



## 1 Kings

### Jesus Christ, Our King

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## Book of 1 Kings

The Septuagint considered 1 & 2 Samuel and 1 & 2 Kings one unified composition, "The Book of Kingdoms."

The 4 subparts of the book are Kingdoms Alpha, Kingdoms Beta, Kingdoms Gamma, Kingdoms Delta.

In modern Hebrew Bibles the 4 books are called *Sh'mu'el Alef*, *Sh'mu'el Bet*, *M'lakhim Alef*, *M'lakhim Bet*.

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## F-L-I-G-H-T

**F** – The author of 1 Kings is unknown. Tradition suggests the prophet Jeremiah, but this can't be proven. Many scholars believe it was written between 562 & 536 BC.

**L** – 1 Kings, like several other historical books of the Bible, shows the failure of Israel's leadership to obey God. An increase in national prosperity was undermined by a decrease in national spirituality. While Israel grew physically & militarily, they grew weak spiritually through idolatry & rebellion against God.

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## F-L-I-G-H-T

**I** – The United Kingdom (1-11), The Divided Kingdom (12-22)

**G** – Solomon was a son of David who brought a level of glory previously unknown to the nation of Israel. However, Jesus, the greater Son of David, would far outshine Solomon in both wisdom & glory. He came as one "greater than Solomon" (Matt. 12:42). That greatness would be demonstrated by his sacrificial atonement on the cross & will be demonstrated to the world in his earthly, millennial reign.

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### F-L-I-G-H-T

- H** – The dates of 1 Kings range from the death of David in 970 BC to the reign of Ahaziah of Judah (841 BC). The book chronicles a history of amazing heights of wealth & prestige under Solomon & the weakness, poor leadership & division that followed his reign.
- T** – Despite his wisdom & generosity, Solomon broke God’s commands for kings laid out in Deuteronomy. He overtaxed his people & spent the funds lavishly & primarily on himself. What got lost in all those projects & weddings was his time spent in God’s Word.

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### F-L-I-G-H-T

- T** – Even great men & women of God hit low points in life. Elijah should have enjoyed the victory God gave him over the prophets of Baal; instead, he became discouraged. God is there when you can’t see past your pain or circumstances – and especially when you are in your darkest hour.

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### Solomon’s Admin Districts

The purpose of this reorganization is to charge each district with the responsibility of maintaining the royal household & the cost of government for 1 month of the year.

With just a few exceptions, these new administrative districts do not correspond to the tribal inheritances. Such realignment casts off tradition & ends time-honored loyalties.

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### Solomon’s Admin Districts

Most of the district appointees, even though they preside over northern Israelite territories, have a patently pro-Judahite character: relatives of Solomon or of his cronies. It appears that in Solomon’s new administrative system power is passing from the tribal elders to the regional governors, all of whom are appointed by the royal regime in Jerusalem.

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### 5 Warning “Ifs”

“If your heirs will take heed to their way, to walk before me in faithfulness” (2:4)

“If you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes” (3:14)

“If you will walk in my statutes, obey my ordinances” (6:12)

“If you walk before me” (9:4)

“If you turn aside from following me” (9:6)

### Dedication of Tabernacle & Temple

Both accounts use the verb “assemble.”

Both Moses & Solomon bless the people after the dedication.

In both cases it is impossible to enter the sanctuary after the divine presence fills it.

The dedication is followed by a divine revelation that is either visual or auditory.

### Solomon’s Prayer

Solomon delivers it in a standing position, spreading his hands heavenward.

Solomon uses repeated phrases, most common of which is “hear in heaven.”

Solomon’s appeal for forgiveness is predicated upon the individual(s) seeking God in prayer, confessing, turning from their sin, repenting.

Of Solomon’s 7 specific circumstances, the 1<sup>st</sup> 4 deal with events inside of Israel, the last 3 deal with events outside of Israel.

### Moses & Elijah

Moses kills an Egyptian; Elijah kills 450 prophets of Baal.

Pharaoh seeks to kill Moses; Jezebel seeks to kill Elijah.

Moses flees for his life to Midian; Elijah flees for his life to Horeb.

Moses comes to a bush; Elijah comes to a broom tree.

Moses & God dialogue by debate; Elijah & God dialogue by debate.

### Jesus & Elisha

Both their names contain the verb “save” or the noun “salvation.”

Elisha receives Elijah’s spirit by the Jordan, Jesus receives the Spirit in his baptism by the Jordan.

Unlike Elijah or John the Baptist, Elisha & Jesus dress like everybody else & are quite at home in the midst of crowds.

Elisha & Jesus can see & hear what is going on elsewhere.

A corpse comes back to life after it touches Elisha’s bones. Many saints come back to life after Jesus’ death.

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### Jesus & Elisha

Elisha’s cleansing of Naaman’s leprosy & Jesus’ cleansing of lepers, especially the 10 lepers.

Elisha’s feeding a large multitude & Jesus’ multiplication of the loaves.

Elisha’s resuscitation of the son of a woman from Shunem & Jesus’ resuscitation of the son of a widow of Nain.

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### Synchronisms

“In the X year of the reign of So-and-So of **Israel**, So-and-So became king of **Judah** and he reigned Y years.”

“In the X year of the reign of So-and-So of **Judah**, So-and-So became king of **Israel** and he reigned Y years.”

Length of Reign Notice: “And So-and-So reigned X years.”

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### Length of Reigns

Nisan Dating (Israel) vs  
Tishri Dating (Judah)

Accession Year (Judah) vs  
Non-Accession Year (Israel)

Periods of Coregency

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