

Interesting Facts About 1 Kings

AUTHOR: Unknown. Possibly Jeremiah or a group of prophets

TIME WRITTEN: The majority of 1 Kings was written prior to 586 B.C..

POSITION IN THE BIBLE:

- 11th Book in the Bible
- 11th Book in the Old Testament
- 6th of 12 books of History (Joshua - Esther)
- 55 Books to follow it.



CHAPTERS: 22

VERSES: 816

WORDS: 24,524

1 KINGS

OBSERVATIONS ABOUT 1 KINGS:

- 1 Kings covers the 120 year period from the beginning of Solomon's reign in 971 B.C. through Ahaziah's reign ending in 851 B.C.
- The key date is 931 B.C., the year the united Kingdom was divided to become the Divided Kingdom.
 - Northern Kingdom of Israel - 10 tribes.
 - Southern Kingdom of Judah - 2 tribes.
- In the original Hebrew Bible, the books of 1 & 2 Kings were originally one book.
- Four major events in 1 Kings:
 - David's death
 - Solomon's reign
 - The division of the Kingdom
 - Elijah's ministry.
- 1 Kings is a record of disobedience, idolatry, and ungodliness which serve as an explanation for the Assyrian Captivity of Israel in 721 B.C. and the Babylonian Captivity of Judah some 135 years later in 586 B.C.

- The first half of 1 Kings details the life of Solomon.
- Near David's death, Adonija, Solomon's half-brother, attempts to take David's throne. Nathan the prophet alerts David who quickly directs the coronation of Solomon as coregent.
- The Temple is constructed in Jerusalem 5:1 - 6:38
- Solomon's great request: 1 Kings 3:9 - "Therefore give to Your servant an understanding heart to judge Your people, that I may discern between good and evil. For who is able to judge this great people of Yours?"
- The divided kingdom brought:
 - Two nations
 - Two sets of kings
 - Continual strife and conflict, sometimes resulting in war.
- The northern kingdom is plagued by apostasy.
- Of all the northern and southern kings listed in 1 Kings, only Asa (15:9-24) and Jehoshaphat (22:41-50) do what is right in God's eyes.

