

Introduction

Writer

It was written while the first temple was still standing (1 Kings 8:8). Jeremiah is the traditional writer. Modern scholarship assigns the authorship to "the prophets."

Theme

Standard of the kingdom: "as David his father" (repeated nine times in 1 Kings). It was a human standard, but man failed to attain even to it.

Features

- 1. Practically all the rulers were evil.
- 2. God's patience in dealing with them.
- 3. Names of the mothers are given of both good and bad kings.
- 4. God's grace in sending revival when the king, with the people, turned to Him.
- 5. Prominence of the prophet and insignificance of the priest.
- 6. God's long delay before the captivity of both Israel and Judah.
- 7. Man's total inability to rule for God.
- 8. Wicked kings who had godly sons, also good kings who had wicked sons.

Kingdom

First Kings records the division of the kingdom; Second Kings records the collapse of the kingdom. Considered together, they open with King David and close with the king of Babylon. They are the book of man's rule of God's kingdom. The throne on earth must be in tune with the throne in heaven if blessings come and benefits accrue to the people. Yet man's plan cannot overthrow God's purposes.

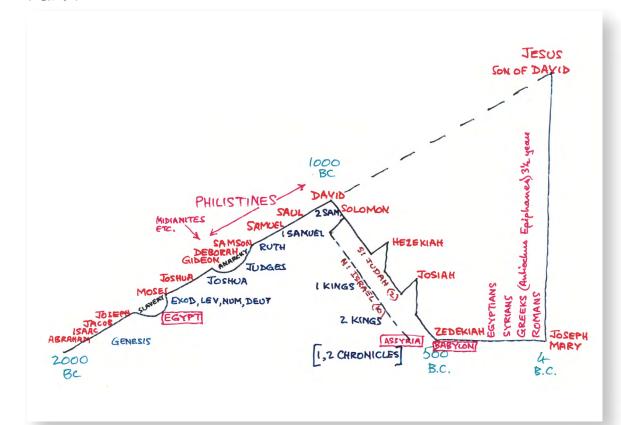
Purpose

It is a continuation of the narrative begun in 1 & 2 Samuel. Actually, 1 & 2 Samuel with 1 & 2 Kings can be viewed as one book. In these four books the history of the nation is traced from the time of its greatest extent, influence, and prosperity under David and Solomon to the division and finally the captivity and exile of both kingdoms. The moral teaching is to show man his inability to rule himself and the world. In these four historical books we have the rise and fall of the kingdom of Israel.

Source: Keener, Craig S. (2014). The IVP Bible Background Commentary: New Testament, Second Edition. InterVarsity Press.



Part I



HISTORY OF ISRAEL

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THREE PHASES, LED BY:
                                                                                      PROPHETS ~ Moses to Samuel
                                                                                     KINGS - Saul to Zedekiah
                                                                                      PRIESTS ~ Zerubbabel to Caiaphas
                                                                                             KINGDOM(S) OF ISRAEL
                                                                                                         COVERED BY FOUR BOOKS
{ I SAMUEL ~ Samuel to David | I SAMUEL ~ David | David | SAMUEL ~ David |
                                                                                                                                                                       I KINGS - Solomon to Ahab
                                                                                                                                                                       L II KINGS - Ahab to Zedekiah
                                                                                                            TWO BOOKS IN HEBREW
                                                                                                           FOUR BOOKS IN GREEK (LXX) "Kingdoms"
                                                 IN HEBREW SCRIPTURES
                                                                                                            NOT 'HISTORY'
                                                                                                            BUT 'PROPHECY' (Law, Prophets, Writings)
                                                                                     "FORMER PROPHETS"
                                                                                                            (JOSHUA, JUDGES, SAMUEL, KINGS)
                                                                                     "LATTER PROPHETS"
                                                                                                            (ISAIAH, JEREMIAH, EZEKIEL+TWELVE)
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Part I

KINGDOM OF ISRAEL

1. UNITED KINGDOM

SAUL 40 (I Samuel) DAVID 40 (I Samuel)

SOLOMON 40 (I Kings 1-10)

2. DIVIDED KINGDOM

JUDAH ~ 2 TRIBES IN SOUTH ISRAEL ~ 10 TRIBES IN NORTH

WAR 80 (I 12-16)

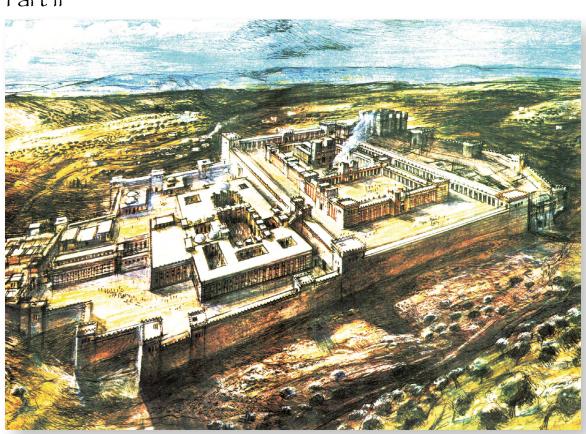
PEACE 80 (I 16-II 10) ELIJAH (I 17-II 2) ELISHA (I 19-II 9)

