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A Scenic Overlook

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Kings

Since the historical and chronological pathways of 1 and 2 Kings are so closely interrelated, it is important to consider these two books together in our overview.

In 1 Kings, we learn of the reign of David's son, Solomon, over all Israel. This kingdom later divides. Israel, the northern kingdom, consists of ten tribes with a capitol in Samaria. Judah, the southern kingdom, consists of two tribes with Jerusalem as the capitol. Following this division, 2 Kings records the collapse and captivity of each of these kingdoms.

1 and 2 Kings give records of the many rulers who rose up to lead the people of God. Some brought heal-

ing, restoration and blessings, while others participated in corrupt practices and sinful alliances that led to the fall and captivity of the Jews.

In these books of national history, we learn of the perils of affluence, the perversion of compromise, and the penalty of sin against God. We see many men rise and fall as national leaders as we observe God's faithful rebuke and appeal for restoration in the voice of His prophets. The prophets and their messages will be studied in a fuller fashion in coming weeks, but for now, our objective is to gain a sense of perspective on all that is recorded in the books of Kings.

Integrated Outline (Samuel—Chronicles)

I. Genealogies	1 Chronicles 1–10
II. Eli and Samuel	1 Samuel 1–7
III. Samuel and Saul	1 Samuel 8-15
IV. Saul and David	1 Samuel 16–31
V. David	2 Samuel–1 Kings 2:12 1 Chronicles 11–29
VI. Solomon	1 Kings 2:13–11:43; 2 Chron. 1–9
VII. Divided Kingdom	1 Kings 12–22; 2 Chron. 10–20
VIII. Elijah and Elisha	2 Kings 1–8; 2 Chron. 21:1–22:6
IX. Jehu to the Fall of Judah	2 Kings 9–17; 2 Chron. 22:7-28
X. Judah	2 Kings 18–25; 2 Chron. 29–36

Condensed Outline of Kings*

- I. The Years of Strength—The United Kingdom (1 Kings 1–12:19)
 - A. The Death of David 1 Kings 1:1–2:10
 - B. The Days of Solomon 1 Kings 2:11–11:43
 - C. The Decree of Rehoboam 1 Kings 12:1-19
- II. The Years of Struggle—The Divided Kingdom (1 Kings 12:20–2 Kings 17:41)
 - A. Israel: Jereboam to Hoshea
 - B. Judah: Rehoboam to Ahaz
- III. The Years of Storm—The Surviving Kingdom (2 Kings 18–25)

*Outline from the Phillips Bible

Applied Insights From the Kings

- God is at work in all aspects of human history.
- A stern warning against spiritual erosion. 1 Kings 2:1-3

- God restores and renews weary servants 1 Kings 19
- There is a payday someday. 1 Kings 17

Talking Points

1. The Real Estate Request 1 Kings 21:1-2
2. The Pouting Potentate 1 Kings 21:4
3. The Wicked Wife
4. A Message Meaning Murder 1 Kings 21:8-10
5. The Fatal Fast
6. The Visit to the Vineyard 1 Kings 21:16
7. The Alarming Appearance 1 Kings 21:17-19
8. Payday Itself!

Ahab—1 Kings 22:34-35, 38

Jezebel—2 Kings 9:16-26