

1 Kings - Outline

Author¹: The author is unknown, but Jewish tradition attributes it to Jeremiah, although it can't be substantiated. Originally, the books of 1 and 2 Kings was one book. When the book was translated into Greek for the Septuagint, it was divided so that it would fit the size of the scrolls used.

Date: Likely between 561 BC when the last event recorded in 2 Kings occurs and 539 BC when Cyrus decrees that the Jews can return to their homeland.

Occasion: The book appears to be a compilation of various sources and seems to serve as a prophetic reminder of what happens when a nation moves away from following God's commandments.

- book of the acts of Solomon
 - 1 Kings 11:41
- books of the chronicles of the kings of Judah
 - 1 Kings 14:29; 15:7, 23; 22:45;
 - 2 Kings 8:23; 12:19; 14:18; 15:6, 36; 16:19; 20:20; 21:17, 25; 23:28; 24:5;
- books of the chronicles of the kings of Israel
 - 1 Kings 14:19; 15:31; 16:5, 14, 20, 27; 22:39;
 - 2 Kings 1:18; 10:34; 13:8, 12; 14:15, 28; 15:11, 15, 21, 26, 31;

Summary: The *Summarized Bible*² highlights the following verses as the key verses of the books.

- **1 Kings 2:12 NASB** And Solomon sat on the throne of David his father, and his kingdom was firmly established.
- **2 Kings 10:10 NASB** "Know then that there shall fall to the earth nothing of the word of the LORD, which the LORD spoke concerning the house of Ahab, for the LORD has done what He spoke through His servant Elijah."

While these books show that God did protect the kingdom of Judah for a time, even they were taken into captivity as a result of their idolatry, just as the kingdom of Israel had some 130 years prior to it.

Other key verses:

- **1 Kings 9:4-7 NASB** "As for you, if you will walk before Me as your father David walked, in integrity of heart and uprightness, doing according to all that I have commanded you *and* will keep My statutes and My ordinances, **5** then I will establish the throne of your kingdom over Israel forever, just as I promised to your father David, saying, 'You shall not lack a man on the throne of Israel.' **6** "But if you or your sons indeed turn away from following Me, and do not keep My commandments and My statutes which I have set before you, and go and serve other gods and worship them, **7** then I will cut off Israel from the land which I have given them, and the house which I have consecrated for My name, I will cast out of My sight. So Israel will become a proverb and a byword among all peoples.
- **2 Kings 17:13-18 NASB** Yet the LORD warned Israel and Judah through all His prophets *and* every seer, saying, "Turn from your evil ways and keep My commandments, My statutes according to all the law which I commanded your fathers, and which I sent to you through My servants the prophets." **14** However, they did not listen, but stiffened their neck like their fathers, who did not believe in the LORD their God. **15** They rejected His statutes and His

1 (Galan et al. 58-65; Meyers - References to Sources)

2 (Brooks) Key verses for 1 & 2 Kings. (Galan et al.) other key verses.

1 Kings - Outline

covenant which He made with their fathers and His warnings with which He warned them. And they followed vanity and became vain, and *went* after the nations which surrounded them, concerning which the LORD had commanded them not to do like them. **16** They forsook all the commandments of the LORD their God and made for themselves molten images, *even* two calves, and made an Asherah and worshiped all the host of heaven and served Baal. **17** Then they made their sons and their daughters pass through the fire, and practiced divination and enchantments, and sold themselves to do evil in the sight of the LORD, provoking Him. **18** So the LORD was very angry with Israel and removed them from His sight; none was left except the tribe of Judah.

