENT



POINT FORWARD TO  
THE NEW TESTAMENT

# COMPARING EZRA 1 WITH 2<sup>ND</sup> CHRONICLES 36

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WHERE CHRONICLES  
LEAVES-OFF...

Ezra 1:3[b]-4: **“...to Jerusalem which is in Judah, and build the house of the LORD God of Israel... And whoever is left in any place where he dwells, let the men of his place help him with silver and gold, with goods and livestock, besides the freewill offerings for the house of God which is in Jerusalem.”**

EZRA COMPLETES  
THE THOUGHT!

# THE CYRUS CYLINDER:



Cyrus Cylinder

## The Cyrus Cylinder

This ancient clay cylinder dates from the sixth century BC and contains a declaration from Cyrus the Great. The first section describes Cyrus' greatness and mercy—common themes in such declarations. The second section, composed of Cyrus' own words, describes how he returned captive peoples and their gods to their native lands. It also records his hope that all the returned gods will intercede before Bel and Nabu (the chief Babylonian gods) on his behalf. The description of Cyrus' mercy and efforts to return captives supports the biblical account of Israel's restoration from exile (see Ezra 1).

*“Discovered in 1879 in Babylon, [the Cyrus Cylinder] corroborates the Biblical account of Cyrus’s policies. While it does not specifically mention the Jews, it records Cyrus’s general decree allowing displaced peoples to return to their homelands and restore their temples. This artifact provides historical validation for the Biblical narrative...”*

# **THE BOOK-ENDS OF CHRONICLES:**

1 Chron. 1:1: **“Adam, Seth, Enosh...”**

**1ST  
VERSE**

2 Chron. 36:23: **“Thus says Cyrus king of Persia: All the kingdoms of the earth the LORD God of heaven has given me. And He has commanded me to build Him a house at Jerusalem which is in Judah. Who is among you of all His people? May the LORD his God be with him, and let him go up!” (538 BC)**

**LAST  
VERSE**

## **TIME-SPAN OF CHRONICLES:**

*“1<sup>st</sup> Chronicles covers the period from Adam to the death of David—around 971 BC—covering the same period of time as **the first 10 books of the Bible.** Without the genealogies in the opening chapters... 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Chronicles cover about the same time as first and second kings.”*

*“These books span about 3.500 years. This fact alone gives uniqueness to the Chronicles, and invests them with peculiar interest.” (Dr. Graham Scroggie)*

# THE AUTHOR OF CHRONICLES:

Ezra 7:6: "...Ezra came up from Babylon; and he was a skilled scribe in the Law of Moses..."

"[This] sounds like a glorified secretary... But that is not the idea... [In] the Jewish culture of that day, a skilled scribe was an expert in the Law of Moses, someone like a highly trained lawyer in the Word of God." **(David Guzik)**

"[The Scribes] took the place of the prophets, WITH THIS DIFFERENCE... instead of receiving new revelations, [the Scribes] explained and applied the old. Ezra was at once the founder and type [of this new order]."**(G. Campbell Morgan)**

# THE AUTHOR OF CHRONICLES:

Ezra 7:6: "...Ezra came up from Babylon; and he was a skilled scribe in the Law of Moses..."

"[Ezra]... came to be regarded as a second Moses... More than any other, [it was he] who stamped Israel with its lasting character as a people of [the] book." **(Derek Kidner)**

"Not only does this add to the case for Ezra's authorship, it [could] also indicate that Chronicles and Ezra were once a consecutive work." - "All [three] books share a similar style, vocabulary, and contents. Though we cannot be certain, it is reasonable to assume that [Ezra was the author of chronicles]."

# THE AUTHOR OF CHRONICLES:



*“Fragments of an actual manuscript of Chronicles were found [amongst the Dead Sea Scrolls] at Qumran, which make a date in the Persian period (around 538 BC) almost certain.”*

**(Larry Richards, The Bible Reader’s Companion)**



# **COMPARING SAMUEL, KINGS, & CHRONICLES:**

*“Determining the purpose of these books is only done by comparing them with Samuel & Kings. When we do, we find that there are identical passages, additions, but several clear omissions. Unless the viewpoint of these books is understood, there [is] no appreciation of them. The material contained herein was collected and selected with a specific end in view.”*

