

Dr. August Konkel, 1 & 2 Chronicles, Session 8, An Eternal Kingdom Resources from NotebookLM

1) Abstract, 2) Audio podcast, 3) Briefing Document, 4) Study Guide, and 5) FAQs

1. Abstract of Konkel, 1 & 2 Chronicles, Session 8, An Eternal Kingdom, Biblicalelearning.org, BeL

Dr. August Konkel's session 8 teaching on Chronicles focuses on David's reign and the establishment of an eternal kingdom. The session analyzes David's efforts to bring the Ark to Jerusalem, highlighting both his missteps and his eventual success in following God's prescribed protocols. **Konkel emphasizes the importance of respecting the holiness represented by the Ark and the significance of music and hymns in worship.** He connects these events to the broader theme of God's covenant with Israel and the promise of a universal kingdom. **The teaching explores the prophecy of Nathan, revealing that God is building a house (dynasty) for David, signifying an eternal reign through his people.** Ultimately, Konkel asserts that David's kingdom represents God's enduring kingdom, centered in Jerusalem.

2. 17 - minute Audio Podcast Created on the basis of Dr. Konkel, 1 & 2 Chronicles, Session 8 – Double click icon to play in Windows media player or go to the Biblicalelearning.org [BeL] Site and click the audio podcast link there (Old Testament → Historical Books → Chronicles).



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on08.mp3**

3. Briefing Document: Konkel, 1 & 2 Chronicles, Session 8, An Eternal Kingdom

Okay, here's a briefing document summarizing the main themes and ideas from the provided excerpt of Dr. August Konkel's lecture on Chronicles, Session 8: "An Eternal Kingdom."

Briefing Document: Dr. August Konkel on Chronicles, Session 8

Source: Excerpts from "Konkel_Chro_EN_Session08.pdf" (Dr. August Konkel, Chronicles, Session 8, An Eternal Kingdom)

Main Theme: The Chronicler's focus is on demonstrating that David's kingdom is not merely a temporal, earthly kingdom, but a representation of God's eternal kingdom. This is illustrated through key events like the Ark's journey to Jerusalem and God's covenant with David. The Chronicler wants us to know that God's kingdom is universal.

Key Ideas and Facts:

- **God's Plan vs. Historical Realities:** Dr. Konkel emphasizes that the Chronicler wants the reader to look beyond the conflicts and "ugliness" of history to see God's overarching plan. "You have to see beyond the details of history and some of its ugliness, the wars, and everything else to what it is that God's plan is beyond all this and how God works this plan out."
- **The Ark as a Symbol of God's Presence and Holiness:** The Ark is not just an object, but a representation of God's holy presence and covenant with Israel. Its improper handling (Uzzah touching the Ark) highlights the need for respect and adherence to God's prescribed rules.
- The story of Uzzah is used to illustrate the concept of holiness. Touching the ark was forbidden. As Konkel explains, "those things that represent God in the world of the common are not ever to be tampered with. And the rules must always be followed." God's *parash* can break out when people disrespect the ark.
- **David's Actions as a Model:** David's consultation with God regarding the Philistines (unlike Saul) showcases his faithfulness and obedience, leading to a different outcome. "Unlike Saul, he consulted Yahweh. He consulted God. And he asked God, what do I do in relation to the Philistines? And when do I attack? And he received direction from God."

- **Proper Procedures and Reverence:** The Chronicler emphasizes the importance of following prescribed procedures when dealing with holy objects and symbols. David's organization of the Levites for carrying the Ark according to proper protocols is highlighted.
- **The Importance of Music and Hymns:** The Chronicler uses hymns from the Psalter to highlight God's presence, justice, and rule over all the earth, emphasizing the universal reign of God.
- **David's Desire to Build a Temple vs. God's Promise:** God's message through Nathan, that God will build a "house" (dynasty/people) for David, is central to the idea of the eternal kingdom. The "house" is not a building; the house is the people. It's the people who are going to be part of this promise.
- **Humility and Unworthiness:** David recognizes his unworthiness and the insignificance of Israel, yet acknowledges God's choice and the significance of their role in representing God's kingdom. "Lord, says David, there's no reason why I should be the man after your own heart. There's nothing I have done that makes me worthy of you having chosen me."
- **Jerusalem as the Chosen Place:** The placement of the Ark in Jerusalem signifies the establishment of the place where God's name will dwell and where the people will gather to worship and be his kingdom.
- **All nations are to be blessed.** In Psalm 105, God made a covenant with Abraham and Jacob.

