OLD TESTAMENT · HISTORY · BOOK 13 OF 66

1 Chronicles

Seek His face continually (16:11)

29	Ezra	c. 1010–970 B.C.	Written
Chapters, 942 Verses	The Scribe	The Reign of David	c. 450–430 B.C.

STRUCTURE

The Book in Four Parts

Nine chapters of **genealogies** (1–9) show that God kept His people; twenty chapters on **David** (10–29) show His promise and His house.



Each bar shows that part's share of the 942 verses.

I · 1:1–4:23 · 156 verses

Adam to Judah

The patriarchs, the sons of Israel, and the line of David.

II · 4:24–9:44 · 251 verses

The Tribes

Every tribe remembered, and the exiles who came home.

III · 10–16 · 204 verses

David and the Ark

Saul's end, David crowned, and the ark brought up.

IV · 17–29 · 331 verses

The Covenant and the Temple

God's promise, the temple site, and David's charge.

1 CHRONICLES 1–3

From Adam to David

The genealogies follow the line of promise, generation by generation.

1:1
Adam
"Adam, Sheth, Enosh"

1:4
Noah
and his sons Shem, Ham and Japheth

1:27–28
Abraham
Abram, "the same is Abraham"

2:1–2
Israel
the twelve sons of Jacob

2:3; 5:2
Judah
"Judah prevailed above his brethren"

2:12–15
Jesse
father of David, the seventh son

3:1–9
David
and his sons born in Hebron and Jerusalem

3:17–19
Zerubbabel
the line of kings kept through the exile

Matthew 1 and Luke 3 carry the same line forward to Jesus Christ, "the son of David, the son of Abraham" (Matthew 1:1).

1 CHRONICLES 4:9–10

The Prayer of Jabez

In the middle of the lists of names, one man is remembered for his prayer.

> *"Oh that Thou wouldest bless me indeed, and enlarge my coast, and that Thine hand might be with me, and that Thou wouldest keep me from evil, that it may not grieve me! And God granted him that which he requested."*
>
> 1 Chronicles 4:10 (KJV)

5:20
They Cried to God
The tribes east of Jordan won "because they put their trust in Him."

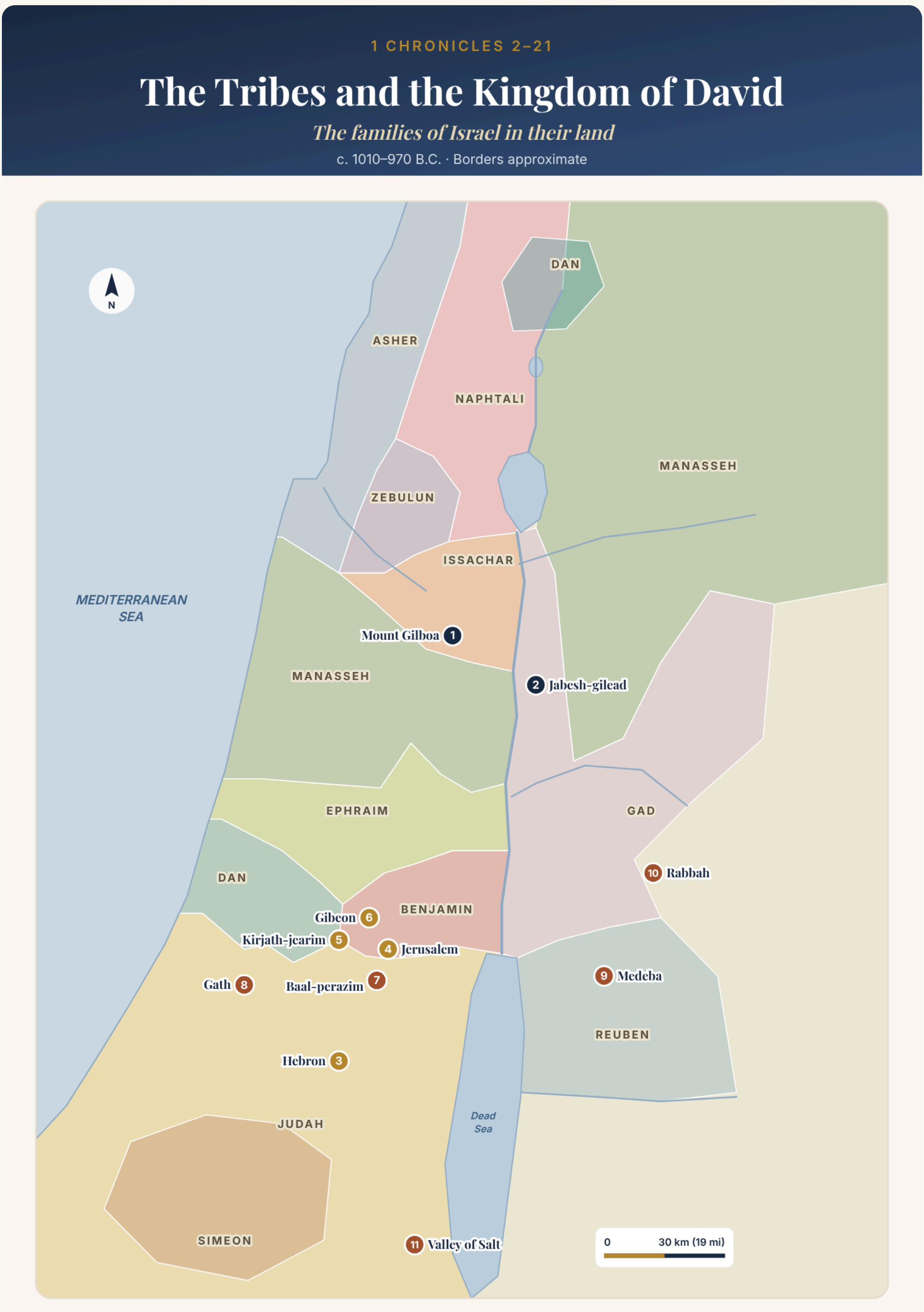
5:25–26
They Transgressed
The same tribes later went after other gods and were carried away.