**(Dr. Graham Scroggie / ‘Know Your Bible’)**

**In the Septuagint, Chronicles are titled “Omissions”  
(or “Things Passed Over”)**

# **COMPARING SAMUEL, KINGS, & CHRONICLES:**

*“The gospels are repeated four times, because the Father does not want... us to miss the message of Jesus.” (Jon Courson)*

*“In the same way there are four accounts of [Jesus]... there are two accounts of [Israel’s] history... offering two different perspectives... for two different purposes... [and presenting] two different political vantage points.”*

*“The books of Kings are [mainly] political and royal, the Chronicles are sacred and ecclesiastical...” – “essentially Levitical [in] character.” (Dr. Graham Scroggie)*

# COMPARING SAMUEL, KINGS, & CHRONICLES:

*“The chronicles devote significant attention to the proper worship of Yahweh and adherence to... [the] Law. Telling Israel’s history through [this lens] was... to prepare [them] for a future Messiah... [and the hope for a new temple]. The centrality of Jerusalem—where the temple was built—falls in line with the book’s overarching focus on the priesthood as well.”*

**(Charles Swindoll / Insight for Living)**

CHRONICLES  
TELLS ISRAEL’S  
HISTORY  
THROUGH THE  
LENS OF THE  
PRIESTHOOD

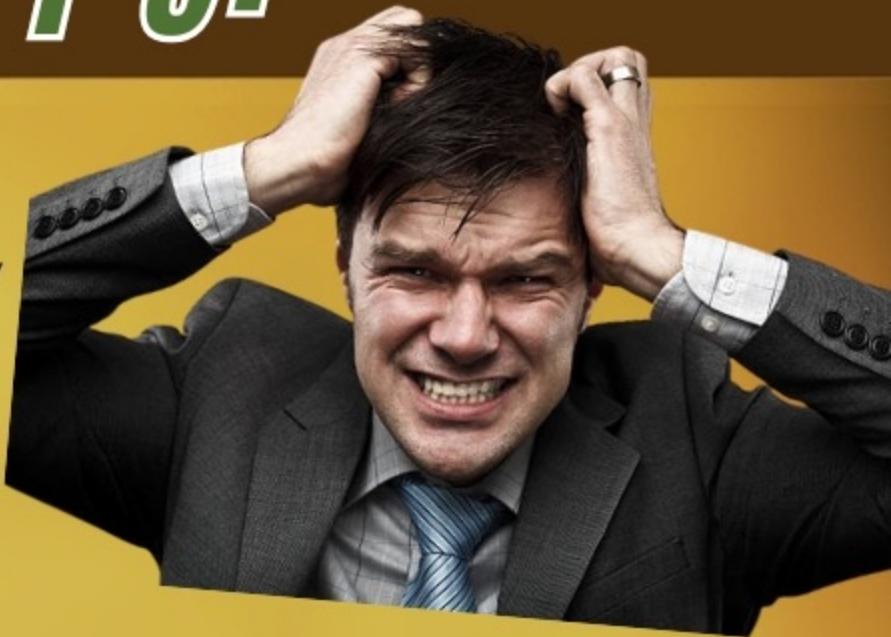


# *CONSTRUCTION OF CHRONICLES:*

- **1st Chronicles 1—9 provide Israel's genealogies...**
- **1st Chronicles 10—29 focus on the Reign of King David...**
- **2nd Chronicles 1—9 focus on the reign of King Solomon...**
- **2nd Chronicles 10—36 trace the reign of the 20 Kings of the Southern Kingdom of Judah alone...**

# **THE GENEALOGIES OF 1 CHRONICLES 1-9:**

**“Why are there so many genealogies?!”**



*“Genealogies serve many different purposes... 1) They demonstrate the legitimacy of a person’s claim to a particular rank or role... 2) they preserve the purity of the chosen people and its priesthood... 3) they affirm the continuity of the people, despite having been expelled from the Land [for 70 years].”*  
**(Larry Richards / ‘The Bible Reader’s Companion’)**

# **THE GENEALOGIES OF 1 CHRONICLES 1-9:**

**“Why there are so many genealogies.”**



*“We can imagine the importance of these genealogical lists for the returning exiles. The message of the continuity of God’s work through the generations was important for them, as well as helping them to affirm their own place in that flow of God’s work through the ages.”*

