

The Book of 1 Chronicles

Author:	Ezra
Date/Location:	450-425 B.C. – Israel
Genre:	Historical Narrative
Length:	29 chapters
Key Passages:	11:1-3; 17:11-14; 29:11-12

Contents:

After a major collection of genealogies, another account of the life and reign of David over Israel.

Theme and Purpose:

First Chronicles begins with an outline of history from Adam through the death of King Saul. The rest of the book is about the reign of King David. The books of Chronicles seem like a repeat of Samuel and Kings, but they were written for the returned exiles to remind them that they came from the royal line of David and that they were God's chosen people. The genealogies point out that the Davidic promises had their source in those pledged to Abraham that He would make him the father of a great nation, one through which He would bless the nations.

Key Concepts:

Covenant to David

Outline:

1 Chronicles divides into three sections:

- I. *Genealogies from Adam to David* (1-9)
- II. *The Rise and Anointing of David* (10-12)
- III. *David's Reign* (13-29)

Important Omissions/Additions in 1 Chronicles

- Chronicles passes over David's sins against Uriah and Bathsheba, along with his ensuing family and political troubles. (see 2 Samuel 11–24)
- The Chronicler's additions and expansions focus on David's activity for the temple. David's wars acquire materials for the temple. Additions to the census account (2 Samuel 24) explain the choice of the temple site in 1 Chronicles 21. (see 1 Chron. 18:8, 11; 21:27–22:1)
- Extensive additions focus on David's preparations for the temple and its personnel. David, as much as Solomon, shaped Israel's traditions of worship in the temple. (see 1 Chronicles 22–29)

Comparison of 1–2 Chronicles with 2 Samuel and 1–2 Kings

	1 Chronicles	2 Samuel
Genealogies	1:1–9:44	
Death of Saul and sons	10:1–14	1 Sam. 31:1–2 Sam. 1:16
Lament for Saul		2 Sam. 1:17–27
David king of Judah		2:1–7
War between house of Saul and David; Ish-bosheth made king		2:8–3:1
David's sons in Hebron		3:2–5
Abner helps David		3:6–21
Joab kills Abner		3:22–39
Ish-bosheth killed		4:1–12
David king of Judah and Israel	11:1–3	5:1–5
Conquest of Jerusalem	11:4–9	5:6–10
David's mighty men	11:10–47	23:8–39
David's men at Ziklag	12:1–22	
Celebration at Hebron	12:23–40	
Attempted return of ark; death of Uzzah	13:1–14	6:1–11
David's house built	14:1–2	5:11–12
David's children in Jerusalem	14:3–7	5:13–16
David defeats Philistines	14:8–17	5:17–25
Spiritual preparation for the ark's return	15:1–24	
Ark brought to Jerusalem	15:25–16:6	6:12–19
David and Michal		6:20–23
David's psalm of praise	16:7–43	
David's desire to build the temple	17:1–2	7:1–3
Davidic covenant	17:3–15	7:4–17
David's prayer of praise	17:16–27	7:18–29
David's victories	18:1–13	8:1–14
David's officials	18:14–17	8:15–18
David helps Mephibosheth		9:1–13
Ammonites defeated	19:1–15	10:1–14
Syrians defeated	19:16–19	10:15–19
Ammonites defeated	20:1–3	11:1; 12:26–31
David and Bathsheba		11:2–12:25
Amnon, Tamar, and Absalom		13:1–14:33
Absalom's rebellion		15:1–19:43
Sheba's rebellion		20:1–26
Famine; death of Saul's sons		21:1–14
War with Philistines; the Philistine giants	20:4–8	21:15–22

David's psalm of deliverance		22:1-51
David's last words		23:1-7
David's census	21:1-22:5	24:1-25
David plans for the temple	21:28-22:5	
David's charge to Solomon and the leaders	22:6-19	
David organizes temple personnel	23:1-26:32	
Israel's military	27:1-15	
Israel's leaders	27:16-34	
David's charge to Israel; affirmation of Solomon	28:1-10	
Pattern for the temple	28:11-21	
Offerings for the temple	29:1-9	
David's prayer of thanks for the temple	29:10-19	
		1 Kings
David and Abishag		1:1-4
Adonijah claims the throne		1:5-27
Solomon's coronation	29:20-25	1:28-40
David instructs Solomon		2:1-9
Death of David	29:26-30	2:10-11
Solomon establishes his kingdom		2:12-46