

/We will now begin the first lecture on 1 and 2 Kings./Today we will begin with 1 Kings 1:1./The two Books of Kings were originally written as one book./In 1517/the book was first divided into two in Daniel Bomberg's published Hebrew Bible.

/1 Kings is made of 22 chapters./2 Kings has 25 chapters./There is a total of 47 chapters./The Books of Kings record the history of the kings of Israel and Judah.

/It records the achievements, private lives, mistakes, and weaknesses of the kings./However, it does not simply reveal the lives of the kings./The overall message in the Books is that nations will prosper when they live by the law.

/However, if they threw our God's law and rebelled against God, they would fail and face ruin./This is the message of the Books of Kings./The Books of Kings begins with the death of David.

/It records Judah's history up until King Zedekiah, the last king of Judah./The nation of Judah was once one nation./It was split into Judah and Israel in the north during the time of King Rehoboam./Rehoboam is Solomon's son.

/The nation was split into northern Israel and southern Judah during the time of King Rehoboam, son of Solomon./Why did the nation of Judah become divided?/First, the primary reason/was because of Solomon's sin.

/Solomon had many concubines./He forsook God's law and served idols./Therefore, God told him to repent./God told him that the nation would become divided if he did not repent.

/However, a more direct cause of the split/was because Rehoboam, Solomon's son, did not listen to the advice of the elders./Instead, Rehoboam followed the advice of the young men./Hence, the nation was divided.

/1 Kings 12:7 records how a nation prospers./There are three ways./First, one must become a servant, /second, one must serve, /and third, one must speak favorable words.

/The year the nation was divided into northern Israel and southern Judah is 930 B.C./Judah remained for 344 years until they were taken captive by Babylon./Judah was destroyed by Babylon in 586 B.C.

/If we include Solomon's reign of 40 years, Judah existed for a total of 384 years./The Books of Kings record the history of four centuries./The history of the rise and fall of Judah is the history of humanity.

/1 Kings has 22 chapters./Of the 22 chapters, 11 chapters are about Solomon./It narrates the building of the temple and division of the north and south./Israel in the north perished in the hands of Assyria.

/Judah in the south perished under Babylon./However, there were important and well-known prophets in northern Israel./Prophets like Elijah and Elisha prophesied in the north./In southern Judah, there was a total of 20 kings.

/Northern Israel had 19 kings./The first king of Israel was Jeroboam./The last king was Hoshea./The

total length of reign between Jeroboam and Hoshea was about 209 years.

/Compared to this, Judah had 20 kings./They reigned from 930 B.C. to 586 B.C./They reigned for a total of 344 years./On average each king reigned for 17.2 years./They reigned longer than the north.

/Northern Israel came to an end in 721 B.C./Southern Judah was destroyed in 586 B.C./Both nations began at the same time but Judah outlasted Israel by about 135 years./This was God's work.

/Of the 19 kings, there was not one righteous king in the north./All of them were wicked but the most wicked king was Ahab./Ahab married Jezebel, the daughter of Ethbaal king of Tyre.

/In Israel, during the time that the 19 kings reigned, there was a change in kingship 9 times./The kings committed treason, killed the king and became king./That is why their history is only 209 years.

/There were wicked kings in Judah like Manasseh,/but there were also righteous kings./For example, there were righteous kings like King Asa,/King Hezekiah,/King Jehoshaphat,/and King Josiah./The good always triumph./The kind succeed.

/1 Kings records the first 5 kings of Judah./The five kings, Solomon, Rehoboam,/Abijah,/Asa,/Jehoshaphat,/ are recorded./It records 122 years of history.

/1 Kings records up to the seventh king of Israel./This is 77 years of history./It records the history of 7 kings from Jeroboam to Ahab./The prophets Elijah and Elisha were active in northern Israel.

/There were also the prophets Amos, Hosea, and Jonah who recorded the Bible./They rebuked the sins of the people, and God worked through them./During the reign of the wicked King Ahab,/his wife Jezebel killed all who served God.

