

His Word in Our Hearts

~ July 2021 ~

*Keep the charge of the LORD your God, walking in his ways and keeping his statutes, his commandments, his rules, and his testimonies, as it is written in the Law of Moses, that you may prosper in all that you do and wherever you turn,
I Kings 2:3 (ESV)*

Daily Bible Reading

1	1 Kings 1	Psalm 123-124
2	1 Kings 2-3	Psalm 125
3	1 Kings 4-5	Psalm 126
4	1 Kings 6-7	Psalm 127
5	1 Kings 8-10	Psalm 128
6	1 Kings 11-12	Psalm 129
7	1 Kings 13	Psalm 130-131
8	1 Kings 14-15	Psalm 132
9	1 Kings 16-17	Psalm 133-134
10	1 Kings 18-19	Psalm 135
11	1 Kings 20	Psalm 136
12	1 Kings 21	Psalm 137
13	1 Kings 22	Psalm 138
14	2 Kings 1-3	Psalm 139
15	2 Kings 4-5	Psalm 140
16	2 Kings 6-7	Psalm 141
17	2 Kings 8-9	Psalm 142
18	2 Kings 10-11	Psalm 143
19	2 Kings 12-13	Psalm 144
20	2 Kings 14-15	Psalm 145
21	2 Kings 16-17	Psalm 146
22	2 Kings 18-19	Psalm 147
23	2 Kings 20-21	Psalm 148
24	2 Kings 22-23	Psalm 149
25	2 Kings 24-25	Psalm 150

Reading I and II Kings:

Like I and II Samuel, I and II Kings were originally one book in the Hebrew Bible. If we don't know I and II Kings we don't know the historical context for over half the OT. Three poetical books (Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Solomon) and all the prophetic books (except Daniel, Obadiah, Jonah, and Nahum) are written during the time of the kings (if we add the last chapter of II Chronicles, but more about that next month).

The two great themes of these two great books are the steadfast love and faithfulness of the covenant-keeping God, and the constant unfaithfulness of the covenant-breaking people of God. Because the Lord made a covenant with David to establish an eternal kingdom through his offspring, the nation of Israel was repeatedly treated in gracious mercy, in ways it did not deserve. Remember the mercy of God that He doesn't treat us as our sins deserve.

1 Kings 8:56 "Blessed be the Lord who has given rest to his people Israel, according to all that he promised. Not one word has failed of all his good promise, which he spoke by Moses his servant."

I and II Kings will take us all the way from the death of King David to the fall of both Israel and Judah into Babylonian captivity, from Israel's golden age to her Gentile destruction. Israel is conquered by Assyria and Judah is conquered by Babylon. We will read of all the great miracles of Elijah and Elisha (who got a double portion of Elijah's spirit and did twice as many miracles).

Notice we follow what we love, we give allegiance to what holds our affections. Notice as the leader goes so goes the nation. Notice that the nation that spurns God will spiral into the captivity of sin. Notice the ever-present idolatry and how it leads our hearts astray into wickedness.

Our only hope is in the seed of David, the true and better David, the Son of David, Jesus Christ.

This is the Word of the Lord, thanks be to God. Let him who has ears to hear, hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

(over)

Outline of I and II Kings:

The book of Kings can be grouped into seven “chapters” (Dorsey).

The Life of Solomon (1 Kings 3-11)

The First Seven Kings of the North (1 Kings 12-16)

The Seven Events of the Life of Elijah (1 Kings 17-2 Kings 1)

The First Seven Events of the Life of Elisha in the Omride Dynasty
(2 Kings 2-8:6)

The Second Seven Events of the Life Elisha and Jehu
(2 Kings 8:7-13:25)

The Last Seven Kings of the North (2 Kings 14-17)

The Last Seven Kings of the South (2 Kings 18-25)