

Dr. August Konkell, 1 & 2 Chronicles, Session 12, Solomon Becomes King 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 12, Solomon Becomes King, Biblicalelearning.org, BeL

Dr. Konkell's session focuses on the transition of power from David to Solomon as depicted in Chronicles. The lecture emphasizes that Solomon's kingship represents God's eternal kingdom, echoing themes found in Psalm 2. **David instructs Solomon to follow God's plan for the temple and kingdom, reminding him that it is not his own.** The Chronicler's account highlights God's promise to David and the establishment of Solomon on the throne of God, despite any messy political events. **Konkell encourages listeners to focus on their identity as part of God's kingdom, not to be concerned with worldly powers.** The message underscores the importance of worship and recognizing God's kingship.

2. 16 - minute Audio Podcast Created on the basis of Dr. Konkell, 1 & 2 Chronicles, Session 12 – 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_Session12.mp3

3. Briefing Document: Konkel, 1 & 2 Chronicles, Session 12, Solomon Becomes King

Okay, here is a detailed briefing document summarizing the main themes and important ideas from the provided excerpt of Dr. August Konkel's Session 12 on "Solomon Becomes King" from his Chronicles series.

Briefing Document: Konkel on 1 Chronicles - Solomon Becomes King

Main Theme: The Chronicler's focus in 1 Chronicles, particularly in chapters 28 and 29, is to emphasize that the kingdom of Israel, represented by Solomon, is ultimately a representation of the Kingdom of God. This kingdom's significance is not dependent on political power or territorial control, but on the worship of God and the people's recognition of God as their true king. This is contrasted with the fleeting nature of earthly empires.

Key Ideas and Facts:

- **David's Preparations and the Promise to Nathan:** David's primary role was preparing for the kingdom of God, with Solomon representing that kingdom based on God's promise to Nathan. "Yes, he was an empire builder, but mostly what David did is make preparations for the kingdom of God and the one who is going to represent that kingdom is based on the promise which God gave to Nathan."
- **Psalm 2 as Foundational:** Psalm 2 is central to understanding the Chronicler's message. It highlights the futility of earthly kingdoms opposing God's kingdom. "The one who sits in the heavens will laugh...Who do these people think they are with their mediocre kingdoms to pit them against the kingdom of God, the one who is the Lord?" Konkel argues that David reminds the people of Psalm 2 in these concluding chapters.
- **Solomon's Role: Representative, Not Sovereign:** Solomon is explicitly chosen to rule on the throne of the "kingdom of God" (mentioned explicitly in 2 Chronicles 28). This kingdom is not Solomon's own, but a divine trust. This is in direct contrast to other ancient empires which were built upon military might and conquest. "David is saying, Solomon, this is not your kingdom...you have been chosen to rule in a kingdom that is not yours."
- **Importance of Following Instructions:** Solomon is instructed to follow David's plans for the temple and the worship of God. This obedience is paramount.

"Solomon is informed by David right from the start, this isn't your design. You aren't deciding what this representation of God shall look like." Konkel humorously relates this to the difficulty he personally has with following instructions.

- **David's Blessing and Installation of Solomon:** The Chronicler portrays a divinely ordained transition of power, emphasizing David's blessing and installation of Solomon upon the throne of God. This contrasts with the more politically complex and potentially unstable account in the book of Kings involving Adonijah. "And so, in the Chronicler's view of things, David gave the charge to Solomon. He gave the blessing to Solomon and then he established Solomon enthroned upon the kingdom of God."
- **Source Material:** The Chronicler uses the same "records" as the book of Kings, but interprets them with a specific theological lens. These records are more akin to prophetic accounts than royal records.
- **Identity and Heritage of Yehudah:** The Chronicler aims to remind the people of Yehudah (Judah) of their true identity as Israel, a nation representing God's kingdom, regardless of their political circumstances or the power of surrounding empires. "They are Israel, and they are all Israel...God wasn't interested in you being a state. God was interested in you being a nation, and as a nation, you represent his kingdom."
- **The Ephemeral Nature of Earthly Power:** Konkel emphasizes that earthly empires are temporary and insignificant in the grand scheme of God's kingdom, echoing the message of Psalm 2. "The nations rage. They go on, they rise, they fall...They're as passing as all the ones that have come before us."
- **Worship as a Manifestation of the Kingdom of God:** The way the people worship God in the temple is how they show the kingdom of God to the world.