/Yet, God left seven thousand who did not bow down on their knees to Baal./God began his work in the north./During King Ahab's reign, Obadiah, who was in charge of the royal household, hid the servants of God, fifty in each cave, and brought them food and water.

/Israel in the north fell spiritually,/but there were seminaries in various places./Seminaries were built in Bethel,/Jericho,/near the Jordan River, and etc./where servants of God were brought up.

/When we look at this, no matter how wicked a king may be/the work of God is victorious./We can see God's victorious power at work./The work of God never fails./This is what we must remember about the Books of Kings.

/1 Kings 1:1 record the last days of King David./King David became old./This is described in three ways./First, he was advanced in years./Second, he was old./Third, he was cold even under a blanket.

/How old was David for him to be considered old? /2 Samuel 5:3-4 say that /David was about 70 years old. /David became king at the age of 30, and he reigned for 40 years.

/David was 70 years old./He was old./He could not stay warm even under a blanket./In Psalm 90:10,/it

says the average lifespan is 70 years./If a person is healthy he lives to 80.

/This is the same in the past and today./This is the way of life./King David was not an exception./How handsome was David?/1 Samuel 16:12/shows David's youthful appearance.

/He was ruddy/with sparkling eyes/and had a beautiful face./He was once a handsome young man,/but through time he advanced in years,/became old,/and couldn't keep warm under a blanket./This is the way of life.

/Therefore, we must know that a time will come when we will grow old when we will not keep warm under covers, and we must live with faith./David was advanced in age so his servants made a policy to care for the king.

/They decided to find a young virgin from all the people to attend the king./The young girl would lie next to the king and keep him warm at night./This is the policy that the servants suggested./People's plans are always lacking./Their method would not solve the fundamental problem.

/The servants found a girl in a town called Shunem./The woman who served Elisha was also from Shunem./The Shulamite in Song of Solomon is also from Shunem.

/They found a beautiful girl from Shunem, and her name was Abishag./Man's method cannot be a cure and it cannot stop one from growing old./Yet, David kept his faith here.

/Verse 4 shows how David kept his faith in his last years./Abishag was a virgin./She kept her virginity./She was very beautiful./This girl nursed David,/but David did not sleep with her.

/Why not?/The reason why David did not sleep with Abishag was because he remembered his sin with Bathsheba./David repented of this sin by flooding his bed with weeping and drenching his couch with tears (Psalm 6:6)

/Through the fruit of his repentance,/he lived with purity in regards to the opposite gender./David beginning was good, but his end was beautiful.

/Verses 5-10 record the rebellion of Adonijah./Adonijah went to the southeastern area of Jerusalem,/in Zohelath beside En Rogel and tried to be king there./Yet, his treason failed.

/When did Adonijah assert himself as king?/In verse 5,/Adonijah sought the kingship when David was advanced in years,/and when David was old and could not keep himself warm./David was old and so spent his days in bed.

/This was when David showed little authority over Israel./Everything became weak./This was when Adonijah conspired and committed treason so that he could become king./This was wrong.

/There is a time for everything./There are opportunities./We must not be like Adonijah and use the opportunity for evil and selfish gain./Instead, we must accept all circumstances that God gives us as opportunities to receive blessings.

/Some can use such opportunities for evil./Some will use it for good./We must not use opportunities for evil but think about the future and live a life that blesses others.

/David was not like Adonijah./When King Saul was vulnerable,/when Saul was in the cave or in the field,/David had two opportunities to kill him, but he did not.

/When Saul was vulnerable, David did not use it as an opportunity to kill Saul./David waited for God to work and entrusted everything to God./David believed in God's sovereignty./David did good.

/That is why David lived his entire life as a blessed man./However, when Adonijah's father became weak,/when he could not rule over the nation,/Adonijah used the opportunity to do evil, and he ultimately perished.

/Adonijah tried to be king and this was wrong in the eyes of God and man./This was because God had already revealed to David who would succeed him as king.

/In 2 Samuel 7:12 or 1 Chronicles 22,/God promised David that Solomon would be king./God revealed this./It was God's will and plan for Solomon to be king.