	Group ³	C	V	Description
D a v i d & S o l o m o n	David in Old Age	1	1-4	A nurse is found for David, Abishag the Shunammite
			5-8	Adonijah conspires with Joan and Abiathar to become king
			9-10	Adonijah throw a “coronation” party
	Nathan and Bathsheba		11-14	Nathan and Bathsheba find out about Adonijah's plans
			15-21	Bathsheba asks David about Adonijah being made king instead of Solomon
			22-27	Nathan enters to do the same
			28-31	David vows to make Solomon king
			32-37	David makes arrangements for Solomon's coronation
	Solomon Anointed King		38-40	Zadok, Nathan, and Benaiah carry out David's commands to anoint Solomon king and the earth shook from the celebration
			41-48	Abiathar's son, Jonathan, tells Adonijah's party guests of Solomon's coronation
			49-53	Adonijah's guests flee and he prostrates himself before Solomon
	David's Charge to Solomon	2	1-4	David charges Solomon to keep the ways of the Lord
			5-9	David gives Solomon instructions regarding some of David's enemies
	Death of David		10-12	David dies and Solomon's reign is firmly established
			13-18	Adonijah asks Bathsheb to ask Solomon if he can marry Abishag
	Adonijah Executed		19-25	Bathsheba asks Solomon but he sees Adonijah's treachery and has him executed
			26-27	Abiathar dismissed from being priest, fulfilling the prophecy concerning the house of Eli (1Sa 2:27-36)
Joab Executed	28-35		Joab is executed	
Shimei Executed	36-38		Shimei is placed under house arrest and is not to leave Jerusalem	
	39-46a		Shimei travels to Gath and returns and then is executed	
Solomon's Rule	46b		Solomon's kingdom is established	

³ (NASB) “Group” column from the headings in the NASB text.

1 Kings - Outline

	Group	C	V	Description
	Consolidated	3	1-2	Solomon marries Pharaoh's daughter and begins his building projects: Temple, His palace, a palace for Pharaoh's daughter
			3-5	The Lord appears to Solomon in a dream
	Solomon's Prayer		6-9	Solomon asks for wisdom to lead the people
	God's Answer		10-14	The Lord grants it to him but also wealth and long life as well
			15	Solomon awakes and offers burnt offerings and peace offerings before the ark of the covenant of the Lord
	Solomon Wisely Judges		16-22	A dispute is brought to Solomon: "He's my son!" "No, he's my son!"
			23-28	Solomon discerns the real mother by threatening to divide the child in two
	Solomon's Officials	4	1-6	Solomon's officials, counselors, and friends
			7-19	Solomon appoints 12 deputies over the people
	20		Judah and Israel were	
	21		The extent of Solomon's rule: most of present day Israel, Jordan, and Iraq	
	22-28		The daily provision requirements for Solomon's government	
	29-34		The extent of Solomon's wisdom documented	
	Alliance with King Hiram	5	1-6	Solomon reestablishes the alliance between the house of David and Hiram, king of Tyre, in particular regarding provisions for the building projects
	7-12		Hiram responds graciously to Solomon's requests	
	Conscription of Laborers		13-18	Laborers are conscripted: 70,000 transporters, 80,000 hewers of stone, 3300 chief deputies over the project
	The Building of the Temple	6	1-6	The basic structure of the temple
			7	All stone work was done off site in the quarry
			8-10	The construction of the side chambers and their spiral staircase
			11-13	God's Promise to Solomon
			14-22	The construction details of the temple's walls and floor
			23-28	The two cherubs in the Holy of Holies
			29-30	The decorations on the walls of the temple
			31-32	The details of the doors to the inner and outer sanctuaries
			33-36	The doors and doorposts for the entrance
			37-38	The time of construction: 7 years
	Solomon's	7	1-5	Solomon's Palace

