

First Kings Outline

Introduction: First Kings takes up where Second Samuel left off. Here we find the story of Solomon's rise to power, the building of the temple, and then the division of the kingdom upon Solomon's death. After the rebellion of Jereboam, the Bible will refer to Israel as the northern part of the kingdom that followed after Jereboam and Judah being the southern kingdom that stayed true to the Davidic line. We also see the rise of Elijah, one of the great prophets of the Bible, and a model for Jesus.

Section One: Solomon Cycle

- Chapter 1: David nearing death, Adonijah usurps, Solomon made king officially
- Chapter 2: David's advice to Solomon, Adonijah's attempt on Abishag, Solomon's consolidation of power- killing Joab, Abiathar, and Shimei
- Chapter 3: Solomon asks for wisdom; decision regarding the child and the two prostitutes
- Chapter 4: Description of Solomon's leadership and kingdom
- Chapter 5: Solomon orders temple to be built; labor is conscripted
- Chapter 6: Description of temple
- Chapter 7: Further description
- Chapter 8: Ark enters and temple is dedicated
- Chapter 9: Build projects and the heavy labor conscription
- Chapter 10: Queen of Sheba admires Solomon; description of Solomon's wealth
- Chapter 11: Solomon's taste for foreign women; worship of foreign gods, God's judgment; Rise of Jeroboam; Solomon's death

Section Two: The Great Divide

- Chapter 12: Solomon's son Rehoboam takes over; Rehoboam's labor relations, Jeroboam's rebellion; J's golden calves in Bethel and Dan
- Chapter 13: The Judean prophet speaks against the altars
- Chapter 14: J's son Abijah sick; wife in disguise goes to Ahijah for healing; Jereboam condemned; Jereboam and Rehoboam die
- Chapter 15: Abijam succeeds Rehoboam (J); Asa succeeds Abijam (J); Nadab succeeds Jereboam (I); and Baasha assassinates Nabab (I)
- Chapter 16: Jehu prophesies against Baasha; Elah succeeds Baasha but is killed by Zimri (I); Omri takes over from Zimri- Omri worse than everybody (I); then Ahab his son succeeds (I)

Section Three: Elijah Cycle

- Chapter 17: Ravens in wilderness; Widow of Zerephath; healing of widow's son
- Chapter 18: Elijah and Obadiah; Elijah and the prophets of Baal at Mt. Carmel
- Chapter 19: Elijah flees from Jezebel and hides in a cave; still, small voice of God; Elisha becomes Elijah's servant
- Chapter 20: Interlude regarding Ben-Hadad
- Chapter 21: Naboth's vineyard; Ahab confronts Ahab
- Chapter 22: Micaiah and the false prophets; Jehoshaphat succeeds Asa (J); Ahaziah succeeds Ahab (I)

Stories to know: Solomon's wisdom and judgment (Chapter 3:16-28); Rehoboam's harshness and rebellion (Chapter 12:12-19); Elijah and widow of Zarephath (Chapters 17:17-24)