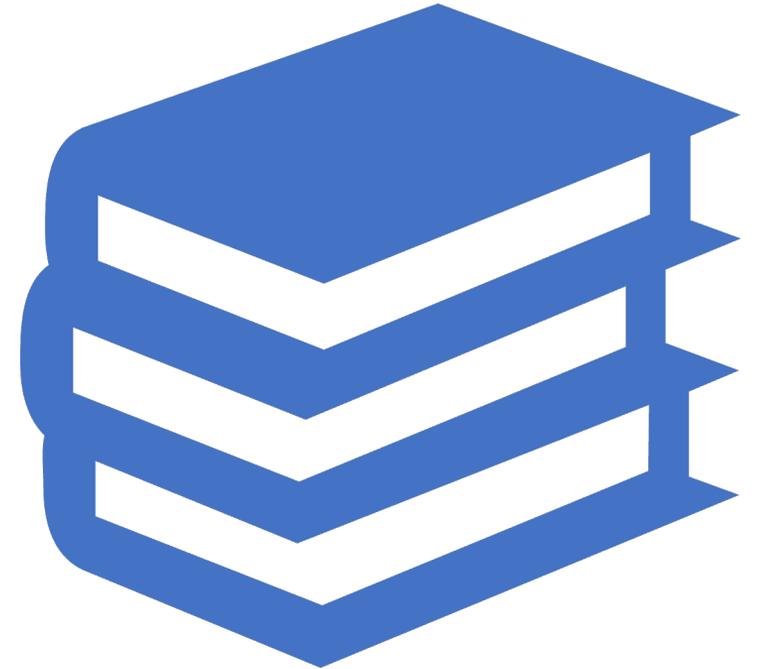




WELCOME
BACK and a
Happy New
Year to all!



- **Today we will be studying both First and Second Chronicles.**
- **Did anyone REALLY read ALL of these books?**
- **Did anyone REALLY read ANY of these books?**
- **What did you think? We will discuss later!**



These two books are one book in the Hebrew Bible.

They are the last book in the Hebrew Bible.

The book of Chronicles is found in the section called “The Writings” along with Psalms, Proverbs and Ruth, among others.

The Books of Chronicles are named because they ‘chronicle’ the history of the Jewish people, starting with Adam.



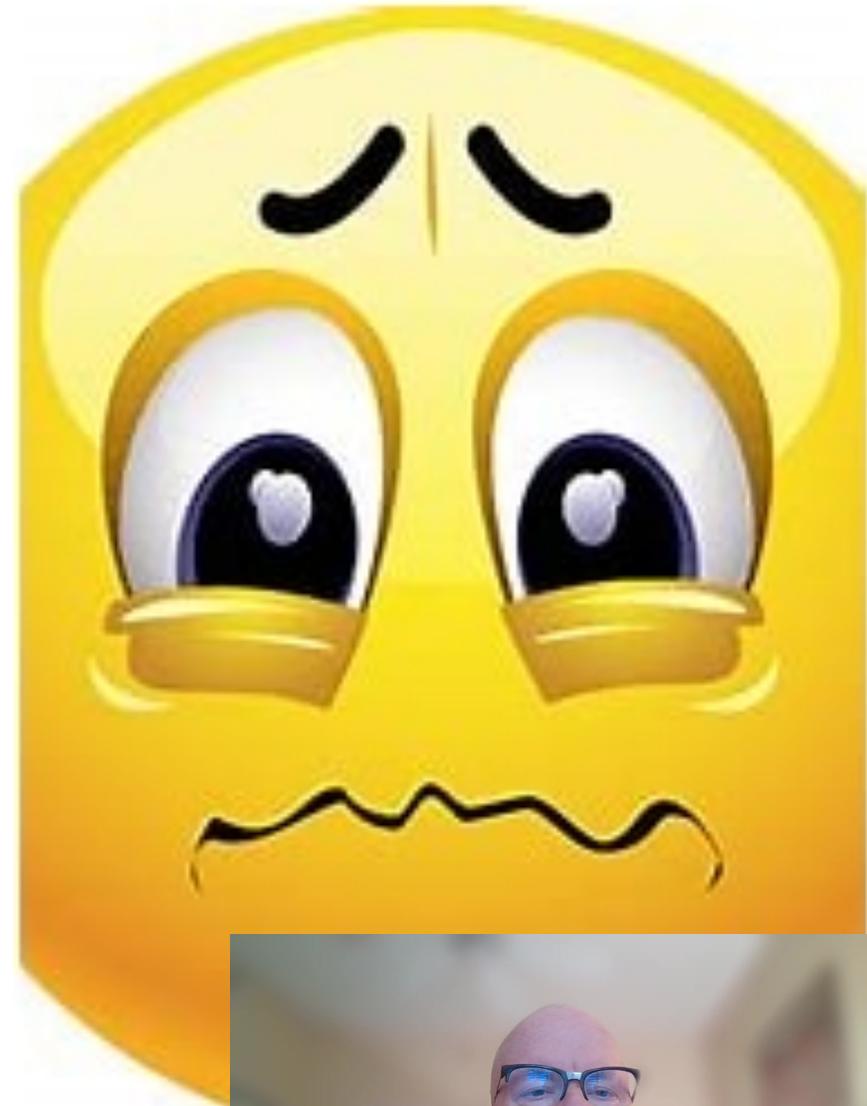
- **Definitions:**

- Merriam-Webster's dictionary defines the word "chronicle" as:
- "a continuous and detailed historical account of events arranged in order of time without analysis or interpretation."
- Similar words are "history" or "narrative."
- That is what we have here today.