1 Kings - Outline

	Group	C	V	Description
	Palace		6	Hall of Pillars
			7	Solomon's Throne
			8	House for Pharaoh's daughter, Solomon's wife
			9	Constructed of saw-cut stones
			10-12	The foundations of the Solomon's Palace
	Hiram's Work in the Temple		13-14	Hiram from Tyre—mother: widow from Naphtali; father: man of Tyre—a bronze worker
			15-22	The two pillars of the temple—right: Jachin, left: Boaz—their capitals and decorations
			23-26	The sea and its base
			27-37	Ten bronze stands and its decorations
			38-39	Ten bronze basins
			40-47	Hiram's work summarized
			48-50	Solomon had the furniture of the temple, the utensils, and the doors made of gold
			51	Solomon concludes his construction projects
	The Ark Brought Into the Temple	8	1-11	All Israel is gathered as the Ark is brought into the temple and the glory of the LORD filled the temple in the form of a cloud
	Solomon Addresses the People		12-13	Solomon's response
			14-21	Solomon proclaims God's fulfilled promises regarding the temple and His people
	The Prayer of Dedication		22-26	Solomon asks God to fulfill and confirm His word to David
			27-30	... that prayers will be heard
			31-32	... when someone sins and makes an oath
			33-34	... when Israel is defeated in battle
			35-36	... when there are times of drought
			37-40	... when there are times of famine or distress
			41-43	... when a foreigner comes to pray and worship
			44-45	... when the Israelites go out to battle
			46-53	... when the nation sins against God and they are taken captive
	Solomon's Benediction		54-55	Solomon blesses the assembly
			56-61	Solomon's blessing
	Dedicatory		62-64	Solomon provisions for the sacrifices of the peace offerings

1 Kings - Outline

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	Sacrifices		65-66	The celebration lasted 14 days but Solomon dismissed the people after 8 days and the people returned to their tents “joyful and glad of heart”
	God's Promise and Warning	9	1-5	God appears to Solomon a second time at Gibeon: “if you remain faithful, I will establish your throne forever...”
			6-9	“If you turn away, I will cut off Israel and make them a byword...”
	Cities Given to Hiram		10-14	Cities given to Hiram as payment for building materials
			15-22	An accounting of Solomon's building projects
			23	550 chief officers over the building projects
			24	Pharaoh's daughter moves into her new palace; Solomon builds the Milo
			25	Solomon's triannual sacrifices
	26-28		Solomon's fleet of merchant ships with Hiram's sailors bring gold to Solomon	
	The Queen of Sheba	10	1-10	The queen of Sheba comes to investigate the rumors of Solomon's wealth and wisdom with a large retinue and wasn't disappointed
			11-12	Almug trees and precious stones brought by the merchant ships which were used in the construction of the temple and the king's house
			13	Solomon gives many gifts to the queen of Sheba, whatever she asked
	Wealth, Splendor and Wisdom		14-22	Solomon's annual income in gold and other goods, his throne, shields, and vessels for his house and the house of the Lord
			23-25	Solomon's wealth and wisdom become world renown
			26-29	Solomon's standing army: 1400 chariots & 12000 cavalrymen; Solomon's trading deals
	Solomon Turns from God	11	1-8	Solomon's love of women resulted in his having 700 wives, princesses, and 300 concubines. They turned his heart to serve foreign gods
			9-13	God's anger with Solomon because of the idolatry: the result, the kingdom would be taken from his son and give it to his servant except for the tribe of Judah for the sake of David
	God Raises Adversaries		14-22	Solomon begins to experience adversaries, first, Hadad of Edom
			23-25	Next, Rezon in Damascus
			26-40	Jeroboam the son of Nebat, one of Solomon's warriors, is told that he would rule over a portion of the kingdom. He flees from Solomon to Egypt until Solomon dies
	Death of Solomon		41-43	Solomon dies and Rehoboam, his son reigns in his place