Concluding Thought: Konkel suggests readers focus on 1 Chronicles 28 and 29 to grasp the Chronicler's core message: to remember their identity as part of the Kingdom of God and not to be preoccupied with the surrounding earthly powers.

4. Study Guide: Konkel, 1 & 2 Chronicles, Session 12, Solomon Becomes King

Solomon Becomes King: A Study Guide to Chronicles (Session 12)

Quiz: Short Answer Questions

1. According to Dr. Konkel, what was David's primary contribution beyond empire building?
2. Explain the significance of Psalm 2 in relation to the kingdom of God.
3. How does the Chronicler portray Solomon's kingship differently from how it is described in the book of Kings?
4. Why does Dr. Konkel say that it's important that Solomon follows David's instructions?
5. In what ways does David prepare Solomon to become king, according to the Chronicler?
6. Why does Dr. Konkel imply that Solomon's great power might be a bad thing?
7. What does the Chronicler emphasize about the records he uses?
8. What does Dr. Konkel suggest is the reason that the people of Yehudah were despised?
9. How does the Chronicler encourage the people of Yehudah to view their situation in relation to the surrounding empires?
10. According to Dr. Konkel, how did the people of Yehudah show the kingdom of God?

Quiz Answer Key

1. David primarily made preparations for the kingdom of God, establishing the foundation for the one who would represent that kingdom, based on God's promise to Nathan. He set the stage for Solomon, who embodied the eternal kingdom.
2. Psalm 2 establishes God's anointed king in Mount Zion who will crush the nations, representing the ultimate authority and power of the kingdom of God over earthly kingdoms. It orients the Psalter towards the themes of God's sovereignty and the futility of earthly opposition.

3. The Chronicler emphasizes God's plan in Solomon's appointment, downplaying the political turmoil and focusing on David's divinely ordained transfer of power. He presents a more idealized and seamless transition compared to the account in Kings.
4. Dr. Konkel emphasizes that Solomon must follow instructions because the design and representation of God are not his own. Solomon's task is to faithfully execute God's plan, not to create his own vision of the kingdom.
5. David provides Solomon with the plans for the temple, the materials needed for its construction, and a blessing, while also reminding him of his inexperience and need to follow instructions. He installs Solomon as king with a great festival and establishes him on the throne of God.
6. Dr. Konkel suggests that Solomon's power could be a bad thing if he did not follow God's plan and instead tried to exert his own will. Solomon needed to remember that his power was not his own, but a gift from God.
7. The Chronicler emphasizes that he uses the same records as the book of Kings, but interprets them to highlight God's plan and purpose in Israel's history. He often attributes these records to prophetic sources, not just royal accounts.
8. Dr. Konkel suggests that the people of Yehudah were despised because of the military powers around them: Persians, Ammonites, and Samaritans. But the people of Yehudah should not pay them any mind because they are part of a different kingdom.
9. The Chronicler encourages the people of Yehudah to remember their heritage as God's chosen nation and to focus on worshiping God, rather than being preoccupied with the surrounding empires. He reminds them that these empires are temporary, while God's kingdom is eternal.
10. According to Dr. Konkel, the people of Yehudah showed the kingdom of God by the way they worshiped him in their temple.

Essay Questions

1. Discuss the significance of the kingdom of God as presented in 1 Chronicles 28-29, and how it relates to the broader message of the book.
2. Analyze the role of David in preparing for Solomon's reign, focusing on the instructions, blessings, and preparations he makes as depicted by the Chronicler.
3. Compare and contrast the Chronicler's account of Solomon becoming king with the account in the book of Kings, highlighting the differences in emphasis and perspective.
4. Examine Dr. Konkel's assertion that the Chronicler wants to remind the people of Yehudah of their identity and heritage, and explain how this message is relevant to their historical context.
5. Evaluate the ways in which Psalm 2 informs the Chronicler's understanding of kingship and the kingdom of God, providing specific examples from the text.

