

Bible Reading Notes
2 Chronicles

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2 Chronicles 1

This is the second volume of Ezra's history of Judah.

1:16-17 – The acquiring of many horses was in direct contradiction to Deuteronomy 17:16.

2 Chronicles 2

2:5-6 – The temple will not be built to contain God, which is impossible, but to be a place for offerings to be presented to him.

2:10 – **cor** = 6 bushels; **bath** = 6 gallons.

2 Chronicles 3

3:1 – **began to build** – According to 1 Kings 6:38, it took 7 1/2 years to complete.

3:1 – **threshing floor** – This was the site that Abraham offered up Isaac (Genesis 22) and David offered his sacrifice when the Lord judged Israel for David's census

(1 Chronicles 21:18ff).

3:5 – **cubit** = 18 inches

2 Chronicles 4

This chapter gives descriptions of various items made for the temple.

4:5 – This large "sea" would hold between 12,000-18,000 gallons of water for the priests to use for cleansing ceremonies. This is equivalent water to a 15'x30' pool with a depth of 4'.

4:7-8 – The original tabernacle only contained one of each of these items.

2 Chronicles 5

5:3 – seventh month – This is now eleven months after the completion of the temple during the Feast of Booths.

5:14 – glory of the Lord – Just as the glory of the Lord had filled the tabernacle when it was dedicated (Exodus 40:34).

2 Chronicles 6

6:9 – not you...but your son – This account is found in 2 Samuel 7:13.

6:14-42 - This is Ezra's version of the dedication of Solomon's temple. Just like the account in 1 Kings, there are 7 different requests or situations that Solomon covers in his prayer.

2 Chronicles 7

7:1 – fire came down from heaven – This detail was not given in the account in 1 Kings.

7:18 – This was the promise the Lord made to David in 2 Samuel

7:19-22 – This will be the way the book of 2 Chronicles will end.

2 Chronicles 8

8:1 – twenty years – This is the sum of the years taken to build the temple (7 years) and Solomon's palace (13 years).

This chapter summarizes the reign of Solomon and reflects the time in Israel's history where they had control over more area than at any other time in their history. It was the apex of Israel as a nation.

2 Chronicles 9

Ezra ends the account of Solomon's life with a review of his great wisdom (vv. 1-12) and his great wealth (vv. 13-28).

9:1 – Sheba – The exact location is uncertain, but it has been suggested that the area of modern-day Yemen may have been her home.

9:9 – 120 talents of gold = about 9,000 pounds.

9:13 – 666 talents of gold = 49,950 pounds.

9:15-16 – The House of the Forest of Lebanon – so named because of the vast amount of wood from Lebanon that was used in its construction.

2 Chronicles 10

The account of Israel now shifts from a status of a great nation under Solomon to a divided kingdom under his foolish son, Rehoboam. Since Chronicles only deals with the Davidic line, there is more detail about Rehoboam than in Kings.

10:15 – The Lord had decreed and foretold the division of the kingdom in 1 Kings 11:29ff.

2 Chronicles 11

11:4-12 – Kings focused on the building of defensive cities by Jeroboam. Here is the building program of Rehoboam.

11:13-17 – The result of Jeroboam's setting up the golden calves and a new priesthood in Israel.

2 Chronicles 12

12:5 – I have abandoned you – There are consequences to rejecting the Lord and his Word.

12:10 – shields of bronze – The façade of the greatness of his father's kingdom will be perpetuated by Rehoboam.

2 Chronicles 13

13:5 – covenant of salt - Salt was used as a sign that the covenant was meant to be perpetual and have no end (Numbers 18:19).

13:21 – Pretty aggressive feat if he reigned only 3 years! In both chapters 13-14, we see Judah overcoming great odds in battles with much larger enemy armies because they sought the Lord and relied on him.

2 Chronicles 14

14:1 – land had rest – In large part, due to his father's decimation of Israel's army.

14:2-5 – Asa is the most righteous king in Judah since the Davidic reign, at least in the beginning.

2 Chronicles 15

15:3 – For a long time – May be a reference to the time of the Judges

15:17 – high places - The reformation was not complete, though this probably refers to areas of the northern kingdom that were not under Asa's control.

2 Chronicles 16

Asa does not finish strong. In his later years the faith and reliance he had on the Lord is replaced by reliance on others: Ben-hadad (vv. 2-5) and doctors (v. 12).

16:1 – Perhaps to stem the flow of Israelites defecting to Judah (15:9).

In Scripture, there are many who start out strong in the Lord but who fail to finish strong. There is a warning here to those who are older not to become complacent.

2 Chronicles 17

17:1-6 – Jehoshaphat is described as the ideal king who sought the Lord.

17:7 – **third year** – It is believed that Jehoshaphat reigned with his father for three years during his father's illness (16:12ff). This then was one of his first acts after his father's death.

17:10-19 – These verses are to be understood in the context as the blessings the Lord gave Jehoshaphat and Judah for their obedience to the Lord.

2 Chronicles 18

18:1 – **marriage alliance** - This was a sinful marriage alliance since Ahab was a covenant breaker and an apostate. It would result in Jehoshaphat's son being influenced by his wife and turning to sin (1 Chronicles 21:6; 22:10ff).

