

- 1 Be concise.** Please share your thoughts and answers, but be considerate so that others will have time to share their answers also. Be charitable and kind. Be willing to share with the group, but do not try to dominate the conversation. Use the time after the class to find help with any personal issues or problems you may be confronting in your life.

“Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires.”

(James 1:19–20)

- 2 Be thoughtful with your answer.** Consider your words. Do not simply regurgitate what you have always heard. We have the tendency to speak in “Christianese” — words that only people who grew up on the pews would understand. Think about how your words will be heard by others. Will they understand what you are saying? Is what you are about to say going to be useful for the building up of the faith of others? Or will your words be confusing, cause hurt, or worse, damage someone’s faith? Speak without harshness or anger, but with kindness and humility.

“Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.”

(Ephesians 4:29)

- 3 Rely on the scriptures for truth.** It is easy to rely upon conventional, worldly wisdom as truth. Bible study is about seeking God’s answers for our lives, not dispensing the advice of the world. We must consider that our natural answers may be the wrong answers if they are not founded on God’s word.

“For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.”

(1 Corinthians 1:25)

This is a booklet to aid you in your personal study of this book. Read through the text first, discovering God's precious truths for yourself. Write down the main point of each section of text in the space provided. Use the margins on each side of the text and the backside of the page to make notations of the truths you discover and passages you do not understand. When you believe you have seen all there is in text, read and answer the questions in the booklet pertaining to that section of text. The questions are not an exhaustive list of things to look for in the text. The questions are to help you consider the points that the author was trying to convey to his audience. Be prepared to share your findings in class.

### **FORM OF CHRONICLES:**

First and Second Chronicles was originally one book when penned. The Septuagint (LXX) first divided the Chronicles into two books. Therefore, we will treat Chronicles as one literary unit given by God during this study.

### **DATE OF CHRONICLES:**

The earliest possible date for the writing of Chronicles is the days of Ezra the priest. Read 2 Chronicles 36:21-23 and Ezra 1:1-4.

What do you notice about these two passages?

What do these passages tell you about who the author of Chronicles may be?

There does not appear to be any Greek influence in the style of the Hebrew used in the book, suggesting the book was written no later than 330 BC. Therefore, it seems likely that the book was written between 515-400 BC.

### **HISTORICAL REFERENCE OF CHRONICLES:**

Write down what was happening historically with Israel during this 515-400 BC.

Name three leaders of Israel during this time. What was the goal of these leaders? What sins were these leaders dealing with?

Who were the prophets during this time? What were these prophets preaching?

Recognizing the dating of the Chronicles, what would be the purpose of writing a historical record of Israel's past for those who returned from Babylon/Persia? As you answer, consider the differences between the Kings account and the Chronicles account. What does Chronicles highlight and emphasize unlike the Kings account? Why are there differences between the Chronicles and Kings accounts?

**THEMES IN CHRONICLES:**

Read and scan through the book of Chronicles.

Who are the two main characters in Chronicles (the most space devoted to these two)? Who is notably excluded?

What object gets a significant amount of treatment in Chronicles?

What key phrase(s) do you find in Chronicles?

**1-9** Main point: \_\_\_\_\_

Make additional notes at left and below:

1. Read 1 Chronicles 2:3; 4:24; 5:1; 5:11; 5:23; 6:1; 7:1; 7:6; 7:13; 7:14; 7:20; 7:30. Remember that these tribes have been carried away into Assyrian captivity in 722 BC. The remnant of Judah is who are in the land now. Why trace the history of these lost tribes?
2. Read 1 Chronicles 1:1-2:2. What is the purpose of this section of the genealogy? What is God defining through this genealogy?
3. Read 1 Chronicles 2:3-4:23.

Which son of Israel should have held the first place in the genealogical record? Why is he excluded (cf. 5:1-2)? Which one does hold first place in this account?

Which tribe is focused on in this section?

What is particularly noted by the Chronicler in 2:3 and 2:7? Why is this pointed out so early?

Read 1 Samuel 17:12-14. How many sons did Jesse have? Read 1 Chronicles 2:15. How many sons did Jesse have according to the Chronicler? Why the discrepancy? What is the Chronicler showing?

Notice 1 Chronicles 2:55. Who are the Kenites (cf. Judges 1:16; 4:11)? Why are they included here?