WAR 50 (II 11-17)
ISRAEL TO ASSYRIA 721 BC

3. SINGLE KINGDOM

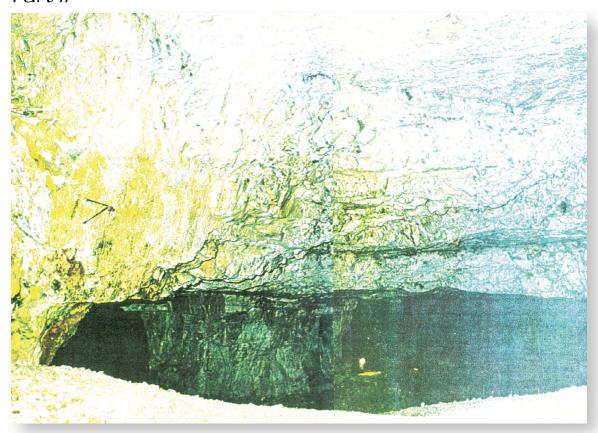
JUDAH ("Jew") 140 (II 18-25) JUDAH TO BABYLON 587 BC.

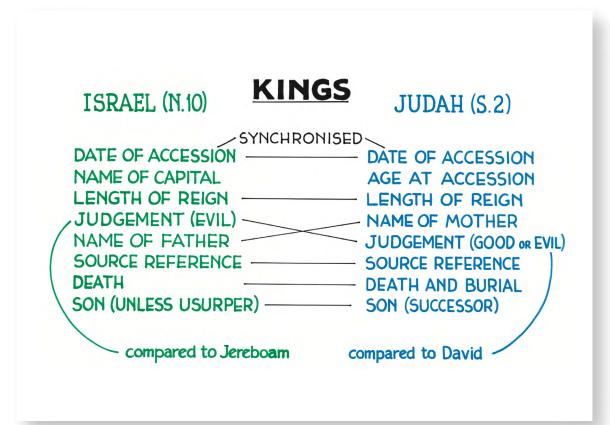
Part II





Part II





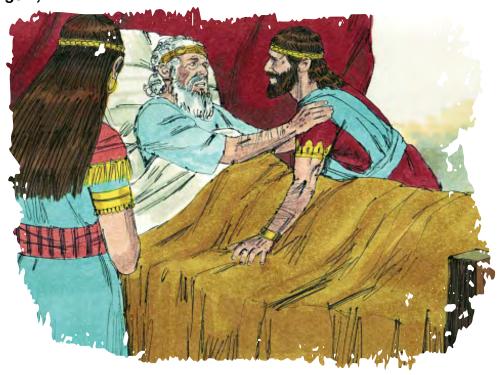


Part II

"NORTH "ISRAEL" (10)		"SOUTH "	
Prophets	Kings	Kings	Prophets
AHIJAH	JEREBOAM	REHEBOAM	SHEMAIAH
JEHU	NADAB BA'ASHA ELAH	ABIJAM ASA	
	ZIMRI		
ELIJAH	AHAB	JEHOSHOPHAT	OBADIAH
MICAIAH	AHAZIAH JEHORAM	JEHORAM	o o no i n
ELISHA	JEHU	AHAZIAH	
	JEHOAHAZ JEHOASH	JOASH	JOEL
JONAH AMOS	JEREBOAM II ZECHARIAH	AMAZIAH UZZIAH	JOEL
	SHALLUM		
HOSEA	MENAHEM PEKAHIAH	JOTHAM	ISAIAH
	PEKAH HOSHEA	AHAZ	1,114,115
	721 BC.	MANASSEH	
Very Good	i	AMON JOSIAH	NAHUM JEREMIAH
Good		JEHOAHAZ	ZEPHANIAH
Bad Very Bad		JEHOACHIM JEHOACHIN ZEDEKIAH	HABAKKUK DANIEL
Queen		587 BC.	EZEKIEL

I. Death of David

1 Kings 1, 2





II. Glory of Solomon's reign 1 Kings 3-11

- A. Solomon's prayer for wisdom, Chapters 3, 4
- B. Building of the Temple, Chapters 5-8
- C. Fame of Solomon, Chapters 9, 10
- D. Shame and death of Solomon, Chapter 11



III. Division of the kingdom

1 Kings 12 - 2 Kings 16





IV. Captivity of Israel by Assyria 2 Kings 17



V. Decline and captivity of Judah by Babylon 2 Kings 18 – 25





Quiz on 1 & 2 Kings

1. Who was Solomon's mother?
2. Whose vineyard did Ahab covet?
3. What brought bread and meat to Elijah while he was hiding from Ahab?
4. What was the name of king Ahab's wife?
5. Which prophet called down fire from heaven?
6. With which disease was Naaman afflicted?
7. What did Elisha instruct Naaman to do in order to be cured?
8. What did Elisha throw into the Jordan in order to make an axe head float?
9. How old was Jehoash when he became king?
10. With which disease did Elisha curse Gehazi?