Key Quote:

- "This is not David's kingdom, but it is an eternal kingdom."
- "When we say God, we know what we mean. And we mean that God is holy, which means that he stands outside of the created universe. And therefore, that which represents him doesn't simply belong to the created universe."
- "The house that God is building for David is the people."
- "This is God's kingdom. And so, these people who are gathered together here are the ones who represent the one and only kingdom that really matters."

Overall Significance:

Dr. Konkel's lecture emphasizes the Chronicler's theological perspective, which interprets historical events through the lens of God's eternal plan. The focus is on the spiritual significance of David's reign, the importance of holiness and obedience, and the universal nature of God's kingdom.

4. Study Guide: Konkel, 1 & 2 Chronicles, Session 8, An Eternal Kingdom

Chronicles: An Eternal Kingdom - Study Guide

I. Quiz

Answer each question in 2-3 sentences.

1. According to the Chronicler, whose plan was it that David should be king of all Israel?
2. Why was the Ark of the Covenant sitting in Keriath-Jearim?
3. What mistake did David make in his initial attempt to move the Ark to Jerusalem?
4. Explain the Hebrew concept of the "holy" in the context of the Uzzah incident.
5. What did David consult before engaging the Philistines in the valley of Rephaim?
6. What was still residing at Gibeon when David brought the Ark to Jerusalem?
7. What did the Chronicler use from the Psalter?
8. What is the significance of Psalm 105 to the Chronicler's message?
9. In Nathan's prophecy, what does God mean when He says He will build a house for David?
10. What is the significance of stationing the ark in Jerusalem?

Quiz Answer Key

1. According to the Chronicler, it was God's plan that David should be king of all Israel. Despite tribal conflicts, God's intention was for David to unite and lead the nation. The Chronicler emphasizes that these conflicts were not part of God's plan.
2. The Ark of the Covenant was in Keriath-Jearim because it had been captured by the Philistines. After the Philistines suffered negative consequences from possessing the Ark, they returned it to the westernmost area of Judah, where it remained.
3. David's mistake was transporting the Ark on an ox cart instead of having it carried by Levites using the poles affixed to the Ark, as prescribed in the Torah. This improper method of transport led to the incident with Uzzah.

4. The Hebrew concept of the "holy" implies that God is separate from and transcends the created universe. Therefore, anything representing God, like the Ark, is not just an ordinary object but demands respect and adherence to specific rules.
5. Unlike Saul, David consulted God before engaging the Philistines in the valley of Rephaim. He specifically asked Yahweh what he should do and when he should attack, receiving direct guidance from God.
6. While David brought the Ark to Jerusalem, the tabernacle itself was still residing at Gibeon. This meant there were effectively two places of worship, one in Jerusalem and one in Gibeon.
7. The Chronicler used music and hymns from the Psalter, particularly during the installation of the Ark in Jerusalem. He selected psalms that confessed and emphasized the nature of God and His covenant with Israel.
8. Psalm 105 highlights the covenant God made with Abraham and Jacob. The Chronicler uses this to emphasize that God's covenant includes a blessing for all nations, illustrating the universal scope of God's kingdom.
9. God is using a play on the word "house." God is not talking about a physical building, but the people of David's lineage and his eternal kingdom.
10. Stationing the Ark in Jerusalem signifies that Jerusalem is the chosen place for God's name to dwell. It becomes the central location for worship and the representation of God's kingdom on earth.

II. Essay Questions

1. Discuss the Chronicler's perspective on history, particularly how he distinguishes between the "ugliness" of historical events and God's overarching plan. How does this perspective shape the Chronicler's portrayal of David's reign?
2. Analyze the significance of the Ark of the Covenant in the Chronicler's narrative. How does the Chronicler use the Ark's journey and eventual placement in Jerusalem to emphasize the nature of God's kingdom?
3. Compare and contrast David's actions with those of Saul, as presented by the Chronicler. How does the Chronicler use these comparisons to highlight David's faithfulness and legitimacy as king?

4. Explore the Chronicler's use of music and hymns, particularly from the Psalter, in the narrative. What role do these musical elements play in conveying the Chronicler's theological and political message?
5. Examine the Chronicler's understanding of the Davidic covenant. How does the Chronicler interpret Nathan's prophecy and David's response, and what does this reveal about the nature of God's promises to David and Israel?

