

Dr. August Konkell, 1 & 2 Chronicles, Session 10, Temple Location Resources from NotebookLM

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

1. Abstract of Konkell, 1 & 2 Chronicles, Session 10, Temple Location, Biblicalelearning.org, BeL

Dr. August Konkell's lecture focuses on the significance of the temple in the books of Chronicles. It explores David's reign, highlighting that his preparations for building the temple are more crucial than his empire-building. **The lecture analyzes the story of David's census, contrasting the Chronicler's interpretation with that in Samuel.** Konkell suggests the Chronicler presents the idea of a "Satan" (opposer) that influenced David's decision to hold the census. **The lecture further examines how the plague, resulting from the census, leads to the dedication of the temple site, and the transfer of power to Solomon to build it.** Ultimately, Konkell emphasizes the temple as the most critical element of David's legacy, symbolizing God's kingdom.

2. 22 - minute Audio Podcast Created on the basis of Dr. Konkell, 1 & 2 Chronicles, Session 10 – 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).



Konkell_Chron_Session10.mp3

3. Briefing Document: Konkel, 1 & 2 Chronicles, Session 10, Temple Location

Okay, here's a briefing document summarizing the main themes and ideas from the provided excerpts of Dr. August Konkel's Session 10 on Temple Location in Chronicles:

Briefing Document: Dr. August Konkel on Chronicles, Session 10 - Temple Location

Overview:

Dr. Konkel's session focuses on the Chronicler's perspective on David's reign, emphasizing the importance of the temple preparations as representing the Kingdom of God, contrasting it with the more secular, empire-building aspects of David's rule highlighted in Samuel. The session delves into the story of David's census, its theological interpretation by the Chronicler, and the selection of the temple site.

Main Themes and Ideas:

- **Temple as the Core of David's Kingdom (and Kingdom of God):** The central argument is that the Chronicler prioritizes David's preparations for the temple over his empire-building achievements. "But the significance of David's kingdom is his making preparations for the temple because, after all, the kingdom of David is not the empire. The kingdom of David is the temple which represents the kingdom of God." The temple represents God's rule and is the most significant aspect of David's reign in the Chronicler's view.
- **Selective Focus and Summarization:** The Chronicler condenses a large portion of Samuel into a smaller section, focusing on aspects directly related to the temple. "Take note, please, that the largest part of the story of all of the books of Samuel is covered by the Chronicler in about ten chapters, from 10 to 20, in which he just makes evident the way in which David became the king of an empire. And all the details that occupy 1 and 2 Samuel can be summarized in that short space. You just need to know that there is an empire of David."
- **The Census Incident and the Role of "Satan":** Dr. Konkel analyzes the Chronicler's account of David's decision to conduct a census, particularly focusing on the use of the word "Satan." He argues against interpreting "Satan" as a proper noun (the Devil) in this context. "However, in the Hebrew Bible, the term Satan is not a personal name. It is just a common noun... and it simply means an opposer. Someone who could betray you." He suggests it's more likely that the Chronicler

used the term "Satan" to refer to an advisor or someone within David's ranks who suggested the census.

- **Divine Judgment and the Threshing Floor:** The census leads to a plague, which is stopped at a threshing floor. This threshing floor becomes the dedicated site for the temple. This event is connected to the dedication of the tabernacle in Exodus.
- **David's Charge to Solomon:** David's final charge to Solomon to build the temple is portrayed as the most important act of his life. "This is a personal charge that David gives to Solomon, and he explains to Solomon that what he is doing is the most important thing that he has ever done. He's not talking about the building of his empire, but he's talking about the throne, the palace that shall represent the rule of God." This emphasizes the spiritual significance of the temple.
- **Variant Texts and Interpretation:** Konkel notes that the Chronicler seems to have used a different version of Samuel than what is available today, and he also makes interpretative choices on the meaning of key events.

Key Facts and Details:

- The Chronicler's account of David's census differs from the account in Samuel.
- The threshing floor, where the plague is stopped, becomes the site of the temple.
- David's preparation for the temple, not his military conquests, is the focus of the Chronicler.
- The word "Satan" in Chronicles is likely used as a common noun, meaning "opposer," rather than a proper noun referring to the Devil.

Implications:

This session highlights the Chronicler's theological agenda in re-telling the history of David. It suggests that the Chronicler sought to emphasize the spiritual and religious aspects of David's reign, particularly the importance of the temple as a representation of God's kingdom, over the more worldly aspects of political and military power. The interpretation of "Satan" offers a nuanced understanding of the Chronicler's theology.

4. Study Guide: Konkel, 1 & 2 Chronicles, Session 10, Temple Location

Chronicles, Session 10: Temple Location - Study Guide

Quiz

Answer each question in 2-3 sentences.

1. According to Konkel, what is the Chronicler's primary focus regarding David's kingdom?
2. How does the Chronicler's account of David's census differ from the account in Samuel?
3. What does Konkel suggest is the Chronicler's intended meaning of the Hebrew term *Satan* in the context of David's census?
4. What event leads David to dedicate the threshing floor as the site for the temple?
5. What is the significance of the fire consuming the sacrifice on the threshing floor, as referenced by Konkel?
6. According to Konkel, what is the main purpose of David charging Solomon?
7. According to Konkel, what is the most important thing David has ever done?
8. What is the theological importance of David's Temple?
9. Why was it wrong for David to count the number of soldiers?
10. How does the Chronicler present the story of David in comparison to Samuel?