Which people are focused on in chapter 3? Why are these people important?

What do you find interesting about 4:9-10? Why would this narrative be included?

4. Read 1 Chronicles 4:24-5:26. Which tribes are detailed? What do you notice about the amount of space used on these tribes versus the amount of space used to describe Judah?

Why is it surprising that Simeon is included in the tribal list (cf. Joshua 19:1-9; Judges 1:2-3)? How does Simeon's inclusion continue a theme of Chronicles?

What was the geographic location of the tribes of Reuben, Gad, and the half tribe of Manassah (cf. Numbers 32; Deuteronomy 3:12-20; Joshua 1:12-15; 22:1-9)? What happened to these tribes?

What theological principles are being contrasted in 5:18-22 and 5:25-26? What is the message to the exile remnant?

5. Read 1 Chronicles 6. Which tribe is detailed? What do you notice about the amount of space used for it? Compare and contrast with the previously detailed tribes.

Why the focus on the sons of Kohath in verses 2-15?

What order is the Chronicler establishing in verses 31-81?

6. Read 1 Chronicles 7. Which tribes are detailed? What do you notice about the amount of space used on these tribes? Compare and contrast with the previously detailed tribes.

What attribute is emphasized concerning Issachar, Benjamin, Ephraim, and Asher?

Why recall Zelophehad (7:15)?

7. Read 1 Chronicles 8. Which tribe is detailed? What do you notice about the amount of space used for it? Compare and contrast with the previously detailed tribes?

What might be the reason for the geographical references in this chapter?

8. Looking back over your answers from chapters 1-8, which three tribes get the most attention by the Chronicler? Which two tribes are missing?

9. Read 1 Chronicles 9. Why was Judah exiled?

Who is being distinguished beginning in verse 3? Why is this important?

Compare the length of space given to the account of Saul with the length of space given to the account of David. What strikes you?

**10** Main point: \_\_\_\_\_  
Make additional notes at left and below:

1. What is concluding in chapter 10?
2. What is the message concerning Saul in verses 8-10?
3. What three explanations are given for Saul's death and defilement? What lessons did the Chronicler want the readers to learn?

**11** Main point: \_\_\_\_\_  
Make additional notes at left and below:

4. What did God decree concerning David (11:1-3)? Explain the imagery used.
5. What historical point is made (11:4-9)? Why was David successful?
6. Why does the Chronicler recount when David poured out the water his mighty men retrieved for him (11:15-19)?s
7. What do you notice about David's mighty men that the Chronicler is highlighting?

**12** Main point: \_\_\_\_\_

Make additional notes at left and below:

8. How strong were the Gadiites (12:14-15)?

9. What is the message in verses 16-18?

10. What had God done for David (12:20-22)?

11. What characteristics are emphasized in verses 24-37?

12. What are the two messages from 12:38-40?



**13** Main point: \_\_\_\_\_  
Make additional notes at left and below:

1. Why is this event recorded by the Chronicler?
2. What message is being noted in verses 1-4?
3. What is the message in verses 5-11?

**14** Main point: \_\_\_\_\_  
Make additional notes at left and below:

4. What is the message being taught in chapter 14? What is the contrast to chapter 13?

**15** Main point: \_\_\_\_\_  
Make additional notes at left and below:

5. What is the message of chapter 15?

6. What did the Levites do before getting the ark of the covenant?

7. What did God do during the transporting of the ark?

**16** Main point: \_\_\_\_\_  
Make additional notes at left and below:

8. Write down the messages being taught in the psalm of David which the Chronicler records:

9. What is the message of verses 37-43?

**17** Main point: \_\_\_\_\_  
Make additional notes at left and below:

1. What motivated David's plan (17:1)?
2. Explain God's response to David's desire to build a temple in verses 4-8?
3. What did God say he will do (17:9-14)?
4. What do learn about the character of David that the Chronicler is highlighting to his audience (17:16-27)?
5. What do you learn about God that the Chronicler is highlighting (17:16-27)?

**18** Main point: \_\_\_\_\_  
Make additional notes at left and below:

6. What is the message being taught in chapter 18? What was the result?

**19-20** Main point: \_\_\_\_\_

Make additional notes at left and below:

7. What can we learn for ourselves from 19:1-5?

8. Do you recognize the narrative in 20:4-8? Is it the same event or a different event? How should this account be understood?