**(David Guzik / EnduringWord.com)**

# THE GENEALOGIES OF 1 CHRONICLES 1-9:

**“Why there are so many genealogies.”**



*“The design of the writer [is]... to point out, from the public registers... what had been the state of the different families prior to the captivity, that at their return they [could]... repossess their respective inheritances. He [focuses on] the functions, genealogies, families, and orders of the priests and Levites; and this was... [so that] the worship of God might be re-established in the same way as before, and by the proper legitimate persons.”* **(Adam Clarke / cited by Guzik)**

# **THE GENEALOGIES OF 1 CHRONICLES 1-9:**

## **SOME HIGHLIGHTS:**

- Chapter 1: **The Family of Adam-Seth to Abraham**
- Chapter 2: **The Family of Israel, from Judah to David**
- Chapter 3: **The Family of David, The Family of Solomon**
- Chapter 4: **The Family of Judah**
- Chapter 6: **The Family of Levi & Aaron, Musicians, Dwellings of the Levites**

# **THE GENEALOGIES OF 1 CHRONICLES 1-9:**

“Throughout the genealogies, we see two particular lineages [emphasized]: MUCH of space is dedicated to Judah—which leads to David, TO WHOM the messianic promise passed. The SECOND family that gets a lot of emphasis is the [family] of Aaron—the Priesthood—who served in the temple.”

**The Chronicles are written to emphasize 2 MAIN THINGS: the hope of a Messiah, and the hope for a new temple**

# THE LIFE OF DAVID, 1 CHRONICLES 10-29:

- Chapters 11-12: **David set on the throne, the City of Jerusalem, David's Mighty Men and Army...**
- Chapters 13-17: “*The author details David's decisions on the proper manner... to... [move] the ark, and... its return to Jerusalem*” (**Chuck Swindoll**)...
- Chapter 16: **A Thanksgiving Psalm (cf. Ps. 96, Ps. 105-106)**...
- Chapter 17: **The Davidic Covenant...**
- Chapters 18-20: **David's Military Exploits, Administration, further Giant Killing...**



# **THE LIFE OF DAVID, 1 CHRONICLES 10-29:**

- Chapters 21-27: **David's Preparations for the temple...**

1 Chronicles 28:11-12: **“David gave his son Solomon...  
the plans for all that he had by the Spirit...”**

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## **WHY DAVID COULD NOT BUILD THE TEMPLE:**

1 Chron. 22:7-10: **“[David] called for his son Solomon, and charged him to build a house for the LORD God of Israel. And David said to Solomon: “My son, as for me, it was in my mind to build a house to the name of the LORD my God; but the word of the LORD came to me, saying... You... shall not build a house for My name, because you have shed much blood on the earth... Behold, a son shall be born to you... His name shall be Solomon,” and “He shall build a house for My name. I will establish the throne of his kingdom over Israel forever.”**