Quiz Answer Key

1. The Chronicler's primary focus is on David's preparations for the temple, which represents the kingdom of God, rather than on his empire-building. The kingdom of David, according to the Chronicler, is not the empire but the temple.
2. In Samuel, the test of David comes from the Lord due to David's self-confidence. However, the Chronicler attributes David's temptation to conduct the census to a *Satan*, which Konkel interprets as an "opposer" or someone within David's administration suggesting the census.
3. Konkel argues that the Chronicler uses the term *Satan* not as a personal name for the devil, but as a common noun meaning "opposer." He suggests it refers to

someone within David's ranks who advocated for the census, leading David astray.

4. A plague breaks out in Israel as a consequence of David's census, which is displeasing to God. The plague is stopped at a threshing floor, which David then dedicates as the site for the temple.
5. The fire consuming the sacrifice on the threshing floor signifies God's affirmation and acceptance of the site for the temple. Konkel likens it to signs that took place when the tabernacle was dedicated in Exodus, emphasizing God's divine approval.
6. The main purpose of David's charge to Solomon is to emphasize the importance of building the temple, which represents God's rule and kingdom. David instructs Solomon to prioritize the temple construction and gathers the leaders of Israel to support him.
7. According to Konkel, the most important thing David has ever done is to prepare for the building of the temple. He is not talking about building his empire, but talking about building the palace that represents the rule of God.
8. Theological importance lies in representing the kingdom of God on earth. It serves as a symbol of God's presence, power, and sovereignty among His people, providing a central place for worship, sacrifice, and communion with God.
9. It betrayed a lack of faith and reliance on God for protection. Instead of trusting in God's provision and guidance, David was relying on the strength of his army, which demonstrated a lack of trust in God's power to defend Israel.
10. The Chronicler presents the story of David with a particular emphasis on his role in preparing for the construction of the Temple. While Samuel focuses on the political and military aspects of David's reign, the Chronicler emphasizes the spiritual and religious significance of David's actions in relation to the Temple.

Essay Questions

1. Compare and contrast the portrayal of David in the books of Samuel and Chronicles, focusing on the differences in their purpose and theological perspectives.
2. Discuss Konkel's interpretation of the term *Satan* in Chronicles. How does his understanding differ from traditional interpretations, and what are the implications of his view?
3. Analyze the significance of the temple in Chronicles as a representation of the kingdom of God. How does the Chronicler use the temple narrative to convey his theological message?
4. Evaluate the role of human agency and divine sovereignty in the events surrounding David's census and the subsequent plague. How does the Chronicler balance these two elements in his narrative?
5. Examine the connections between David's preparations for the temple and Solomon's actual construction of it. How does David's role set the stage for Solomon's reign and the establishment of the temple?

Glossary of Key Terms

- **Chronicler:** The author of the books of Chronicles in the Hebrew Bible.
- **Temple:** The central place of worship for the Israelites in Jerusalem, built by Solomon to house the Ark of the Covenant.
- **Ark of the Covenant:** A sacred chest containing the tablets of the Ten Commandments, representing God's presence among the Israelites.
- **Threshing Floor:** A flattened area used for separating grain from the stalks by pounding or trampling.
- **Satan:** In Hebrew, *Satan* means an opposer, not necessarily the personal name of the devil.
- **Davidic Covenant:** God's promise to David that his dynasty would endure forever.
- **Kingdom of God:** The sovereign rule and authority of God over all creation.
- **Census:** A counting or enumeration of the population or resources, often used for military or taxation purposes.
- **Tribute:** Payments made by one ruler or nation to another as a sign of submission or alliance.
- **Messianic Lineage:** The genealogical line of descent leading to the Messiah, traced through the descendants of David.

5. FAQs on Konkel, 1 & 2 Chronicles, Session 10, Temple Location, Biblicalelearning.org (BeL)

FAQ on Chronicles (Session 10)

- **What is the primary focus of the Chronicler regarding David's reign?**
- The Chronicler focuses on David's preparations for the temple, which he considers the most significant aspect of David's kingdom. The Chronicler views the temple as representing the kingdom of God, downplaying David's empire-building accomplishments in comparison. The details of the temple preparations occupy a substantial portion of the narrative.
- **How does the Chronicler's account of David's census differ from the account in Samuel?**
- In Samuel, God initiates the test of David due to David's self-confidence. The Chronicler attributes the temptation to take the census to a "Satan," which Dr. Konkel interprets not as the devil but as an "opposer" or someone within David's circle who suggested the census for military reasons.
- **What is Dr. Konkel's interpretation of the term "Satan" in the Chronicler's account?**
- Dr. Konkel argues that "Satan" should be understood as a common noun meaning "opposer" rather than the personal name of the devil. He suggests it refers to someone within David's advisors or military who advocated for the census, not a supernatural being.
- **Why was David's decision to count soldiers considered a mistake?**
- Counting soldiers was seen as a sign of a lack of faith in God's protection and a reliance on military strength. This act of depending on soldiers rather than God's faithfulness displeased God and resulted in a plague.
- **What is the significance of the threshing floor in the narrative?**
- The threshing floor is the site where the destroying angel, carrying out the plague, was stopped. This site is then dedicated by David and becomes the location for the temple, signifying a place of atonement and divine favor. The location was affirmed like the dedication of the tabernacle in Exodus 34.

- **What is the nature of David's charge to Solomon regarding the temple?**
- David emphasizes to Solomon that building the temple is the most important task, surpassing even the establishment of his empire. He instructs Solomon to build a throne and palace representing God's rule, and to this end David gathers materials and enlists the support of Israel's leaders.
- **How does the Chronicler view the relationship between David's kingdom and the temple?**
- The Chronicler sees David's kingdom as primarily significant for its role in preparing for the temple. The temple represents the true kingdom of God, while the empire is secondary in importance.
- **What does the Chronicler emphasize about David's preparations for the temple?**
- The Chronicler emphasizes that David's preparations for the temple were a lengthy and critical part of David's life, and he uses a substantial portion of his narrative to convey the significance of this work. It's more important than the conquests.