Glossary of Key Terms

- **Chronicler:** The author of the books of 1 and 2 Chronicles, who reinterprets Israel's history from a priestly perspective after the Babylonian exile.
- **Kingdom of God:** In the context of Chronicles, refers to God's sovereign rule and the representation of that rule through the Davidic dynasty and the temple in Jerusalem.
- **Yehudah:** The region inhabited by the descendants of Judah after the Babylonian exile; also referred to as Judah.
- **Solomon:** The son of David and Bathsheba, chosen by God to succeed David as king of Israel and to build the temple in Jerusalem.
- **Temple:** The central place of worship for Israel, located in Jerusalem, designed by David and built by Solomon as a symbol of God's presence and covenant with his people.
- **Psalms 2:** A key psalm that speaks of God's anointed king who will rule over the nations, often interpreted as a messianic prophecy.
- **David:** The second king of Israel, who established Jerusalem as the capital and made preparations for the building of the temple.
- **Nathan:** A prophet who delivered God's promise to David that his dynasty would endure forever.
- **Adonijah:** Another son of David who attempted to claim the throne before Solomon was officially appointed.
- **Prophetic Records:** Accounts written by prophets that often include critiques and evaluations of the kings and their reigns.

5. FAQs on Konkel, 1 & 2 Chronicles, Session 12, Solomon Becomes King, Biblicalelearning.org (BeL)

Frequently Asked Questions About Solomon's Kingship in Chronicles

1. What is the central theme the Chronicler emphasizes regarding Solomon's kingship?

The Chronicler emphasizes that Solomon's kingship, although significant, is primarily a representation of God's eternal kingdom, fulfilling the promise God made to David through Nathan. It's not Solomon's personal kingdom or power but a divinely appointed role to rule on the throne of the kingdom of God. Solomon's reign symbolizes a kingdom that transcends earthly empires.

2. How does Psalm 2 relate to the Chronicler's portrayal of Solomon's kingdom?

Psalm 2 serves as a foundational text for understanding the Chronicler's perspective. It highlights the futility of earthly kingdoms that oppose God and His anointed king. Solomon, as a representative of God's kingdom, embodies the promise in Psalm 2 that God's chosen ruler will ultimately prevail over the nations. The Psalm underscores the importance of worshipping the Son (representing God's kingdom) and being wise, lest one perishes in their own way.

3. What instructions and preparations did David make for Solomon's rule?

David provided Solomon with detailed plans for building the temple, including its structure and purpose, and assembled the necessary materials. More importantly, David emphasized that Solomon's role was to follow these instructions diligently and to ensure the temple was built to represent the worship of God. David stressed that Solomon was chosen to rule in God's kingdom, not his own, and must remember this throughout his reign.

4. According to the Chronicler, what is the significance of the temple in Solomon's kingdom?

The temple is paramount. It's not just a building but a central place of worship and a tangible representation of God's kingdom on Earth. The temple, with its music and holy place, symbolizes the testimony and worship of God. How the people worship in the temple reflects the nature and character of their kingdom to the world.

5. How does the Chronicler's account of Solomon's ascension to the throne differ from the account in the Book of Kings?

The Chronicler focuses on the divine aspect of Solomon's kingship. The Chronicler omits the politically messy circumstances described in 1 Kings, such as Adonijah's attempted coup and the intrigue surrounding David's succession. Instead, the Chronicler portrays David giving a clear charge and blessing to Solomon and establishing him on the throne, emphasizing God's promise and plan being fulfilled.

6. What is the Chronicler's message to the people of Yehudah, and how does it relate to Solomon's kingdom?

The Chronicler's message is to remind the people of Yehudah of their true identity and heritage as Israel, the nation representing God's kingdom. They shouldn't be preoccupied with the power of surrounding empires, but rather focus on worshipping God and knowing that He is their King. Solomon's kingdom serves as a reminder that their significance comes from their relationship with God, not from earthly power or statehood.

7. What sources did the Chronicler use to construct the account of David and Solomon?

The Chronicler used a combination of records, including those also found in the Book of Kings, but interpreted them through a prophetic lens. While the Chronicler refers to "royal records," it appears these were often prophetic records which provided critical analysis of the kingdom and kings. The Chronicler added detail and emphasis to present a specific theological perspective on the events.

8. What can modern readers learn from the Chronicler's account of Solomon becoming king?

Modern readers can learn that true significance comes from being part of God's kingdom, which transcends earthly powers and empires. Like the people of Yehudah, believers should not be consumed by the fleeting powers of this world but rather focus on worshipping God and representing His kingdom through their lives. The Chronicler calls people to remember their identity in God above all other titles and affiliations.