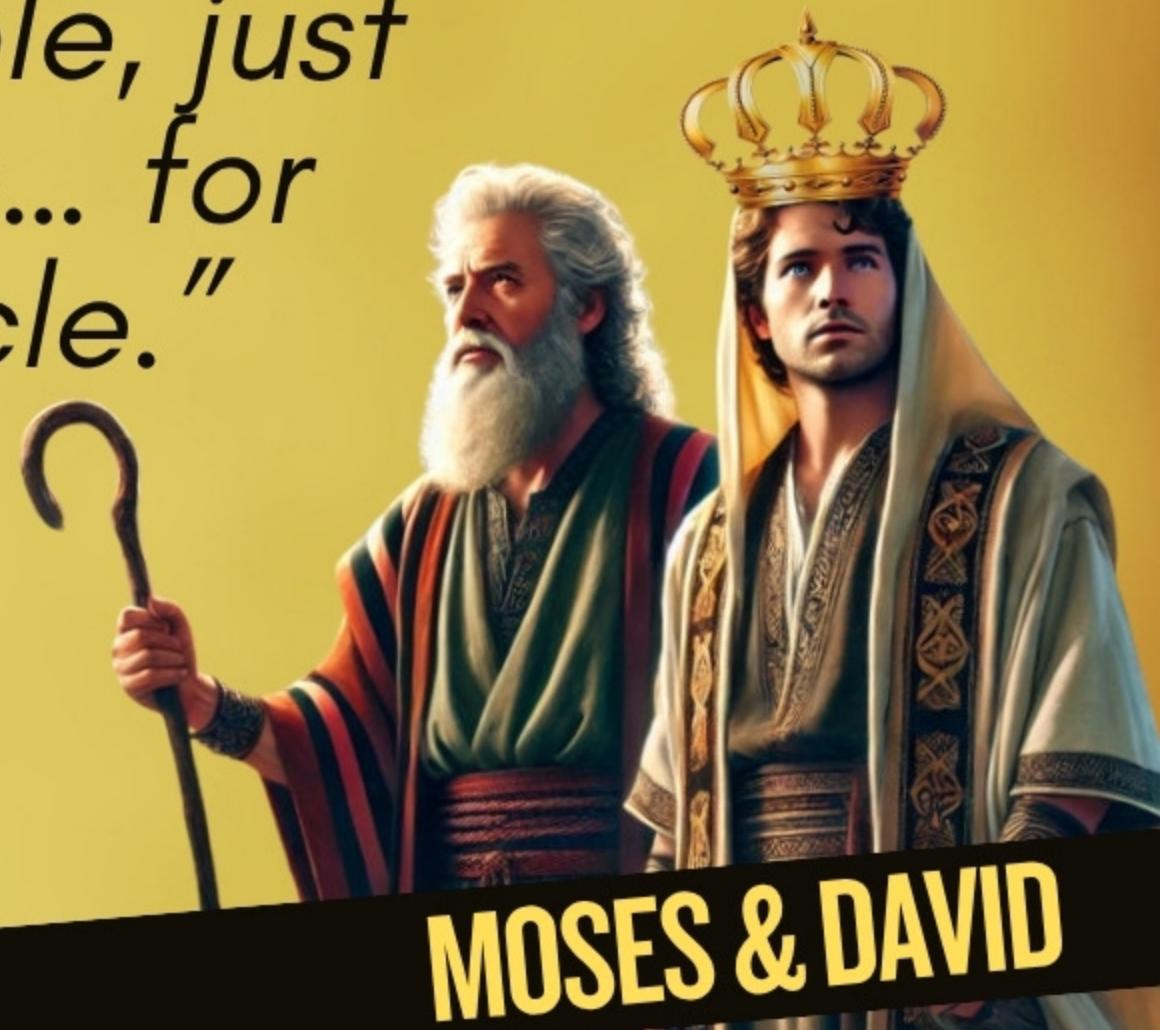
**UNIQUE  
INFORMATION TO  
THE CHRONICLES**

# THE LIFE OF DAVID, 1 CHRONICLES 10-29:

*“There’s a block of chapters [in 1<sup>st</sup> Chronicles] in which David makes preparations for the temple, arranging for builders, Levites, and [musicians]. The author... goes so far as to portray David as a figure like Moses. God gave David the plans for building the temple, just as he gave [Moses the] plans... for the building of the tabernacle.”*

**BibleProject.com**

- Chapters 28-29: **David's last days...**



**MOSES & DAVID**

# **THE LIFE OF SOLOMON, 2 CHRONICLES 1-9:**

- Chapter 1: **Solomon's Wisdom & Power...**
- Chapter 2: **Solomon Prepares to Build the Temple...**
- Chapter 3: **Solomon Builds the Temple...**
- Chapter 4: **Furnishings of the Temple...**
- Chapter 5: **The Ark Brought into the Temple...**
- Chapters 6-7: **Solomon Dedicates the Temple...**



2 Chron. 7:14: **“...if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.”**

- Chapters 8-9: **Solomon's Additional Achievements, Wealth, and Death...**

# **THE KINGS OF JUDAH, 2 CHRONICLES 10-36:**

In 2<sup>nd</sup> Samuel, and 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Kings, we read of **ALL** the Kings—both the **NORTHERN KINGDOM** of Israel, and the **SOUTHERN KINGDOM** of Judah... But—in Chronicles—we only read of only the **SOUTHERN KINGS**... Why? 

**MAJOR DIFFERENCE  
IN CHRONICLES**

*“Only the history of Judah is given, **because Judah was the royal tribe, of which Christ was to come.**” – “The history of the Northern Kingdom— the 10 tribes of Israel—is intentionally left out.”*

# 1ST & 2ND CHRONICLES:

WHY IS ALL THE  
NEGATIVE STUFF LEFT  
OUT OF 1ST & 2ND  
CHRONICLES?



