



1&2 Kings – Textbook Reading



Textbook Reading (Other material may be read for extra credit/benefit)	
Ch. 15	
☐ The Author and His Method	
Ch. 16	
☐ The Rise of Prophecy (sidebar)	
☐ Themes of the Books of Kings	

Study Guide for Textbook chapter 15

The Author and His Method

- According to the textbook, how is this book more than just history? What other things are communicated as well as history? How does this help us read and understand these books?

Retribution Theology

- What does the textbook mean by “theology of retribution”? How is this demonstrated in the books of Kings? What lessons should we learn from this?
- How does the author evaluate each of Israel’s kings? What does this prove? How should we respond?

Regnal Formula and Sources

- What kind of information is contained in the introductory statements and conclusions about each king? What can we learn from this?
- According to the textbook, what does the Biblical author concentrate on when describing the kings? What does he ignore? Why is that important?
- What sources does the textbook describe for the books of Kings? What type of information was contained in each?

Historical Perspective from the Exile

- When does the textbook state the books of Kings were written? What does this tell us about their perspective and content and how we can best read them?
- What does the textbook mean by explaining events theologically? How is this seen in the books of kings? What should we learn from this? How should we respond?

Review the Study Questions and Summary at the end of the chapter

Study Guide for Textbook chapter 16

The Rise of Prophecy (sidebar)

- How did Moses exemplify the role and task of the prophet?
- How did the role and task of the prophet change with the start of the monarchy? Why?
- How did Elijah exemplify the prophetic office?

(Continued on the next page)

- How were Israel's prophets different from the 'prophets' of the surrounding nations? What does this tell us about how the God of Israel is different from the 'gods' of the surrounding nations?

Themes of the Book of Kings

- Describe the two themes of Kings, according to the textbook, in your own words. What difference does each of these ideas make today?
- How does the theology of retribution explain what happened in Israel's history? What lesson should we learn from this?
- What does the textbook mean when it describes the books of Kings as "prophetic history"? What does this tell us about these books? How does this help us understand them better? How should we respond?

Review the Study Questions and Summary at the end of the chapter