

I and II CHRONICLES

Also originally a single volume

The translators of the original name means "things left over"

Chronicles is a summary of Hebrew history that duplicates much of Samuel and Kings.

- More details of certain stories filled in.

- since most of it has been covered in previous books, we will just skim these books

1st Chronicles

- begins with the genealogy

 - from Adam to Abraham

 - Abraham to David

 - Descendants of David

Interesting note:

David was the youngest son of Jesse

1Sa 17:12 "Now David was the son of the Ephrathite of Bethlehem in Judah, whose name was Jesse, and he had eight sons."

1Sa 17:14 "David was the youngest....."

Now look at our text in 1st Chronicles

1Ch 2:13 and Jesse became the father of Eliab his firstborn, then Abinadab the second, Shimea the third,

1Ch 2:14 Nethanel the fourth, Raddai the fifth,

1Ch 2:15 Ozem the sixth, David the seventh;

- How can David be the 7th son if he is the youngest of eight sons?

 - the only logical explanation is that one of David's brothers died before this genealogy

- continues with the descendants of each of the 12 tribes

- Easy to wonder why God put all these "boring" genealogies in the bible

 - you will notice that they are only mentioned regarding the Old Testament

- the only genealogies you find in the New Testament are of the generations of people from the Old Testament
- The main (possibly only) reason for the genealogies is to trace the blood line from Adam to the Messiah as prophesied in Genesis

God to the serpent:

Gen 3:15 And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her seed; He shall bruise you on the head, And you shall bruise him on the heel."

- after Jesus is born, genealogies cease to matter

1st Chronicles closes with Solomon being made king and David dying

2nd Chronicles

- begins with story of Solomon asking for wisdom
 - Stories of the building and rebuilding of the temple
 - Reigns of different kings

Sennacherib king of Assyria to Hezekiah's people:

2Ch 32:15 'Now therefore, do not let Hezekiah deceive you or mislead you like this, and do not believe him, for no god of any nation or kingdom was able to deliver his people from my hand or from the hand of my fathers. How much less will your God deliver you from my hand?'"

- Usually when someone taunts the Lord in the bible, it doesn't end well for them
 - So the Lord sent an angel to destroy the entire army of Assyria
 - Sennacherib returns to his home land in disgrace
 - shortly after, his two sons come and kill him in the temple of his god

- After this, Hezekiah prospered greatly
 - But look what god does:

2Ch 32:31 "..... God left him *alone only* to test him, that He might know all that was in his heart."

- have you ever been on fire for the Lord
 - then all of a sudden you can't seem to feel His presence anymore?
 - you try to pray, listen to music, read the bible
 - nothing seems to get you back to where you were with Him

- you may even begin to think that God has abandoned you
- this passage explains a lot
 - sometimes, God just wants to see what you are really made of spiritually
 - do you love Him only for His blessings?
 - or will you be like Job and love Him regardless of your circumstances?

Job 13:15 "Though He slay me, I will hope in Him. Nevertheless I will argue my ways before Him.

One more story before we leave 2nd Chronicles

- it's about an evil king named Manessah
- here's a summary of what he did:

- rebuilt the high places which Hezekiah his father had broken down;
- erected altars for false gods and worshiped them.
- built altars to them in the house of the LORD
- made his sons pass through the fire
- practiced witchcraft, used divination, practiced sorcery and dealt with mediums and spiritists.
- put the carved image of the idol in the house of God
- and finally "Manasseh misled Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem to do more evil than the nations whom the LORD destroyed before the sons of Israel."

Listen to how God deals with him:

2Ch 33:11 Therefore the LORD brought the commanders of the army of the king of Assyria against them, and they captured Manasseh with hooks, bound him with bronze *chains* and took him to Babylon.

2Ch 33:12 When he was in distress, he entreated the LORD his God and humbled himself greatly before the God of his fathers.

2Ch 33:13 When he prayed to Him, He was moved by his entreaty and heard his supplication, and brought him again to Jerusalem to his kingdom. Then Manasseh knew that the LORD *was* God.

- the more I read and study the Old Testament, the more I see that I was wrong about my picture of this mean, wrathful God of the law
 - Sennacherib did as much evil or more than anyone else
 - when he got into trouble, all he did was pray and humble himself
 - that's it, all was forgiven

-so if you ever struggle with “will God forgive me?”, just read this story over and over

Since these stories are mostly repeats of previous stories, we won't go through the Jesus types again