# **NOTHING 'NEGATIVE' IN 1ST & 2ND CHRONICLES?**

- **LITTLE SAID of King Saul...**  
(FAMILY TREE in Chp. 8, DEATH in Chp. 10)...
- **LITTLE SAID of the Babylonian Captivity...**  
[1 Chron. 9:1: **"All Israel was recorded by genealogies, and... were inscribed in the book of the kings of Israel. But Judah was carried away captive to Babylon because of their unfaithfulness"**]...

# NOTHING 'NEGATIVE' IN 1ST & 2ND CHRONICLES?

- “1<sup>st</sup> Chronicles does not include David’s adultery with Bathsheba...”  
**(Chuck Swindoll)**
- No mention of **Absalom’s treason, Amnon and Tamar, any of the family issues that plague David’s house...**
- No mention of the **Sin of Solomon, which led to the Division of the Kingdom...**
- “...the author leaves out all the negative stories which [portray] David as weak or immoral. Saul chasing him around the desert and persecuting him, the [murder of Bathsheba’s husband]—all of that is gone. We are left only with the stories that portray [David] as a good guy. [And] There is... new material that [portrays] David in a very positive light.”**(The Bible Project)**



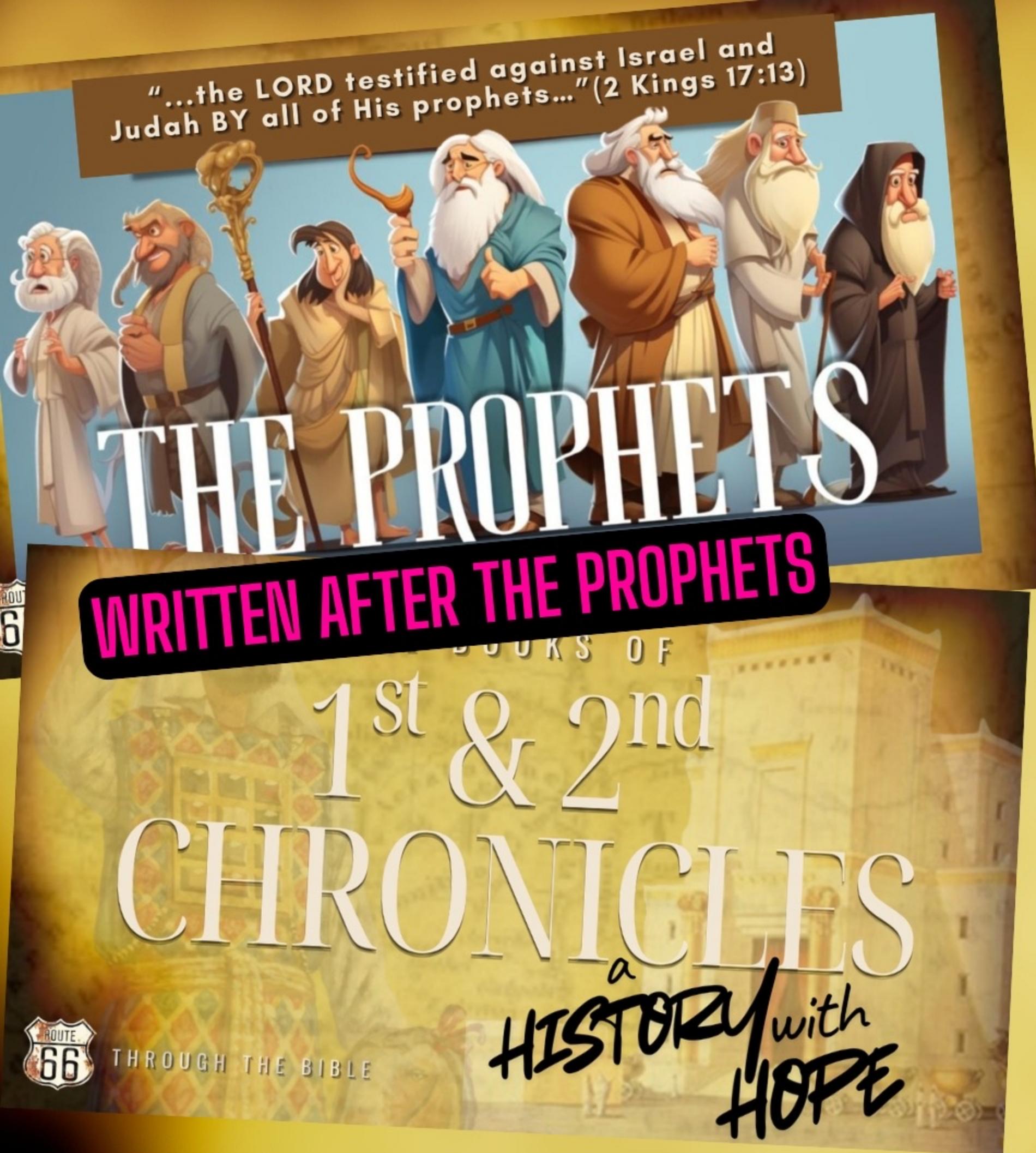
THESE EVENTS ARE ALL WELL-  
DOCUMENTED IN 1<sup>ST</sup> & 2<sup>ND</sup>  
SAMUEL AND 1<sup>ST</sup> & 2<sup>ND</sup> KINGS

