

GOD'S MASTERWORK, VOLUME TWO
THE STORY OF GOD'S PEOPLE—A SURVEY OF JOSHUA–ESTHER
1 AND 2 CHRONICLES: REASSURANCE FOR A REMNANT
A SURVEY OF 1 AND 2 CHRONICLES



The Heart of the Matter

“What a waste!” That’s the common response of a novice when the Chronicles are opened. At first glance, the books seem boring, tedious, and needless. Even after wading through nine chapters of genealogies, the remaining sections appear redundant and dry—a little like spending the afternoon reading telephone listings or searching the holdings of your public library. But God preserved these books. With meticulous care, He watched over their composition and preservation. To bore us? *Never!* Somehow, He is pleased to have this account on record for reasons not obvious to most. In this study, we shall discover how essential these incidentals really are.



Discovering the Way

1. Name the Books

We can glean an understanding of what the book holds from the three different names it holds—one in Hebrew, one in Greek, and one in Latin.

2. Authorship and Place in Sacred Canon

Ezra penned the books of Chronicles and, chronologically, they close the Old Testament canon.

3. Outline and Object of the Chronicles

The Chronicles show us God’s view of history, they encourage obedience in God’s people, and they warn against disobedience.



Starting Your Journey

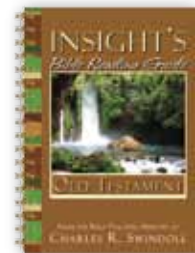
Four key lessons arise from our study of 1 and 2 Chronicles. First, there are two forces continually at work—tender compassion of God and tough rebellion of humanity. Second, being at the end of God’s patience is a fearful experience. Third, living outside the blessing of God is best described in one word—*desolation*. And, finally, even though our consciences may say “forget it,” the Chronicles say “remember.”



Tools for Digging Deeper



**God's Masterwork
Volume Two
The Story of God's
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of Joshua–Esther**
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FIRST AND SECOND CHRONICLES

1 Chronicles			2 Chronicles		
God's View: Chosen			... and Preserved		
CONSECRATION	GENEALOGIES	SAUL	DAVID AND THE TEMPLE	SOLOMON The King	JUDAH The Nation
	CHAPTERS 1–9	CHAPTER 10	CHAPTERS 11–29	CHAPTERS 1–9	CHAPTERS 10–36
Process	Little made great			Great becoming little	
Emphasis	Personal determination			National deterioration	
History	Creation of world to creation of kingdom			Solomon's temple to rebuilding of the temple	
Theme	The temple—the structural state of the temple corresponds to the spiritual state of the people.				
Key Verses	1 Chronicles 17; 29:10–13; 2 Chronicles 7:12–22; 16:9				
Christ in Chronicles	Christ is foretold in the Davidic Covenant (1 Chronicles 17) and prefigured in the idealized kings David and Solomon; also the ark and the temple typify Christ's power and presence with us.				

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