The Tribes and the Kingdom of David

MAP

The Tribes and the Kingdom of David

The tribes of the genealogies in their lands, and the places of chapters 10–21. Navy markers belong to Saul’s end, gold to David and the ark, and rust to David’s wars. The numbers match the cards below.



- **Saul’s end** — Chapter 10
- **David, the ark and the temple site** — Chapters 11–16, 21
- **David’s wars** — Chapters 14, 18–20
- **The tribes** — Their lands as given in Joshua 13–19

“So David waxed greater and greater: for the LORD of hosts was with him.”

1 CHRONICLES 11:9 (KJV)

Tribal borders and several sites are approximate.

BibleStudyForAll.com · Map positions approximate · Scripture from the King James Version

1 10:1–8

Mount Gilboa

Saul’s end. Saul and his sons fall before the Philistines.

2 10:11–12

Jabesh-gilead

Saul’s end. Valiant men bury the bones of Saul and his sons.

3 11:1–3; 12:23–40

Hebron

David and the ark. All Israel anoints David king, “with a perfect heart.”

4 11:4–9; 15–16; 21:18–22:1

Jerusalem

David and the ark. Zion taken; the ark brought up with joy; Ornan’s threshing floor chosen for the temple.

5 13:5–6

Kirjath-jearim

David and the ark. David goes to bring up the ark from here.

6 16:39–40; 21:29

Gibeon

David and the ark. The tabernacle of the LORD and the altar of burnt offering.

7 14:8–12

Baal-perazim

David’s wars. “God hath broken in upon mine enemies.”

8 18:1; 20:4–8

Gath

David’s wars. Taken from the Philistines; the giants of Gath fall.

9 19:7

Medeba

David’s wars. The Ammonites and their hired Syrian chariots gather.

10 20:1–3

Rabbah

David’s wars. Joab takes the royal city of the Ammonites.

11 18:12–13

Valley of Salt

David’s wars. Abishai slays eighteen thousand Edomites.

David King, the Ark Brought Home, and God's Covenant with David

1 CHRONICLES 11–12

David King over All Israel

All Israel came to Hebron "with a perfect heart" to make David king.

1 11:1–3
Anointed at Hebron
"Thou shalt feed My people Israel."

2 11:4–9
Zion Taken
Joab goes up first; it becomes the city of David.

3 11:17–19
Water from Bethlehem
David pours it out to the LORD.