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“1st Chronicles was written to give encouragement and exhortation to the Jews after the captivity. The remnant... needed... to keep their faith alive in the midst of difficult circumstances, and they needed hope for the future.”



“[These books]—written after... the exile—focus on the elements of history that God wants the returning Jews to meditate upon: obedience that results in God’s blessing, the priority of the temple and priesthood, and the unconditional promises to the house of David.”

# ***JESUS POINTS US FORWARD:***

John 8:3-4: **“The scribes and Pharisees brought to [Jesus] a woman caught in adultery. And... they said to Him, “Teacher, this woman was caught in adultery, in the very act.”**

**“Go and sin no more.”**

John 8:11: **“Jesus said to her, “Neither do I condemn you; GO AND SIN NO MORE.”**



# ***JESUS POINTS US FORWARD:***

Matt. 26:35: **“Peter said to [Jesus],  
‘Even if I have to die with You, I  
will not deny You!’”**

VS. 72: **“But [Peter]... denied with an  
oath, [saying], ‘I do not know the Man!’”**

John 21:15-17:

**“Do you love Me?”**  
**(Not, “I told you so!”)**



# **THE LORD POINTS US FORWARD:**

Psalm 103:12 says: **“As far as the east is from the west, so far has [the Lord] removed our transgressions from us.”**

Hebrews 10:17: **“Their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more.”**

Isaiah 43:25: **“I... am He who blots out your transgressions for My own sake; and I will not remember your sins.”**



**EAST NEVER  
MEETS WEST!**

# *DAVID NUMBERS THE PEOPLE:*

1 Chron. 21:1: **“Satan stood up against Israel, and moved David to number Israel.”**

*“In the thinking of these ancient cultures, a man only had the right to count or number what belonged to him. Israel did not belong to David; [but] to God.” (David Guzik)*

# *DAVID NUMBERS THE PEOPLE:*

2 SAM. 24:1: “The anger of the LORD was aroused against Israel, and He moved David... to... “Go, [and] number Israel and Judah.”



1 CHRON. 21:1: “Now Satan stood up against Israel, and moved David to number Israel.”

**WHO MOVED DAVID  
TO NUMBER ISRAEL?**

# DAVID NUMBERS THE PEOPLE:

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## WHO MOVED DAVID TO NUMBER ISRAEL?