/However, Adonijah ignored God's will and sovereignty, and he tried to be king./Adonijah rejected God's authority and fundamentally did wrong before God./He also did wrong before man.

/David was his father and still the reigning king./David never told Adonijah to be king./He never passed over the authority of his kingship./David did not choose him as king./Yet, he decided himself that he would be king.

/This was wrong before man./He ignored order./He ignored the rules God had set,/and he sinned against his own father./He did wrong before God and man.

/When we look at the passage, in what ways did Adonijah sin?/There are three ways that he sinned in verse 5./In verse 5, we see that he lifted himself up./This means that he was arrogant and vain.

/He lifted himself up as king because he was not thankful./Everyone must be thankful for their present situations./In Psalm 16:6,/it says, "The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places."

/We must know that we are in beautiful places and be thankful./Just because we want to be king does not mean that we will be king./God is the one who makes kings rise and fall./If God makes someone king, he will become king.

/If God rejects someone then he cannot be king./One cannot become king on his own./In this way, Adonijah's first mistake was that he lifted himself up./Secondly, he wanted to become king for his own sake which was wrong.

/His character was twisted./Only when we throw away selfish attitudes can we grow in faith./All temptations arise out of selfishness./We must give up selfish motivations.

/What you do for yourself will ultimately fail to be for you./What you do for the Lord is what you do for yourself./The third sin is that he tried to be king using chariots, horsemen, and soldiers.

/He was wrong in thinking that having chariots, horsemen, and an army would make him king./Chariots were the most powerful weapon at the time./Horsemen were fighting soldiers./The army paved way for war.

/It was wrong to think that these things would make him king./God was not pleased with these things./Absalom, his older brother, showed us this./2 Samuel 15:1/says, Absalom perished using the same method.

/Being king has nothing to do with chariots, horsemen, or soldiers./God hates it when people trust in these things./God wants people to trust only in him.

/Verse 5 showed 3 ways in which Adonijah did wrong./His nature was twisted, and therefore, his ruin was inevitable./In Proverbs 16:18,/it says that pride goes before destruction./According to Proverbs, those who are proud will perish.

/All will perish if they become proud./This biblical principle is shown in Luke 18:14./Whoever lifts himself up will be humbled./Whoever humbles himself will be lifted up.

/Why did Adonijah lift himself up and try to become king using chariots, horses, and soldiers?/The reasons are found in verse 6./There are 3 reasons./First, he was born after Absalom.

/He had to assert himself to be king because he was born after Absalom./2 Samuel 3 says that David had many sons in Hebron./The oldest son is Amnon./He loved Tamar/and raped Tamar, and he was killed by Tamar's brother Absalom.

/The third son, Absalom, killed his older brother and died while trying to betray his father./The second son was Kileab the son of Abigail./Because he does not appear anywhere else, it seems he died early from illness.

/The first son was killed,/the second died of illness,/the third died while committing treason./Then who was the living oldest son of David?/It was Adonijah./Adonijah is known as the son who was born after Absalom.

/Adonijah probably thought to himself,/“I'm currently the oldest son.”/“Therefore, I must become king,/and I must become king.”/This was wrong./The order of one's birth does not determine whether or not he becomes king.

/Faith also does not depend on the order of birth./Whether one become king or not does not depend on one's order of birth./It does not depend on physical order./Just because we've believed in Christ first does not mean we receive more blessings or become successful.

/We don't know who will have faith./We don't know who God will use for great things./Judah was

Jacob's fourth son./Jesus was born in the fourth son Judah's line./Hence, physical order does not matter.

/Adonijah had wrong ideologies of things./There are three wrong things here./The second in verse 6/says that he was a very handsome man./This could be both a positive and a negative trait.

/He believed this and sought to be king./Adonijah thought that his appearance made him king./This was wrong thinking./One does not become king because of his outward appearance./Absalom did the same and perished.

/Absalom was also a handsome man./It says that there was no defect on him from head to toe./That is why he perished./People must not have anything to boast about./Handsome looks is not a qualification of a king.