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T h e D i v i d e d K i n g d o m	King Rehoboam Acts Foolishly	12	1-5	The people ask Rehoboam for leniency regarding the forced labor and taxes; Rehoboam asks for 3 days to consider
			6-11	Rehoboam consults asks 2 sets of counselors: Solomon's counselors and then his friends who offer conflicting advice
			12-15	Rehoboam follows the advice of the younger counselors: continued practices and no leniency, and didn't listen to the people
			16-19	The kingdom is divided and Rehoboam flees to Jerusalem
			20	All Israel except the tribe of Judah followed Jeroboam as their king
			21-24	Rehoboam assembles an army but is told to not go to war by God through Shemaiah the man of God
			25-33	Jeroboam sets of two idols, golden calves, to keep the people from going to the temple in Jerusalem and appointed non-Levite priests
	Jeroboam Warned, Stricken	13	1-10	A man of God from Judah goes to Bethel to warn Jeroboam of God's displeasure. The prophet is told to not return the way he came and to not tarry.
			11-19	An old prophet in Bethel lies to the man of God from Judah and deceives him, causing him to disobey the Lord
			20-25	The man of God is killed by a lion, as the Lord said would happen.
			26-32	The old prophet of Bethel buries the man of God from Judah and requests that he be buried in the same grave when he dies
			33-34	Jeroboam did not repent from his evil ways
	Ahijah Prophesies against the King	14	1-3	Jeroboam sends his wife in disguise to Ahijah to inquire about his sick son
			4-5	Ahijah is told of Jeroboam wife's deception
			6-14	Ahijah confronts the woman; Her son will die and Jeroboam's reign will come to an end
			15-16	The future of captivity of Israel foretold as a result of Jeroboam's sins
			17-18	Jeroboam's wife returns and upon entering the house the child dies and there is a great mourning for him
			19-20	Jeroboam dies and Nadab, his son, reigns
			21-24	Rehoboam followed in the footsteps of Solomon and worshipped idols
			25-28	Shishak of Egypt plunders Jerusalem; Rehoboam tries to replace what is taken with items of lesser quality
			29-31	Rehoboam dies and Abijam, his son, reigns

1 Kings - Outline

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	Abijam Reigns over Judah	15	1-6	Abijam follows in the sins of his father, but God honors His covenant with David
			7	Abijam dies
	Asa Succeeds Abijam		8	Asa, his son, reigns
			9-15	Asa honors God and removes the idols and restores worship in the temple
			16-22	Conflict between Asa of Judah and Baasha of Israel
	Jehoshaphat Succeeds Asa		23-24	Asa dies and Jehoshaphat, his son, reigns
	Nadab, then Baasha, Rules over Israel		25-27	Nadab is assassinated by Baasha who assumes the throne in Israel
			28-30	The prophecy of Ahijah is fulfilled concerning the house of Jeroboam
			31	Nadab's reign recorded
	War with Judah		32	Conflict between Asa and Baasha
			33-34	Baasha's reign summarized: he followed Jeroboam's sin
	Prophecy against Baasha	16	1-4	Jehu the son of Hanani, prophesies against Baasha
			5	Baasha's reign recorded
	The Israelite Kings		6-7	Elah, his son, reigns
			8-11	Elah is assassinated by Zimri after 2 years
			12-14	Zimri wipes out the house of Baasha and Elah's reign is recorded
			15-20	Zimri reigns in Israel only 7 days and is killed by Omri after his coup is discovered
			21-24	Israel is initially divided but eventually make Omri king
			25-28	Omri too followed the idols of Jeroboam; Omri's reign is recorded
			29-30	Ahab, Omri's son, reigns in Samaria
			31-34	Ahab sins even greater than Jeroboam and marries Jezebel, the daughter of Ethbaal, king of Sidon; worship of Baal is established in Israel; Jericho is rebuilt and the prophecy concerning its rebuilding is fulfilled (Jos 6:26)
	Elijah Predicts Drought	17	1-7	Elijah the Tishbite prophesies a drought, until he says otherwise
			8-16	Elijah and the widow of Zaraphath: never ending oil and flour until the drought ends
	Elijah Raises the Widow's Son		17-24	The widow's son dies and is raised by Elijah after he prays to God
	Obadiah Meets Elijah	18	1-6	Obadiah, who feared the Lord and was Ahab's chamberlain, is ordered to survey the land for springs of water and grass for the cattle

