LESSONS THIS QUARTER
1) 05 Dec 1 Kings 1:1-4, What Money Can’t Buy
2) 12 Dec 1 Kings 5-9a, Why Prayer Deserves Priority
3) 19 Dec Mat 1-2, Worship the King of Kings
4) 26 Dec 1 Kings 9b-11, Where Compromise Takes You
5) 02 Jan 1 Kings 12-16a, Anatomy of a Grave Decision
6) 09 Jan 1 Kings 16b-22, A Hill on Which to Stand
7) 16 Jan 2 Kings 21-23, Building a Culture for Life
8) 23 Jan 2 Kings 1-5, Sick of Greed?
9) 30 Jan 2 Kings 6-8, Right Not to Remain Silent
10) 06 Feb 2 Kings 9-10, Danger! Unbridled Passion
11) 13 Feb 2 Kings 11-17, U-Turn Here–And Now!
12) 20 Feb 2 Kings 18-20, Got to Have Hope
13) 27 Feb 2 Kings 23-25, Keep Hope Alive

INTRODUCTION
- Sometimes it is hard to keep 1&2 Samuel, 1&2 Kings and 1&2 Chronicles straight. Here’s a short synopsis of each:
  • 1 Samuel – King Saul’s reign
  • 2 Samuel – King David’s reign
  • 1 Kings – Judean Kings Solomon to Jehoshaphat & Elijah
  • 2 Kings – Judean & Israelite Kings with Prophet Elisha
  • 1 Chronicles – Recap of David’s reign (author Ezra)
  • 2 Chronicles – Recap of Judean Kings Solomon-Zedekiah

PASSAGE

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| 1 Kings 1:1-4 | King David’s Final Years
- What a retirement plan. He gets to sleep with the prettiest lady in town – but he’s too old to enjoy.
- Abishag was a Shunammite from Shunem, a city of Issachar (#Jos 19:18). It is now called Sulam.
- Polygamy was allowed according to Jewish law, & by God’s accommodation to sin (also divorce). Polygamy stopped after the Babylonian captivity.
- Jesus would clarify marriage from the beginning of creation as 1 man to 1 woman for life.
- everything else adulterates God’s original plan.
- The importance of Abishag is revealed in Chap 2. |
| 1:5-10 | Special Characters to Remember
- Adonijah – Son #4, mother was Haggith, was in line to the throne since 3 older brothers were dead (Amnon, Chileab [assumed dead], & Absalom). His dad, King David, never rebuked him (v6).
- Do you think this will cause issues later?
- Joab – King David’s nephew and commander in chief, who saved David’s bacon numerous times, was a thorn in David’s flesh.
- Abiathar – A faithful priest to King David up to this point. He didn’t think things through nor consider the consequences of his actions. |
| 1:11-27 | Prophet Nathan and Queen Bathsheba Conspire
- Similar story how Isaac’s wife Rebekah and son Jacob conspired to steal Esau’s birthright from an old man.
- Couldn’t God put Solomon on David’s throne as promised without the Bathsheba/Nathan drama?
- How many times do we bypass God and take matters into our own hands? Are we better off? |
| 2:1-46 | Adonijah – Solomon has him killed for asking to marry his dad’s mistress, Abishag – which could play out later for another run on the throne.
- Joab – Solomon had him killed for treason.
- Abiathar – Solomon retires him from high priest.

CONCLUSION/APPLICATIONS:
- How can we get some of God’s wisdom to get through life?
- Before making life-changing decisions we should ask God for His wisdom and consider any consequences.
- Besides just asking for wisdom, do we need to be obedient?

SUPPORTING PASSAGES:
Jas 1:5 If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him.

NEXT WEEK: 1 Kings 5-8. Highlights of Solomon’s reign.