

An Old Testament Glance

The History Books – 1 Kings, Part 1

Written	550 BC	Period*	975-850 BC	Author	Unknown
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*Dates are sometimes hard to know. They can vary depending on scholars & sources of information.

1 Kings 1-10	Solomon Becomes King & Builds the Temple
1 Kings 11-12	The Nation of Israel Divides
1 Kings 12-17	The Divided Kingdom's First Set of Kings
1 Kings 17-22	The Life & Deeds of Elijah the Prophet

The book of 1 Kings starts out with two important events:

*King David **selects** his son Solomon to be King of all Israel (1 Kings 1:28-35)*

*King David **dies** (1 Kings 2:10-12)*

1. The first 10 chapters of 1 Kings pretty much cover the building of what?

You're right – the Temple.

2. Why was the building of this temple necessary? (1 Kings 5:1-5)

3. What two things is Solomon known for? (1 Kings 10:6-7)

Let's look at Solomon more closely.

4. Read 1 Kings 3:1-3. Fill in the blanks.

a. Solomon made a _____ with pharaoh.

b. Solomon married _____.

c. Solomon _____ to Jerusalem.

d. Solomon _____.

e. Solomon walked in the _____ of his father, David.

f. Solomon offered sacrifices to the idolatrous _____.

5. Do you see a problem here. Please explain. _____

6. Of all the things Solomon could have asked God for, what was the one thing that he asked for? (1 Kings 3:6-9) _____
7. What did God give him besides wisdom? (1 Kings 3:10-14)

Obviously, there is nothing wrong with having wisdom, wealth, and honor since God gives these things to people. However, if a person does not obey 1 Kings 3:14, good things will not happen.

- a. *Solomon had wisdom but did not always make wise decisions.*
- b. *Solomon had wealth but that caused him to enjoy it too much, and to extract wealth from others, whether through enemies' tribute or Israel taxes.*
- c. *Solomon had honor (he was well-known & powerful but that surrounded him with enemy influences & multiple sex partners.*

8. Check out 1 Kings 11:1-13.
- a. Describe the condition Solomon was in? _____

- b. What was God's response to Solomon's condition?

*Here we are half-way through 1 Kings and Solomon has hit the skids, and Israel is in trouble. **The quick summary at this point is that Solomon died, his son, Rehoboam took the throne, but an associate named Jeroboam rebelled, & the nation split (1 Kings 14:30). (1 Kings 12:1 - 22:53)***

The rest of 1 Kings lists the kings:

JUDAH	ISRAEL
Rehoboam	Jeroboam
Abijam	Nadab
Asa	Baasha
Jehoshaphat	Elah
	Zimri - Omri
	Ahab
	Ahaziah

↑ **Godly Reigns** ↑ **Ungodly Reigns**



An Old Testament Glance

The History Books – 1 Kings, Part 2

Written	550 BC	Period*	975-850 BC	Author	Unknown
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1 Kings 1-10	Solomon Becomes King & Builds the Temple
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1 Kings 17-22	The Life & Deeds of Elijah the Prophet

Before we leave 1 Kings, we must look closer at the **reign of Ahab in Israel** (1 Kings 16:29 – 22:53). This last half of 1 Kings happens exclusively in Israel (the split-off Northern Kingdom). There is a brief mention of King Jehoshaphat of Judah.

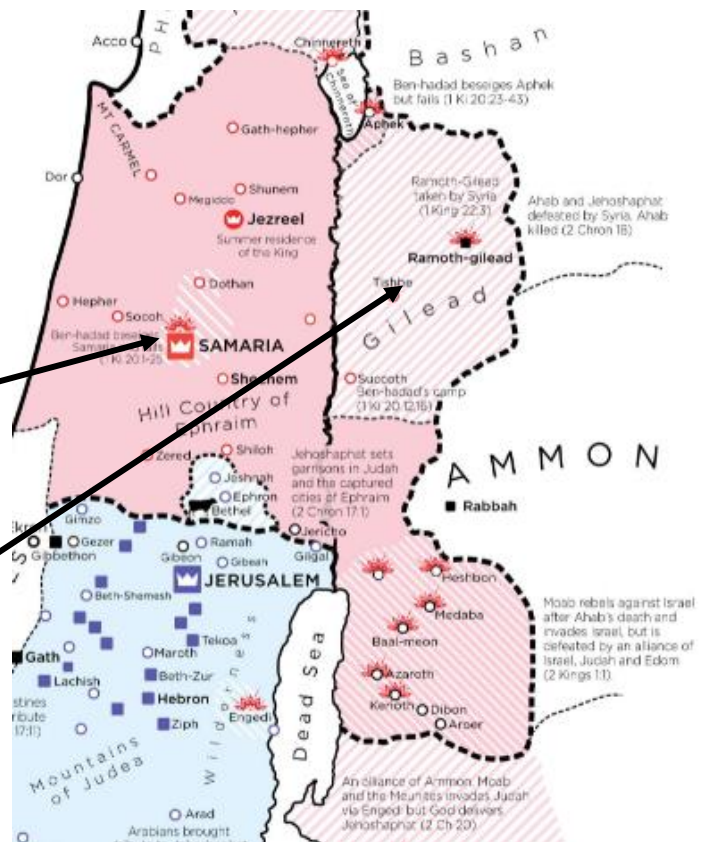
9. Write out 1 Kings 16:30 _____

Ahab married Jezebel, a wicked princess from Sidon.
He did evil before God & didn't care.
He was more wicked than all the kings that reigned before him.
He worshipped Baal & built altars.
He provoked the anger of the Lord.
King Ahab lived in Samaria.

GOD RAISED UP A PROPHET

He predicted a famine (1 Kings 17:1)
 Elijah lived next door in Gilead.

10. Why did God tell Elijah to "get away from here, and "hide" by Cherith brook" (1 Kings 17:2)



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*Look how God's took care of Elijah. God took him away from the evil king and the armies of Ahab, and his evil wife (Jezebel), and Duh ... **the famine**. Elijah camped by the Brook Cherith which was far away – east of the Jordan River.*

11. How did he stay alive (eat & drink)? (1 Kings 17:5-6)

12. What did Elijah do after the Brook Cherith dried up? (1 Kings 17:8-24)

You want to laugh. God had a widow woman feed him in a town called Zarephath. This is the home town of Jezebel (the evil wife of King Ahab).

13. What did God tell Elijah to do next? (1 Kings 18:1)

Elijah was walking back into danger. The famine was still on. Ahab thinks Elijah is the problem but Elijah sets him straight – it's you and your family (18:18)

He challenged the prophets of Baal to a contest against the God of Israel. As you know, God won (1 Kings 18:20-40).

SIDE BAR – GOD KEEPS HIS PROMISES

God told Elijah the famine would end. (1 Kings 18:1)

14. What happened in 1 Kings 18:41-46)?

Queen Jezebel was ticked when the prophets of Baal were defeated. Elijah hit the road in fear of his life (about a day's journey); that's 20 miles.

15. God followed him. What did he asked Elijah? (1 Kings 19:13)

God handled Elijah the way he handles us today. "Get back to work serving Me. Sometimes, it's tough. Don't' sit here pouting & hiding."

16. Who did Elijah soon thereafter? (1 Kings 19:19-20)
_____ (Ah, the next prophet of God)

So, the evil King Ahab dies.

So, the book of 1 Kings ends.