Bad News!!

- No NEW exciting stories to tell in either book!
- The books of Chronicles are mostly retellings of genealogies and stories from 1 and 2 Samuel and 1 and 2 Kings.



- **Facts please Chuck:**

- Both books were written between 450 and 350 BCE as one book.
- Both were probably written by Ezra who returns to Jerusalem to build the Temple from exile.
- A lot has happened since the end of 2 Kings and Jerusalem and the Temple are in shambles. They were destroyed by the Babylonians in 587 BC and many people were carried off into captivity.



Cyrus, the Persian king, allowed the Jews to return from Babylon beginning in about 538 BCE or so.

Ezra and Nehemiah were among that first group to return . They wanted to rebuild Jerusalem and the Jewish people physically and spiritually. The temple was important to rebuild!



**More
important
dates for
chronological
understanding:**

Saul ruled from 1020- Picked by Yahweh through Samuel

David ruled from 1005-965

Solomon ruled from 968-928

Judah and Northern Kingdom split about 910

Fall of Jerusalem in about 587-exile begins

Some Jews begin to return to Jerusalem in 536

The Temple may have been rebuilt as early as 519

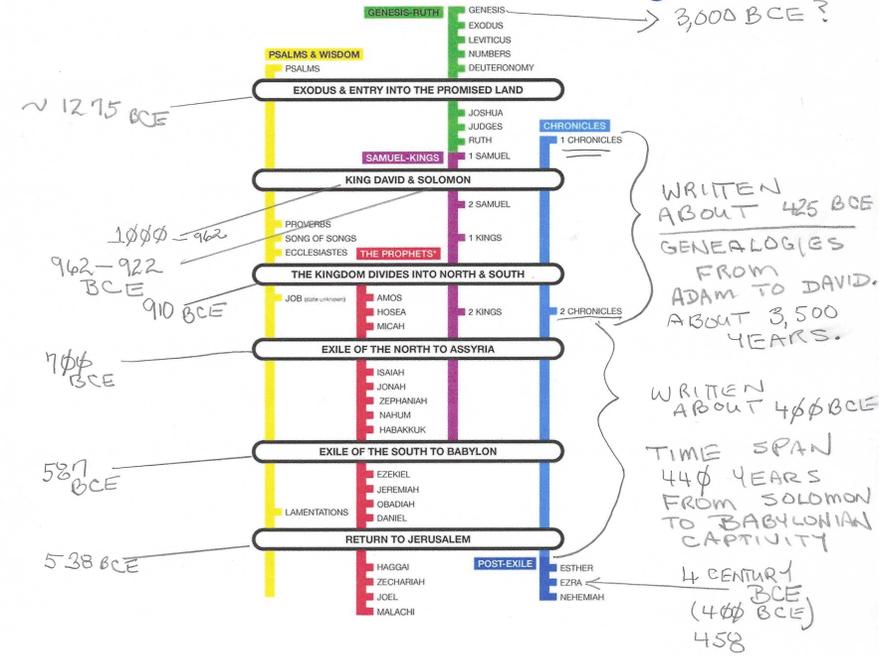
Ezra and Nehemiah return to
life in Jerusalem with the exiles



DATES ARE APPROXIMATE

TRAVELLING THROUGH THE OLD TESTAMENT

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*The order of the prophets are approximate, as some of the books are not dated.



- **An outline for the book of 1 Chronicles:**
 - Chapters 1-9 Genealogies from Adam to David.
 - Chapter 10-12 Anointing of David as king over Israel.
 - Chapters 13-17 Bringing the Ark of the Covenant to Jerusalem
 - Chapters 18-20 Battle victories of David
 - Chapters 21-27 Census of Israel
 - Chapters 28-29:9 Plans for the Temple
 - Chapter 29:10-30 Final deeds and words of David



- **An outline for 2 Chronicles:**

- Chapter 1: 1-17 The Reign of Solomon
- Chapters 2:1-7 Solomon's Building of the Temple
- Chapters 8:1-9:31 Latter years of Solomon's Reign
- Chapters 10:1-36:14 The reigns of the kings of Judah
- Chapter 36:15-23 The fall of Jerusalem



Some notable
contrasts and
differences
between the
writings in 1 and 2
Kings and
Chronicles:

- In 2 Chronicles there is virtually no mention of Northern Tribes or Elijah or Elisha.
- No civil war between the tribes
- David is unanimously selected as King with no dispute.
- Note that 1 Kings 12 and 2 Chronicles 10 are virtually the same.