9. What is the message for the people that the Chronicler is writing to?

**21** Main point: \_\_\_\_\_  
Make additional notes at left and below:

1. What was the great sin of David, according to the Chronicler? Why is this act his great sin?
2. Who is the cause of this sin, according to the text? What does 2 Samuel 24:1 say? Is there a reconciliation for this? Why the difference?
3. What was Joab's response?
4. What was God's response?
5. What were David's choices for punishment? What is unusual about how God handles this sin?
6. What do we learn about sin? What sin must be avoided in our lives? When we sin, how should we respond? What other lessons do we learn from this event?
7. What is special about the location of the altar?

**22** Main point: \_\_\_\_\_  
Make additional notes at left and below:

1. What did David prepare? Why?
2. Why can't David build the temple?
3. What did God promise?
4. What did David charge Solomon to do (22:12-13)?
5. What did David exhort the leaders of Israel to do (22:17-19)? Why?
6. What is the Chronicler's message in this chapter?

**23** Main point: \_\_\_\_\_  
Make additional notes at left and below:

1. What change happens to the counting of the Levites (23:3, 27)? Why the change?
2. What were Aaron and his sons to do (23:13)?
3. What was the work of the Levites in the temple (23:27-32)?
4. Why are these things important to the Chronicler?

**24** Main point: \_\_\_\_\_  
Make additional notes at left and below:

5. What is the message of chapter 24?

**25** Main point: \_\_\_\_\_  
Make additional notes at left and below:

6. What is the message of chapter 25?

**26** Main point: \_\_\_\_\_  
Make additional notes at left and below:

7. What is the message of chapter 26?

**27** Main point: \_\_\_\_\_  
Make additional notes at left and below:

8. What is the message of chapter 27?

9. What do we learn from 27:23-24?

10. Who are the important men in David's administration?



**28** Main point: \_\_\_\_\_  
Make additional notes at left and below:

1. Write down what you see interesting in David's message as he opens in verses 1-8.
2. What is David's message to Solomon (28:8-10)?
3. What did David give Solomon (28:11-19)? Who created these plans, according to the text? What is the critical message in verse 19?
4. What instructions were given to Solomon by David (28:20-21)?

**29** Main point: \_\_\_\_\_  
Make additional notes at left and below:

5. What happened in 29:1-9?
6. Write down the various things David prays for.
7. What happened as Solomon takes the throne?

# 2 CHRONICLES

Recall in the survey at the beginning of our study that Chronicles was originally written as one book. Therefore our study will hold their unity. This sheet is to mark that we are now studying what our books now call 2 Chronicles.

# 2 CHRONICLES

# 1

- 1 Main point: \_\_\_\_\_  
Make additional notes at left and below:

1. Where did Solomon's success come from? Why is this important for the Chronicler to highlight?
2. What continues to be emphasized by the Chronicler, as seen in verses 2-3?
3. What is the point of verses 3-6?
4. What do we learn from Solomon's request (1:7-13)? Why does he ask this of God?
5. When comparing this account (1:7-14) to the Kings account, what is omitted from God's response (cf. 1 Kings 3:14)? What is the Chronicler doing?

**2-3** Main point: \_\_\_\_\_  
Make additional notes at left and below:

1. Why was the temple built, according to the Chronicler (2:1,4)? What do we learn from this about the temple?
2. What will be the role of the temple? What is the message of the Chronicler by highlighting this?
3. What understanding does Solomon show in 2:5-6? What do we learn? How would the Jews later misunderstand this concept concerning the temple?
4. What is the message of Hiram (2:11-12)? What does the Chronicler want the readers to know?
5. Why is the location of the temple highlighted (3:1)? What is the message to the readers?
6. Consider the details of the inside of the temple (3:5-14). Why would this be important to the readers?
7. Notice the two names on the pillars in front of the temple (3:17). Jakin means "He (God) establishes" and Boaz means "Strength is in him (God)." What is the message to the people? What do we learn?

**4-5** Main point: \_\_\_\_\_  
Make additional notes at left and below:

1. Why provide a detailed listing of the temple furnishings in chapter 4?
2. What feast was celebrated in the seventh month (5:3)?
3. What was missing from the ark of the covenant (5:10)? Why does the Chronicler note this?
4. What was the song to the Lord (5:13)?
5. What is important about the house of the Lord being filled with a cloud (5:13-14)? When have we seen this before in the scriptures?