18:5-6 – the 400 prophets claimed to be prophets of the Lord but did not really speak his word.

18:12-13 – **speak favorably** – There was great pressure to prophecy according to what the king wanted to hear. The true man of God speaks only the word of God no matter the circumstances.

18:18-22 – A look into the heavenly council to see how God would accomplish his purpose of judgment in Ahab.

2 Chronicles 19

Jehoshaphat was a godly man who sought to turn Judah back to the Lord (v. 4), but also a king who made sinful alliances with the nations around him (1 Chronicles 18; 20:35-37).

19:7 – Jehoshaphat's direction to the judges is a good reminder to all of us.

2 Chronicles 20

20:6 – When in the midst of a crisis, the place to begin is with an acknowledgment of who God is.

20:1 – **love those who hate the Lord** – This does not mean we should not love unbelievers today. In context, its meaning is that Judah should not make alliances with unbelievers.

20:20 – **Believe** – This is the essence of the life of faith we are called to today.

20:26 – **Beracah** – This is Hebrew for “blessing.”

20:35-37 – This gives us the background for why the ships were destroyed that 1 Kings 22:48 omits.

2 Chronicles 21

21:6 – **daughter of Ahab** – Another example of the consequence of not following the Lord’s command to marry only believers (2 Corinthians 6:14). Multiple generations will suffer, and a great political crisis will occur due to ignoring God’s command.

21:10 – **because he had forsaken the Lord** – Sometimes we don’t know why disasters come to us, but here God is very clear.

2 Chronicles 22

22:10-12 – Only time in the Old Testament that a queen or queen mother was the sole ruler of the nation

2 Chronicles 23

23:1-2 – This section is not surprising since Chronicles is priestly focused in its content.

23:11 – **the testimony** – A copy of the law of the Lord as commanded in Deuteronomy 17:18.

2 Chronicles 24

24:4 – restore – For the previous 35 years the temple had been almost abandoned as Baal worship had become the worship of Judah. Now Joash wants to restore the temple and the worship of the Lord.

24:21 – Jesus mentions this event in Matthew 23:35.

24:17 – Apparently it was Jehoiada who was keeping Judah faithful. Once he died, Joash reverted to the idol worship of the previous kings.

24:25 – Jehoiada is honored with burial in the tombs of the kings but not Joash.

2 Chronicles 25

25:2 – not with a whole heart – In many ways Amaziah's life was one that was neither hot nor cold, but lukewarm in his allegiance to the Lord (Revelation 3:16).

25:11 – Seir = Edom, the descendants of Esau.

25:13 – Samaria – Not the capital of Israel (it would make no sense for them to invade their own capital) but an unknown town in northern Judah.

2 Chronicles 26

26:5 – Zechariah – Not the minor prophet who lived after the Babylonian Captivity. This Zechariah was an advisor to the king.

26:16-20 – Ezra gives us the reason for Uzziah's leprosy that Kings only briefly referred to.

26:18 – It is not for you – Only the sons of Aaron were allowed to burn incense in the temple according to Numbers 16:40.

2 Chronicles 27

Jotham was a coregent with his father for ten years after Uzziah contracted leprosy (26:21).

27:2 – **did not enter the temple** – As his father had done (2 Chronicles 26:16).

27:6 – Jotham's reign is marked by blessing which is ascribed to his following faithfully after the Lord.

2 Chronicles 28

Ezra covers the life of Ahaz but with much greater detail than in Kings.

28:8ff – The irony of this situation is that wicked Israel acts more righteous than Judah.

2 Chronicles 29

29:3 – **first year of his reign** – Hezekiah began immediately to undo what his father, Ahaz, had done with his idolatrous worship.

2 Chronicles 30

30:1 – **to all Israel** – By this time Samaria had been destroyed and the exile had taken place. Those left were those whom Assyria did not bother to exile.

30:5 – **Beersheba to Dan** – From the southern part of Judah to the most northern part of Israel.

30:6-10 – Through Hezekiah the Lord was calling Israel to repentance. Once again, most rejected the opportunity (v. 10).

2 Chronicles 31-33

31:20-21 – Summary of Hezekiah’s commitment to the Lord.

The account of Sennacherib’s invasion is also found in Isaiah 36-37.

33:10-13 – We are not told about Manasseh’s exile and repentance in the account of his life in 2 Kings.

33:21-25 – Even though Manasseh repented, the effects of his sins continued.

2 Chronicles 34-35

34:1 – Josiah – Josiah will be the last righteous king in Judah before the nation is destroyed in God’s judgment.

34:14 – Book of the Law – This is a reference to the book of Deuteronomy.

2 Chronicles 35

35:18 – No Passover like it – Josiah’s reign gives hope that reformation will take hold among God’s people. But the reformation will be short lived.

35:20ff – The death of Josiah will in essence be the beginning of the end of Judah.

2 Chronicles 36

36:15-16 – persistently...mocking – The Lord was faithful to send his prophets to his people to call them to repentance, but Israel mocked them and rejected the Lord’s message.

36:17 – Therefore – The Lord’s response to his people’s rejection of his word.

36:22 – This took place in 538 BC in fulfillment of Jeremiah 25:11.