SATAN CAN  
ONLY DO WHAT  
GOD ALLOWS

GOD MAY USE  
SATAN TO  
ACCOMPLISH  
HIS PURPOSES



JOB, JUDAS  
THE CROSS  
THE ANTICHRIST

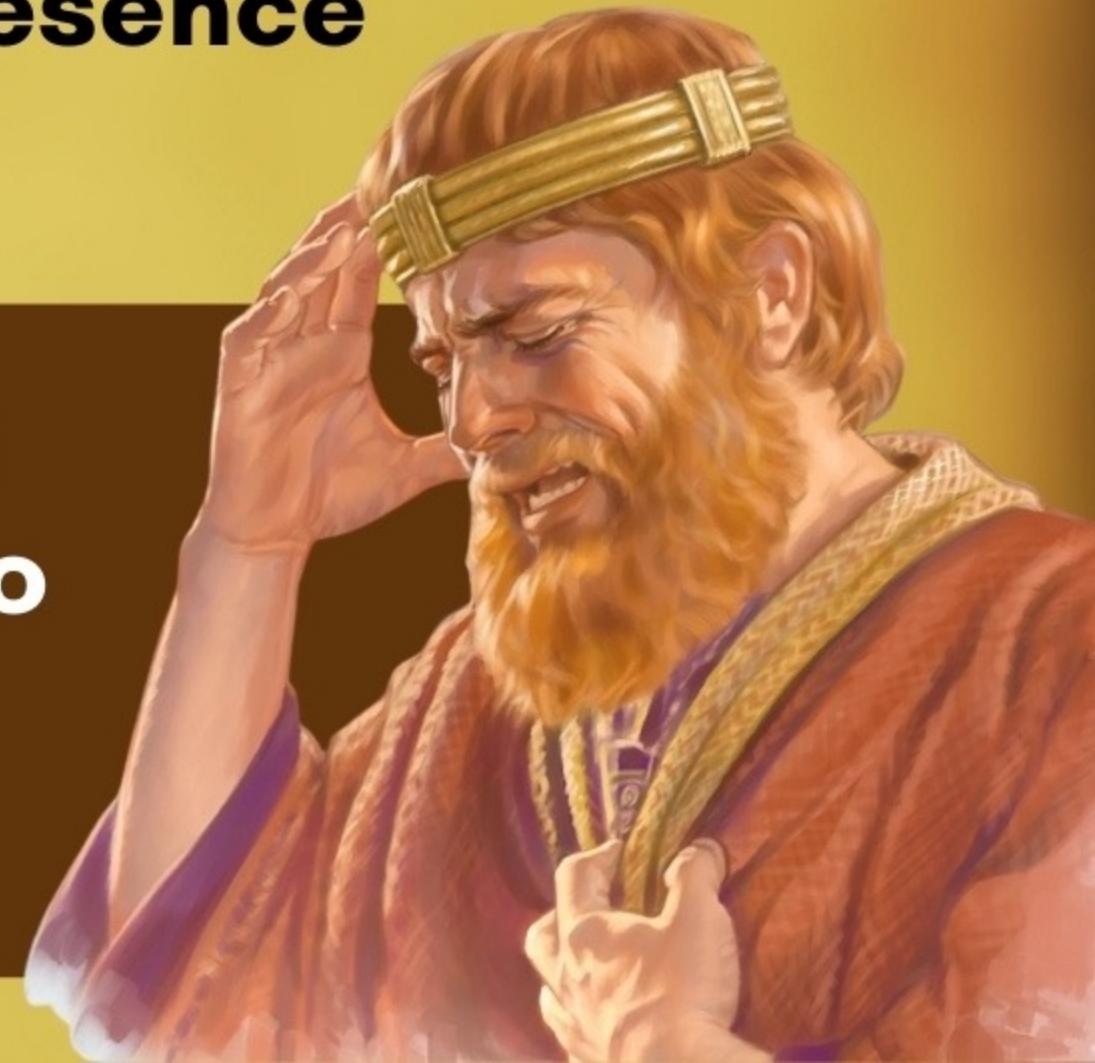
SATAN CAN  
INFLUENCE THE  
WAY WE FEEL

# **DAVID NUMBERS THE PEOPLE:**

1 Chron. 21:3: “**Joab said to the king... why does my lord the king desire this thing?**”

VS. 4: “**Nevertheless, the king's word prevailed against Joab and against the captains of the army. Therefore Joab and the captains of the army went out from the presence of the king to count the people of Israel.**”

1<sup>st</sup> Chronicles 21:7: “**God was displeased with this thing; therefore He struck Israel. [And] So David said to God, “I have sinned greatly, because I have done this thing...”**



# *DAVID NUMBERS THE PEOPLE:*

1<sup>st</sup> Chron. 21:7: **“God was displeased with this thing...”**

1 Chron. 21:10-12: **“I offer you three things; choose one of them for yourself...”** – **“Shall seven years of famine come to you in your land? Or shall you flee three months before your enemies? Or shall there be three days’ plague in your land?”**