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	God or Baal on Mount Caramel		7-16	Elijah sends a message to Ahab through Obadiah, who fears for his life	
			17-19	Elijah tells Ahab that the troubles of Israel is the result of the idolatry and asks for the 400 prophets of the Asherah to meet him at Mt Carmel	
			20-24	Elijah confronts the people: “If the Lord is God, follow Him; but if Baal, follow him.”	
			25-29	Prophets of Baal beseech Baal to send fire to no avail	
			30-35	Elijah makes his preparations	
			Elijah's Power	36-40	Elijah's prayer; God sends down fire and the prophets of Baal are killed by the brook Kidron
				41-46	The drought is broken
	Elijah Flees from Jezebel	19	1-8	Ahab tells Jezebel about Elijah’s actions, she orders the prophets killed	
	Elijah at Horeb		9-10	Elijah believes he is the only prophet left	
			11-14	God sends a strong wind, earthquake, fire, sound of a gentle wind - a voice	
			15-18	God tells Elijah to return, anoint Jehu as king & Elisha as prophet, and of the 7000 who haven't bowed to Baal	
			19-21	Elijah finds Elisha	
	War with Aram	20	1-6	Ben-hadad besieges Samaria	
	Ahab Victorious		7-12	Ben-hadad sends terms of surrender; Ahab refuses	
			13-15	A prophet tells Ahab he would be victorious	
			16-18	Ben-hadad told of Israel's preparation for war while “Getting drunk”	
			19-21	Israel defeats the Arameans	
			22	The prophet warns Ahab to prepare for the Arameans return in a year	
			23-25	Arameans misunderstand of the god of Israel	
	Another Aramean War		26-30	Beh-hadad returns and Israel is prepared and defeats them soundly	
			31-34	Ahab makes a covenant with Ben-hadad	
			35-43	A prophet tells Ahab of his death for the treaty with Ben-hadad	
	Ahab Covets Naboth's Vineyard	21	1-4	Ahab tries to buy Naboth's vineyard, Naboth refuses	
			5-7	Jezebel asks why Ahab is upset	
			8-10	Jezebel makes a plan to kill Naboth	

1 Kings - Outline

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	Jezebel's Plot		11-14	Jezebel's conspirators carry out her plan
			15-16	Jezebel tells Ahab of Naboth's death; Ahab takes possession of the vineyard
			17-19	Elisha sent to prophesy of Ahab's death in the vineyard
			20-24	Elisha tells Ahab his family will be destroyed because of the evil he did and of Jezebel's death
			25-26	Summary of Ahab's evil - sins of the Amorites
			27-29	Ahab humbles himself, the lord postpones the destruction until Ahab's death
	Ahab's Third Campaign against Aram	22	1-4	Ahab seeks an alliance with Jehoshaphat, king of Judah, against Aram to take back Ramoth-gilead
			5-13	Jehoshaphat asks Ahab to inquire of the lord first; Micaiah is hated by Ahab; Micaiah called to prophesy; Zedekiah falsely prophesies victory
	Micaiah Predicts Defeat		13-14	Micaiah asked to "Yes Man" like all the other prophets; he refuses
			15-18	Micaiah speaks but Ahab asks for the truth; Micah tells of Israel's destruction
			19-23	Micaiah tells of the spiritual battle concerning Ahab
			24-28	Zedekiah strikes Micaiah and told of his soon demise; Ahab imprisons Micaiah until his return; Micaiah, "If you return safely the lord has not spoken by me."
	Defeat and Death of Ahab		29-33	Ahab disguises himself while Jehoshaphat wears his royal armor; Arameans told to fight against Ahab only
			34-36	Ahab randomly shot by an archer; propped up in his chariot to continue the battle; Israel's army then abandons the fight
			37-40	Ahab dies and the prophecy is fulfilled
	The New Rulers		41-44	Jehoshaphat in Judah - was good like Asa but allowed some idolatry
			45-46	Jehoshaphat dies
			47-50	Jehoshaphat's control over Edom; his trading ships destroyed by Ahaziah of Israel; Ahaziah wanted to fight with him but he refused; His son Jehoram becomes king in Judah
			51-53	Ahaziah, Ahab's son, rules in Israel - evil like his parents worshipping Baal

Bibliography

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1 Kings - Outline

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