III. Glossary of Key Terms

- **Chronicler:** The author of the books of Chronicles in the Hebrew Bible.
- **Ark of the Covenant:** A sacred chest containing the tablets of the Ten Commandments, representing God's presence and covenant with Israel.
- **Keriath-Jearim:** A town west of Jerusalem where the Ark of the Covenant was kept for 20 years after being returned by the Philistines.
- **Parash:** A Hebrew word meaning to break out, burst out, or increase rapidly, used by the Chronicler to describe both the support for David and God's reaction to disrespect.
- **Holy:** Set apart from the common, reflecting God's transcendent nature and demanding respect.
- **Valley of Rephaim:** An area south of Jerusalem where David fought against the Philistines.
- **Levites:** Members of the tribe of Levi, responsible for the religious duties in the temple.
- **Psalter:** The collection of psalms in the Hebrew Bible, used for worship in the temple.
- **Covenant:** A binding agreement or promise between God and his people.
- **Tabernacle:** The portable tent used as a sanctuary by the Israelites before the construction of the Temple in Jerusalem.
- **Gibeon:** A city where the tabernacle was located while the ark was located in Jerusalem.
- **Enthronement Songs:** Psalms such as Psalms 96 and 98 used in the temple.

5. FAQs on Konkel, 1 & 2 Chronicles, Session 8, An Eternal Kingdom, Biblicalelearning.org (BeL)

Frequently Asked Questions on Chronicles, Session 8: An Eternal Kingdom

- **Why does the Chronicler emphasize David as king of all Israel, despite the conflicts between tribes?**
- The Chronicler focuses on God's plan, which envisioned David as king of all Israel. He acknowledges the historical conflicts but emphasizes that these were deviations from God's intended design. The aim is to see past the "ugliness" of history to understand God's overarching plan and its fulfillment.
- **How does the Ark of the Covenant factor into the Chronicler's portrayal of David's kingdom as eternal?**
- The Ark is central to the Chronicler's portrayal. It symbolizes God's covenant with Israel and acts as the "footstool of God's throne." David's efforts to bring the Ark to Jerusalem are seen as establishing proper worship and acknowledging God's presence. The Chronicler emphasizes the holiness associated with the Ark, highlighting the need for respect and adherence to divine protocols in handling it.
- **What was David's initial mistake in transporting the Ark, and what does it signify?**
- David initially transported the Ark on a cart, violating the Torah's instructions that it should be carried by Levites using poles. This mistake led to the Uzzah incident, illustrating the importance of respecting God's holiness and following prescribed rules. It highlights that even good intentions are insufficient if not accompanied by obedience to God's commands.
- **How did David rectify his mistake regarding the Ark, and what does this demonstrate?**
- David rectified his mistake by properly organizing the Levites to carry the Ark according to the prescribed manner. This emphasized the importance of adhering to divine protocols and respecting the holiness of God's symbols. This also showed how this process empowered that which represents the Holy One of Israel.

- **How does the Chronicler portray David's consultation with God in his battles?**
- The Chronicler contrasts David with Saul by highlighting David's faithfulness in consulting God before engaging in battles, such as the one against the Philistines in the Valley of Rephaim. This underscores David's dependence on God's guidance and the positive outcomes that resulted from his obedience.
- **What is the significance of music and hymns in the Chronicler's account of installing the Ark?**
- The Chronicler emphasizes the use of music and hymns, drawing from the Psalter to express the confession of who God is. These songs, such as selections from Psalms 105, 96, 98, and 106, proclaim God's covenant with Abraham and Jacob, His universal reign over all nations, and the blessings He bestows upon those who seek Him faithfully.
- **What is the meaning of God telling David that He will build a house for David instead of David building a house for God?**
- This is a play on the word "house." God's statement that He will build a house for David refers not to a physical structure, but to establishing a dynasty and an eternal kingdom for David's descendants. This is emphasized through the message given by Nathan and connects to the idea that the "house" represents the people who are part of God's promise.
- **How does David's response to Nathan's prophecy reveal his character and understanding of God's kingdom?**
- David responds with humility, acknowledging his unworthiness and the insignificance of Israel. He recognizes that God's choice of him and his people is purely based on God's grace. David affirms that the kingdom established with Jerusalem as its center represents the only kingdom that truly matters, where people gather to worship God.