VS. 14: **“And David said, ‘let us fall into the hand of the LORD, for His mercies are great; but do not let me fall into the hand of man.’”**

**So the LORD sent a plague [on] Israel...”** –  
**“seventy thousand men of the people died.”**



# **DAVID BUYS THE THRESHING FLOOR:**

1 Chron. 21:16: **“Then David lifted his eyes and saw the angel of the LORD standing between earth and heaven, having in his hand a drawn sword...”**

1 Chron. 21:18-22: **“...the angel of the LORD commanded... that David should go and erect an altar to the LORD on the threshing floor of Ornan the Jebusite.” – “So David came to Ornan, and... said... ‘Grant me the place of this threshing floor, that I may build an altar on it to the LORD... that the plague may be withdrawn from the people.”**



# **DAVID BUYS THE THRESHING FLOOR:**

*“David’s altar was the only one in pre-exile times which God explicitly commanded to be built.” (Martin Selman)*

**1 Chron. 21:26: “And David built there an altar to the LORD, and offered burnt offerings and peace offerings, and called on the LORD; and He answered him from heaven by fire on the altar of burnt offering.”**



# DAVID BUILDS AN ALTAR:

1 Chron. 21:26: **“And David built there an altar to the LORD, and offered burnt offerings and peace offerings, and called on the LORD; and He answered him from heaven by fire on the altar of burnt offering.”**



**“2 Chronicles 3 tells us that the threshing floor of Araunah was on Mount Moriah—the same hill where Abraham offered Isaac (Genesis 22:2)... the site of Solomon’s temple (1 Chronicles 21:28-22:5)... and the same set of hills where Jesus died on the cross (Genesis 22:14).”** - David Guzik

# *SIGNIFICANCE OF THE ‘TEMPLE’ MOUNT:*

“1<sup>st</sup> Chronicles 21 explains that – as a consequence for sin – a death plague breaks-out against God’s people. David... buys a piece of property from Ornan on which to make a sacrifice that stops the plague. According to 2<sup>nd</sup> Chronicles 3, this... becomes the very place where Solomon builds the temple... This is the [same] mountain where Abraham was asked to sacrifice his son Isaac. In the New Testament, three times Paul refers to believers as “the temple of God.” – It is Christ, who has purchased the ground for this spiritual temple. And it was His sacrifice that delivered us from the death plague.”

# ***SIGNIFICANCE OF THE ‘TEMPLE’ MOUNT:***

**“[This] decision of God to establish His altar and temple at Moriah in Jerusalem has affected all history... for this mountain became the focus of the Holy City, where [God’s Holy] Son was crucified. And it will continue to affect history; for from this city... [Jesus] will—one day—rule the nations of the earth.”**

**(Philip Payne)**

# **THE CLIFFHANGER OF CHRONICLES:**

2 Chron. 36:22-23: **“Now in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, that the word of the LORD by the mouth of Jeremiah might be fulfilled, the LORD stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, so that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom, and also put it in writing, saying, ‘Thus says Cyrus king of Persia: All the kingdoms of the earth the LORD God of heaven has given me. And He has commanded me to build Him a house at Jerusalem which is in Judah. Who is among you of all His people? May the LORD his God be with him, and let him go up!’**



**INCOMPLETE  
THOUGHT**

# **WHAT'S AHEAD on 'ROUTE 66:'**

**ONLY 5 BOOKS LEFT  
in the OLD TESTAMENT:**

**November 23:**

**Ezra**

**November 30:**

**Haggai & Zechariah**

**December 7:**

**Nehemiah**

**December 14:**

**Malachi**

**JOIN US NEXT SUNDAY:**

THE BOOK OF

**EZRA**



THROUGH THE BIBLE

# *SOME CLOSING QUOTES ON CHRONICLES:*

*“Unlike the Book of Kings, with its central message of stern moral judgments, Chronicles exists essentially as a book of hope, grounded on the grace of our sovereign Lord.... [Chronicles shows that] History is a process, not of disintegration, but of sifting... selection... and development.”* **(Philip Payne)**

*“In the end... the end is also a fresh start. God’s promises continue through the exile—through [the Chronicler’s] own generation—and into the future.”*

**(Martin Selman)**

