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Second Chronicles Outline

Introduction: Second Chronicles tells the story of King Solomon, the civil war between Israel and Judah, as well as a very theologically stylized version of the exile. The main thing to notice in Second Chronicles is what is missing. With Solomon, for instance, we miss the justifiably interesting story of his famous judgment regarding splitting the baby in two. Instead, we hear almost exclusively about Solomon's role in building and dedicating the temple. Another thing we don't hear about, for instance, are the kings of Israel. Unlike Second Kings, which spends nearly equal time on Israel and Judah, Second Chronicles is almost entirely interested in Judah. The kings are judged as "good" or "bad" mainly over how they relate to the temple. Finally, the ending of Second Chronicles takes us all the way to Cyrus' defeat of Babylon and his edict freeing the Jews. Hence, the book ends with a hopeful glance towards rebuilding the temple in Jerusalem.

Section One: Solomon cycle

Chapter 1: Solomon has a dream

Chapter 2: Solomon builds the temple; alliance with Tyre

Chapter 3: The building of the temple

Chapter 4: The furnishings of the temple

Chapter 5: The ark brought in

Chapter 6: Solomon's prayer of dedication

Chapter 7: God's presence fills the temple; God visits Solomon again re: the temple

Chapter 8: Solomon expands the kingdom

Chapter 9: Queen of Sheba visits; wealth of Solomon

Section Two: Civil War

Chapter 10: Revolt against Rehoboam

Chapter 11: Rehoboam prepares Judah and Benjamin

Chapter 12: Egypt attacks, Rehoboam's death

Section Three: The Kings

Chapter 13: Abijah rules; goes to war with Jereboam

Chapter 14: Asa reigns

Chapter 15: Asa's reforms

Chapter 16: Asa's reliance on himself rather than God a problem- Aram and doctors

Chapter 17: Jumpin' Jehoshaphat reigns

Chapter 18: Micaiah the prophet

Chapter 19: Reforms of Jehoshaphat

Chapter 20: Defeats enemies from the East; death of Jehoshaphat

Chapter 21: Jehoram reigns- bad king; receives letter from Elijah

Chapter 22: Ahaziah rules- another bad apple; Queen Athaliah takes over

Chapter 23: Priests rebel and make Joash king

Chapter 24: Joash restores temple, later Joash turns

Chapter 25: Amaziah rules- a good king; defeats Edom but mixes with them; Israel defeats Judah due to Judah's failure

Chapter 26: Uzziah, another good king; rebuilds Jerusalem, then turns

Chapter 27: Jotham reigns, a good king

Chapter 28: Ahaz reigns- a bad king, Israel defeats Judah again

Chapter 29: Hezekiah new king, cleanses temple, institutes worship again

Chapter 30: Passover worship renewed

Chapter 31: Religious purification

Chapter 32: Sennacherib invades; Judah holds

Chapter 33: Manasseh then reigns- bad king at first, but turns good; Amon rules

Chapter 34: Good King Josiah rules; discovery of book of law; worship renewal

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Chapter 35: Josiah brings back Passover again; dies in conflict with Egypt

Section Four: Exile and Restoration Hope

Chapter 36: Babylonian exile, but ends with positive note with Cyrus rebuilding temple

Stories to know: Micaiah the unpopular prophet (Chapter 18:1-8; 12-27); the restoration of the Passover (Chapter 30:1-9); the Chronicles version of the exile and the final, hopeful note (Chapter 36:15-23)