4 11:22–23
Benaiah
Slew a lion in a pit in a snowy day.

5 12:22
A Great Host
Day by day men came to help David.

6 12:32
Men of Issachar
"Understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do."

1 CHRONICLES 13–16

The Ark Brought Home

David's first act as king was to bring back the ark of God. The first attempt failed; the second followed God's word.

THE FIRST ATTEMPT (13)	THE SECOND ATTEMPT (15)
A new cart, like the Philistines 13:7	**Carried on the Levites' shoulders, "as Moses commanded"** 15:15
Uzza touches the ark and dies 13:9–10	**"We sought Him not after the due order"** 15:13
The ark left with Obed-edom three months 13:13–14	**Brought up with singers, harps and trumpets** 15:16, 28

> *"Give thanks unto the LORD, call upon His name, make known His deeds among the people."*
> 1 Chronicles 16:8 (KJV)

1 CHRONICLES 17

God's Covenant with David

David wanted to build God a house; God promised to build David a house, a kingdom that would last for ever.

17:1–4
Not You
"Thou shalt not build Me an house to dwell in."

17:10
The LORD Will Build
"The LORD will build thee an house."

17:11–12
Thy Seed
"I will raise up thy seed after thee … and I will stablish his throne for ever."

17:16
Who Am I?
David sits before the LORD in wonder.

1 CHRONICLES 17:14
For Ever
"But I will settle him in Mine house and in My kingdom for ever: and his throne shall be established for evermore." The angel told Mary, "the Lord God shall give unto Him the throne of His father David" (Luke 1:32).

The Temple Prepared and David's Prayer of Praise

1 CHRONICLES 21–29

The Temple Prepared

David could not build the temple, but he gave everything to prepare for it.

1 21:24

The Threshing Floor

"I will not … offer burnt offerings without cost."

2 22:1

The Place Chosen

"This is the house of the LORD God."

3 22:5

Materials Gathered

Gold, silver, brass, iron, cedar and stone in abundance.

4 23–26

Courses of Service

Levites, priests, singers and porters set in order.

5 28:11–12

The Pattern

David gives Solomon the plan, "by the spirit."

6 29:9

Willing Hearts

"The people rejoiced, for that they offered willingly."

The threshing floor of Ornan is on Mount Moriah (2 Chronicles 3:1), where Abraham offered Isaac (Genesis 22:2).

1 CHRONICLES 29:10–19

David's Prayer of Praise

At the end of his life David blessed the LORD before all the congregation.

1 CHRONICLES 29:11

Thine Is the Kingdom

"Thine, O LORD, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for all that is in the heaven and in the earth is Thine; Thine is the kingdom, O LORD, and Thou art exalted as head above all."

> *"For all things come of Thee, and of Thine own have we given Thee."*
>
> 1 Chronicles 29:14 (KJV)

Christ in 1 Chronicles, Key Themes and Key Verse

LOOKING FORWARD

Christ in 1 Chronicles

The genealogies, the covenant and the temple all lead to Jesus Christ.

1–3 · MATTHEW 1:1

The Son of David

The line of promise from Adam through David comes to Jesus.

17:11–14 · HEBREWS 1:5

God's Son

"I will be His Father, and He shall be My son" is applied to Christ.

21:18–26 · 1 PETER 1:18–19

The Costly Sacrifice

David would not give what cost him nothing; we are redeemed "with the precious blood of Christ."

29:11 · MATTHEW 6:13

Thine Is the Kingdom

David's praise echoes in the prayer Jesus taught.

BIG IDEAS

Key Themes

Seek the LORD

Seek His face continually.

16:11; 22:19; 28:9

God Keeps His People

Every family remembered by name.

1–9

Worship

The ark, the singers and the house of God.

15–16; 23–26

The Covenant with David

A throne established for ever.

17:11–14

Obedience in Worship

Seek God "after the due order."

15:13

Giving Willingly

All things come of Thee.

29:9, 14

Answered Prayer

God granted Jabez his request.

4:10; 5:20

A Perfect Heart

Serve God with a willing mind.

28:9; 29:19

God Is King

Thine is the kingdom, O LORD.

29:11–12

KEY VERSE

"Seek the LORD and His strength, seek His face continually."

1 Chronicles 16:11 (KJV)