/In reality, kings must have good character./They must become a vessel fit for a king./They must develop into mature people./It was good that Adonijah did not become king, because if he had become king, the nation would have come to ruin.

/We must not focus on our outward appearances but focus on the inner person./We must have character./We must have faith./We must become mature.

/The third reason was that his father did not discipline him./In this situation, we can see that Adonijah was capable of making mistakes./He probably did worse,/but David did not discipline his son.

/Why didn't David discipline Adonijah?/Because Adonijah was not fit to receive discipline./What would have happened if he was disciplined?/If he was scolded, he would be pouted in anger and he would have complained.

/People like to receive compliments./They like to receive recognition./Yet, those who discipline are the true teachers./However, Adonijah was not fit to receive discipline./That is why David did not discipline him.

/He probably became resentful and angry,/so how could David discipline him?/This was like throwing pearls to pigs./That is why David no longer disciplined him.

/Those who receive discipline will succeed./Adonijah failed because he couldn't receive discipline./David also did not raise his child well.

/Adonijah became spoiled because David raised him without disciplining him./Proverbs 13:24/"He who spares the rod hates his son."/Proverbs 6:23/ "The corrections of discipline are the way to life."

/If we are disciplined we must learn to change./Ephesians 5:13,/discipline is medicine./We must become people with character who can receive discipline.

/Verses 7-10 tell of two types of people./First, they were those who supported Adonijah's conspiracy./Verse 7 speaks of two people who supported Adonijah./They are Joab and Abiathar./Second, there were those who did not support with Adonijah.

/In verse 8, Zadok the priest,/Benaiah,/Nathan,/Shimei,/and Rei/were David's mighty men./They were good people./They were loyal to David and were faithful.

/Among those who conspired with Adonijah, Joab was David's army commander./Joab worked hard./Yet, at times he went against David's commands and created problems.

/Joab did a good job as the commander but sometimes gave David a hard time./He avoided Absalom's rebellion but got caught in the second rebellion./He went along with Adonijah's rebellion./His end was not good.

/We must not become like Joab./Joab did not finish well./We must finish well./We must believe Jesus well in the beginning,/and we must leave the world beautifully.

/There were many ways Joab brought grief to David's heart./He had a mean spirit so he failed in the end./If we do not throw away mean spirits that will be the cause of our ruin.

/Another person who joined Adonijah's conspiracy was Abiathar./Abiathar was a priest./He was the son of Ahimelech the priest of Nob,/when David fled from place to place./Saul killed 85 priests of Nob.

/The only one who escaped was Abiathar./He followed David from the very beginning./He should never have rebelled against David./Yet, he too turned away.

/Verse 8 mentions Zadok the priest./There were two priests./Abiathar and Zadok./Abiathar was much older./He was much older and was the first to become the high priest.

/However, who was the better man of the two?/It was Zadok./Abiathar joined Adonijah, and for what reason?/It is likely that he became jealous of Zadok.

/Also, he may not have been good enough so he became resentful./He might have been envious and jealous./Who did Adonijah join hands with as it says in the passage?/He joined hands with Joab and Abiathar, and committed treason.

/Joab was commander of the army./Abiathar was a spiritual man./Adonijah thought that if he had an army and religion he could become king./Yet, he did not become king./These two things do not make one king.

/However, why did Joab and Abiathar join the conspiracy?/It's because Adonijah influenced them./They were influenced by Adonijah./The devil also influences people, and people fall to temptations.

/To those who do not use their money with their conscience, Satan uses money to tempt them./Those who are weak in problems with the opposite gender are shaken by the opposite gender./Those who fall to temptations fall to the same ones.

/We must have faith like the mighty men of David./God uses those who do not easily fall to temptation./James 1:6/says, we should not be double-minded./We must have faith.

/If we are double-minded we will fall./We must have one heart./We must think only of the Lord,/give our lives for the gospel,/and live for the Lord and the gospel.

/We must become like these men today./We must be like/Benaiah,/Nathan,/Zadok.

/This concludes the first lecture on the Books of Kings./Thank you.