**6-7** Main point: \_\_\_\_\_

Make additional notes at left and below:

1. What themes and teachings do you see in 6:4-6?
2. What themes and teachings do you see in 6:7-11?
3. What do you find interesting in Solomon's prayer of dedication in 6:12-42?
4. What were the people to do when they sinned, according to Solomon's prayer? What do we learn about the meaning of the temple?
5. Where have we seen this response from God before in the scriptures (7:1-2)?
6. What was the response of the people (7:3)? What do we learn from this?
7. What was the result of the people's worship (7:4-10)?
8. What was God's response to Solomon's prayer (7:11-22)? What is the message to the readers?

**8-9** Main point: \_\_\_\_\_  
Make additional notes at left and below:

1. What is the message from 8:1-10?
2. What is the message from 8:11-18?
3. What does the meeting with Queen of Sheba reveal about Solomon (9:1-12)?
4. What is the point of recording the information found in 9:13-28?

**10-12** Main point: \_\_\_\_\_

Make additional notes at left and below:

1. What was the people's criticism of Solomon (10:1-4)?
2. According to the Chronicler, what did Rehoboam do wrong in making his decision (10:5-17)?
3. What was the reaction of the people to Rehoboam's decision (10:16)? Contrast this reaction to what we read concerning David's kingship in 1 Chronicles 12:18.
4. Why doesn't Rehoboam go to war over Israel no longer submitting to him (11:1-4)?
5. What point is being made about Rehoboam, his family, and the people in 11:5-23?
6. Why was Jerusalem attacked (12:1-4)?
7. What was the solution (12:5-12)? What is the message to the readers?



**13-16** Main point: \_\_\_\_\_  
Make additional notes at left and below:

1. What is the Chronicler's message in the reign of Abijah (13:1-22)?
2. What did Asa do that was right in the eyes of the Lord (14:1-8)?
3. What is the Chronicler's message in 14:9-15?
4. What is the message of Azariah (15:1-7)? What is the message to the readers?
5. Describe the reforms of Asa (15:8-19). What difficult things does he do in the name of the Lord?
6. What does Asa do wrong (16:1-10)? What was the result of his errors?
7. What else did Asa do wrong (16:11-14)? What lessons do we learn from the mistakes of Asa?

**17-20** Main point: \_\_\_\_\_  
Make additional notes at left and below:

1. Why was the Lord with Jehoshaphat (17:1-6)? What effect did this have on the reign of Jehoshaphat?
2. What else occurred during the reign of Jehoshaphat (17:7-19)? What was the result? What is the message to the readers?
3. Contrast the attitude of Ahab and Jehoshaphat (18:1-34). What is the result upon Ahab for his decision? What is the message to the readers?
4. What did Jehoshaphat do that is right after receiving the judgment from Jehu (19:11)?
5. What caused Jehoshaphat to pray (20:1-13)? What did Jehoshaphat pray for?
6. What did God do (20:14-32)?
7. What did Jehoshaphat call for the people to do (20:20)? What do we learn from this?
8. What did Jehoshaphat also have the people do (20:21-22)? What do we learn from this? What is the message to the readers?

**21-22** Main point: \_\_\_\_\_

Make additional notes at left and below:

1. What did Jehoram do when he became king (21:1-7)? What did God do? What is the message to the readers and to us?
2. Why did Jehoram lose his rule over Edom (21:8-10)?
3. What other consequence does Jehoram experience because of his sins (21:11-20)?
4. Did Ahaziah learn from the mistakes of his father (22:1-6)? What did he do wrong?
5. What did the Lord do because of Ahaziah's error (22:7-9)?
6. What is the message in 22:10-12?

**23-24** Main point: \_\_\_\_\_

Make additional notes at left and below:

1. What did Jehoiada do (23:1-15)?
2. What reforms did Jehoiada institute (23:16-21)?
3. What did Joash do (24:1-14)?
4. What happened after Jehoiada died (24:15-19)? What lessons do we learn?
5. What is the message of Zechariah (24:20)? What was the response of the king and the people (24:21-22)?
6. Why did the Syrians attack (24:23-27)?