Different accounts of Saul's life and death:

In 1 Samuel:

- Saul is king for twenty-two chapters.
- 1 Samuel 8-31
- In 1 Samuel 31 relates that Saul fell on his sword to keep from being captured.

In Chronicles:

- In 1 Chronicles 10, Saul is king for only 14 verses!
- The Chronicler says that "Saul died for his unfaithfulness."
- 1 Chronicles 10:13-14



Remember the 'census' that David took?

- “Again, the **anger** of the LORD burned against Israel, and he incited David against them, saying, “Go and take a census of Israel and Judah.” 2 Samuel 24:1

- “**Satan** rose up against Israel and incited David to take a census of Israel.”
- 1 Chronicles 21: 1

>*The Jewish people have developed a concept of evil with a name: **Satan!***

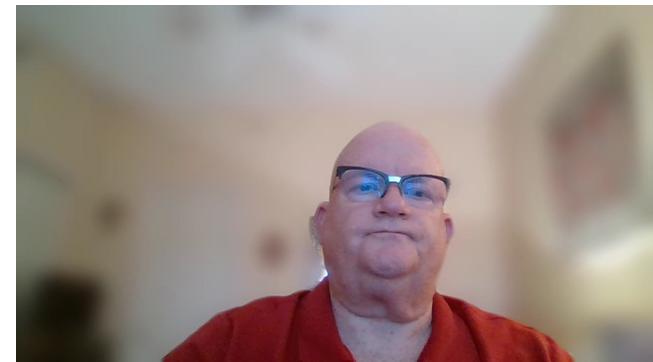


My favorite
verses from 1
Chronicles
are from
Chapter 4: 9
& 10:

9. Jabez was more honorable than his brothers. His mother had named him Jabez, saying, “I gave birth to him in pain.”

¹⁰ Jabez cried out to the God of Israel, “Oh, that you would bless me and enlarge my territory! Let your hand be with me and keep me from harm so that I will be free from pain.”

And God granted his request.



- **Favorite Verses from 2 Chronicles:**

- Chapter 7:11-14

- *“When Solomon had finished the house of the LORD and the royal palace, successfully carrying out all that was in his heart to do for the house of the LORD and for his own palace, [12](#)the LORD appeared to him at night and said to him:*

- *... [14](#)and if My people who are called by My name humble themselves and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, forgive their sin, and heal their land.”*

1 John 1:9

⁹If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.



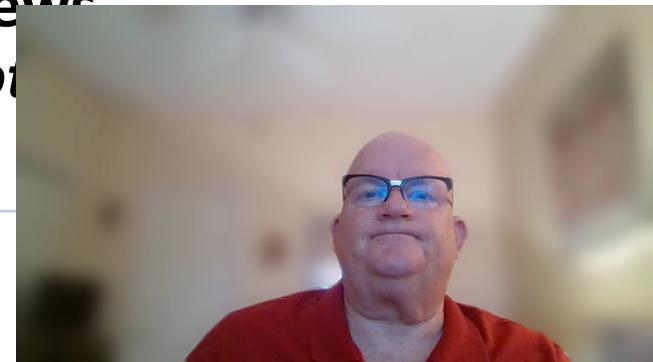
Why then were the books of Chronicles written? I suggest these reasons:

The Chronicler wanted to bring the sacred history of the books of Samuel and Kings up to date.

The Chronicler wanted to present Judah as a worshipping community. The people were to become a 'church' again.

The Chronicler wanted to emphasize the connection between sin and disaster. The Lord was not to blame for Judah's defeat; Judah was.

The Chronicler was trying to give the returning Jews hope. All can repent and find grace. *God does not forget anyone!!*



Next week we will look at the book of Ezra! The end of 2 Chronicles resembles Ezra.

2 Chronicles 36: 22-23

- 22 In the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, in order to fulfill the word of the Lord spoken by Jeremiah, the Lord moved the heart of Cyrus king of Persia to make a proclamation throughout his realm and also to put it in writing:
- 23 “This is what Cyrus king of Persia says:
- ““The Lord, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth and he has appointed me to build a temple for him at Jerusalem in Judah. Any of his people among you may go up, and may the Lord their God be with them.””

Ezra 1: 1-3

- 1 In the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, in order to fulfill the word of the Lord spoken by Jeremiah, the Lord moved the heart of Cyrus king of Persia to make a proclamation throughout his realm and also to put it in writing:
- 2 “This is what Cyrus king of Persia says:
- ““The Lord, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth and he has appointed me to build a temple for him at Jerusalem in Judah. 3 Any of his people among you may go up to Jerusalem in Judah and build the temple of the Lord our God, the God who is in Jerusalem. And may the Lord God be with them.



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- **So, what do you think?**
 - **What are your impressions from reading these books?**
 - **Questions? Comments?**

