

*RBCPC*  
*2011 Study Series*



*Week #7*  
*Study Guide*

1 & 2 Chronicles

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## **Overview**

The books of Chronicles cover much of the same time period as the books of Kings, from Kings David and Solomon, the building of the temple in Jerusalem, the following series of kings turning the people away from God, the division of the kingdom, and the destruction of Jerusalem by the Babylonians and the eventual exile of the people. The difference lies in perspective as Chronicles was written after the Israelites returned from Babylonian exile. The focus has shifted from the political value of the kingdom to the spiritual value, reflecting an awareness of their dependence on God.

## **Scripture Study – Key Passages**

Open your Bible and read the following passages:

### **1 Chronicles 1-9**

1. Why was it important for the people of God to record their genealogies?
2. What value would this knowledge have to the people as they returned from exile?
3. How might it affect the way they reestablished their lives in Judah?
4. What do you think is God's purpose in recording this genealogy?

### **1 Chronicles 21:1-6**

1. Why did David take the census?
2. Why was taking this census a sin against the Lord?
3. How did Joab manage to obey David while remaining faithful to God?
4. Who was punished for David's sin?
5. How does your own sin affect others?

### **2 Chronicles 33:10-13**

1. What did God do to punish Manasseh for his evil ways?
2. How did Manasseh react to his punishment?
3. How did Manasseh show his need for God?
4. In his forgiveness of Manasseh, what attributes of God are revealed?
5. How might this story carry a message of *hope* to the people of Judah?

## **Key Concepts**

1. God's stability and faithfulness is revealed through the genealogies.
2. God punishes the kings, as well as the people, for unfaithfulness.
3. God's blessing will always follow the people's repentance.
4. The kingdom will prosper only when the political king is dependent on God.

Discuss these concepts in relation to: the disobedience of the kings, the fall of the kingdom, the exile of the people, and the return to Jerusalem.

## **Reflection**

In **2 Chronicles 7:14**, God speaks to Solomon, *“if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.”* Have you heard God say this before? Why do you think the people of God fail to listen, over and over again?

## **Prayer**

### **1 Chronicles 4:10**

*Jabez cried out to the God of Israel, “Oh, that you would bless me and enlarge my territory! Let your hand be with me, and keep me from harm so that I will be free from pain.” And God granted his request.*

Jabez pleads with God to move his life beyond the meaning of his name and the painful circumstances of his birth. Do you feel you are responding to someone else’s expectations and not to God’s?

1. Pray for God’s guidance as you seek to lead your life according to His plan for you.
2. Pray for someone you know that is suffering from physical, emotional, or spiritual, pain.

## **Homework**

Read **1 Chronicles 13:7-13**, in preparation for the sermon on Feb. 26/27, *“The Difference between Inconvenient and Indispensable is Intention.”* Mark words, or phrases, that stand out to you.

## **Notes & Reflections:**