**25-28** Main point: \_\_\_\_\_

Make additional notes at left and below:

1. What is the message in 25:1-4?
2. What did Amaziah do that is right (25:5-13)? How does this contrast previous kings? What is the message to the readers?
3. What did Amaziah do wrong (25:14-16)?
4. What was the result of Amaziah's error (25:17-28)? What other sins of Amaziah are listed?
5. Why was God with Uzziah (26:1-15)?
6. What sin did Uzziah commit (26:16-23)? What was the result of his sin?
7. What did Jotham do right (27:1-9)? What did he do wrong? What was God's response?
8. What sins did Ahaz commit (28:1-4)? What was the result (28:5-21)? What other sins did he commit (28:21-27)?

**29-32** Main point: \_\_\_\_\_

Make additional notes at left and below:

1. What did Hezekiah do in chapter 29? What is this important to the Chronicler?
2. What is celebrated about Hezekiah's reign in chapter 30?
3. What is the message in 30:6-12?
4. What is the message in 30:13-22?
5. What is the message in 30:23-27?
6. What did Hezekiah do in chapter 31? What was the heart of the king and rulers (31:8)?
7. What is the message to the readers (31:20-21)?
8. What faith do we see in Hezekiah (32:1-8)?
9. What did the Lord because of Hezekiah's faith (32:9-23)?
10. What was Hezekiah's sin (32:24-31)? What lesson are the readers to learn and us?

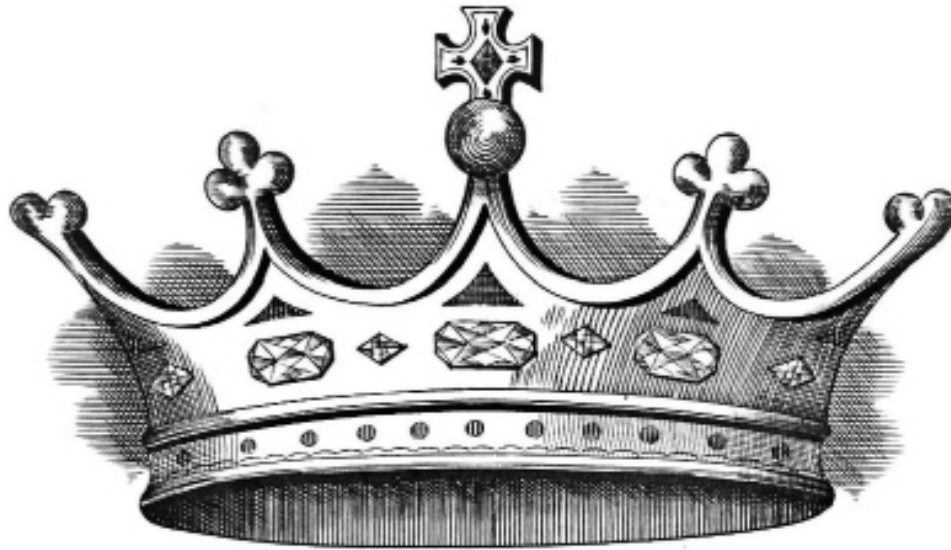
**33-35** Main point: \_\_\_\_\_  
Make additional notes at left and below:

1. What sins did Manasseh commit (33:1-9)?
2. What is the message in 33:10-20?
3. What sins did Amon commit (33:21-25)?
4. What did Josiah do (34:1-7)?
5. What was the reaction of Josiah upon hearing the words of the Law (34:8-21)?
6. What was God's message to the people (34:22-33)? What did Josiah do?
7. What did Josiah reinstitute (35:1-19)? How long had it been since the Passover had been kept properly? What is the message to the readers?
8. What was Josiah's error (35:20-27)? What was the result? What is the message to the readers?

**36** Main point: \_\_\_\_\_  
Make additional notes at left and below:

1. What were the acts of the next four kings (36:1-16)?
2. What is the message of 36:16? What lessons do we learn?
3. Second Chronicles 36:17-21 record the destruction of the temple. Why is this event significant? Look back at our earlier study in this book concerning the temple and write down what the temple signified. What did it mean that it was now destroyed?
4. What is the message of 36:22-23?
5. Where else are the words of 36:22-23 recorded?





# CHRONICLES

HOPE TO THE HOPELESS THROUGH RESTORATION

SELF-STUDY WORKBOOK

by: Brent Kercheville