

1 & 2 Kings



Background

- How are the books of First and Second Kings related to each other? How does this affect the way we should read them?
- What does the Lecture suggest about the author of these books?
- How does the Lecture describe the purpose of these books? How is this related to the time of writing? What does this tell us about the content of these books? What lessons should we learn?
- What is the time period covered by these books?

Outline

- What are the three main sections of Kings? What does each section generally cover? What does this tell us about the overall content of this book? How does this help us to read, understand, and apply 1 & 2 Kings?
- What is highlighted in the section about Solomon? Why? Why is this important?
- What are the names of the two kingdoms after the division?
- What happened at the end of the second section? What was the result?
- What happened at the end of the third section?

Content

- What are the key verses of Kings? What does each highlight? What does each tell us about the overall content and message of Kings? What does each tell us about God's people at that time and His relationship with them?
- What was the highlight of Solomon's reign? Why is this important?
- How was the temple related to the earlier tabernacle?
- How does the Lecture evaluate the leadership of Solomon? What is the evidence given for this evaluation? What can we learn from these things? How do they apply?
- According to the Lecture, why was the kingdom divided? What is the significance of this?
- What were the results of the kingdom dividing? What kind of leadership did the northern kingdom have? What did they do? What was the result?
- Describe the cycles of kings and how each king is described in these books? How does this help us read this portion of these books? What should we learn from this?
- How is each king evaluated? Why is that significant?
- How are the kings of the northern kingdom related? What should we learn from this fact? How are all the kings of the northern kingdom evaluated? What should we learn from this?
- How are the kings of the southern kingdom related? How are the kings of the southern kingdom evaluated? Which two are singled out as especially bad? Why?
- What were the surrounding countries and how did they interact with God's people at this time? Why is that significant for the Old Testament story?
- What are the reasons that these books give for the punishment of the two kingdoms?
- Who were the prophets and what function did they serve at this time?
- What did Elijah do? What lessons should we learn from his story? How do they apply?
- What did Elisha do? What is significant about that?

Themes

- Explain each of the theological themes in your own words. What does each tell us about the content, message and significance of 1 & 2 Kings? How should each idea be applied in current life?
- How is Deuteronomistic Theology demonstrated in Kings? What difference does this make?
- Define what is meant by “prophetic perspective.” How is this demonstrated in 1 & 2 Kings? Why is this significant? How should you apply this insight in your own life and ministry?

Review

Review the three major sections of 1 & 2 Kings and work toward committing this to memory.

Review the two main events of international politics and work toward committing them to memory.

Review the key themes of 1 & 2 Kings and work toward committing them to memory.