

# INTRODUCTION TO 1 & 2 Kings

## WHERE IS IT IN THE BIBLE?

- 9. 1 SAMUEL
- 10. 2 SAMUEL
- 11. **1 KINGS**
- 12. **2 KINGS**
- 13. 1 CHRONICLES
- 14. 2 CHRONICLES

## HISTORICAL SCOPE OF BOOK

- Reign of Solomon to the Babylonian exile (970 – 587 BC)
- Division of the Kingdom as the result of Solomon’s apostasy (1 Kings 11; 930 BC)
- The great prophets of the northern kingdom, Elijah and Elisha (1 Kings 17 – 2 Kings 13)
- The fall of the northern kingdom at the hand of the Assyrians (2 Kings 17; 722 BC)
- The fall of the southern kingdom at the hand of the Babylonians (2 Kings 25; 587 BC)

## THEOLOGICAL IMPORTANCE

- The model of David as a faithful king
- The failure of the majority of the kings of Israel and Judah to live as David did
- The apostate kings led the people of Israel and Judah away from a true worship of Yahweh and into the worship of foreign gods
- God’s righteousness and justice seen in the Assyrian and Babylonian exiles

## DISTINCTION FROM 1 AND 2 CHRONICLES

- The books of 1 and 2 Chronicles tell much of the same story as 1 and 2 Kings
- Whereas Chronicles tells Israel’s story to give them hope of a future, the writer of Kings is explaining how Israel failed

## BOOK BASICS



**DATE**



**TYPE**  
History



**AUTHOR**  
Unknown

Both books are anonymous, but tradition tells us that the prophets were the authors. There may also be a final editor compiling the writings of the prophets during the time of the Babylonian exile.

## BASIC STRUCTURE

1 KINGS: 22 CHAPTERS    2 KINGS: 25 CHAPTERS

