

# INTRODUCTION TO Chronicles

## WHERE IS IT IN THE BIBLE?

- 11. 1 KINGS
- 12. 2 KINGS
- 13. 1 CHRONICLES
- 14. 2 CHRONICLES
- 15. EZRA
- 16. NEHEMIAH

## MESSAGE

Chronicles serves as a history of the Jewish people. It begins with a lengthy genealogy that traces the lineage of the Israelites all the way back to Adam. 1 Chronicles focuses on the reign of King David and portrays him as an example of godliness. 2 Chronicles describes the kings that reigned after David in Judah, and the events that led to the Babylonian exile. 2 Chronicles ends with King Cyrus giving permission to the exiles to return to the promised land. Combined, 1 and 2 Chronicles provide a reminder of the importance of following God's ways, and the dangers of rebelling against him.

## KEY THEMES

- **God is sovereign over history.** Chronicles reminds us that God is at work throughout history. He uses righteous and unrighteous leaders to accomplish His redemptive purposes.
- **God deserves to be worshiped.** In describing the tabernacle and ministry of the Levites, Chronicles reminded the Israelites of the importance of worshiping God alone. For modern readers, Chronicles serves as a reminder of the danger of worshiping false gods, and the blessings of worshiping God.
- **The need for a greater King.** While David is portrayed as a great and godly king, he was not perfect and his reign eventually ended. Many of the kings that followed David, rebelled against the Lord and led the nation into idolatry, resulting in the Babylonian exile. 2 Chronicles ends with the nation of Judah returning to the promised land. But there is still a question of which descendant of David will reign forever as the righteous King. Chronicles reminds us that we need a greater King, and that king is Jesus.

## BOOK BASICS



DATE



TYPE  
History



AUTHOR  
Unknown

1 and 2 Chronicles were originally one book, that was written at some point after the Jewish people returned to Israel from their exile in Babylon. It was probably written to remind the people of their identity as the people of God, God's design for worship, and the importance of following his decrees. The author is unknown but it is traditionally believed to be Ezra.

## BASIC STRUCTURE

1 CHRONICLES: 29 CHAPTERS    2 CHRONICLES: 36 CHAPTERS

