

## The Bible - Week 11 (March 14)

Eric Swanson / General

# Chronicles

**Author:** The authorship is mostly unknown, though there is Jewish tradition that Ezra was the original author.

**Date:** Around 450 BCE after another return from exile to Jerusalem.

**Audience:** The returning exiles

**Reason:** Largely this book was to bring the Israelites back into their historic identity following exile.

**Theme:** God's covenant with David's line and those who would be kinds in Judah.

**Key Verse:**

**2 Chronicles 7:14 CEB**

<sup>14</sup> if my people who belong to me will humbly pray, seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, forgive their sin, and heal their land.

**Sections:** 1 Chronicles: Re-telling of history (Ch 1-10), Building of the Temple complex (11-29)

2 Chronicles: Reign of Solomon (Ch 1-9), History of Judah and the Temple (Ch 10-36)

**Key Words:** Temple, Law, Covenant, Kingdom

**Basic Intro:** 1 Chronicles is a re-sharing of the messages we had in Kings but it carries a much more positive tone than Kings did. The key difference to see and feel in this work and Kings is that Chronicles follows the religiousness

of the kings while Kings follows the political.

**Questions for Discussion:**

- **How did Kings bring people into a right relationship with God?**
- **With all of the genealogies, what does it mean for us to be in that succession of this lineage? Is it important? Is this a new thought for you? Does it give hope or frustration?**
- **If this book is more positive than Kings, is it helpful for us to sometimes re-tell our history with a positive light? Why? Does it help us move forward or does it lead to further error?**