OLD TESTAMENT · HISTORY · BOOK 14 OF 66

2 Chronicles

If My people shall humble themselves (7:14)

36	Ezra	c. 970–538 B.C.	20 Kings
Chapters, 822 Verses	The Scribe	Solomon to Cyrus	Of Judah

STRUCTURE

The Book in Four Parts

Solomon's **temple** (1–9) and then the **kings of Judah**, weighed by whether they sought the LORD (10–36).



Each bar shows that part's share of the 822 verses.

I 1–9 · 201 verses

Solomon

Wisdom given, the temple built, the glory of the LORD.

II 10–20 · 229 verses

Seeking God

The kingdom divides; Abijah, Asa and Jehoshaphat.

III 21–28 · 167 verses

Decline

Athaliah and Joash, Amaziah, Uzziah and Ahaz.

IV 29–36 · 225 verses

Revival and Exile

Hezekiah, Manasseh, Josiah, the fall, and Cyrus.

DATES B.C. (APPROXIMATE)

From Solomon to Cyrus

About 430 years of Judah's history, from the temple built to the temple decreed again.

3:1–2
966
Temple begun on mount Moriah

10:16–19
c. 930
The kingdom divides

20:20–24
c. 853
Jehoshaphat's victory with praise

26:16–21
c. 750
Uzziah struck with leprosy

30:1–27
c. 715
Hezekiah's great passover

35:1–19
622
Josiah's passover

36:19
586
Jerusalem and the temple burned

36:22–23
538
Cyrus: "let him go up"

2 CHRONICLES 2–7

The Temple and the Glory

Solomon built a house for the name of the LORD, and God filled it with His glory.

1 1:10
Wisdom and Knowledge
Solomon asks for these to lead God's people.

2 3:1
Mount Moriah
Built where the LORD appeared to David.

3 5:13–14
The Cloud
As the singers praised, "the house was filled with a cloud."

4 6:18
Heaven Cannot Contain Thee
Solomon's prayer of dedication.

5 7:1
Fire from Heaven
The fire consumes the sacrifices.

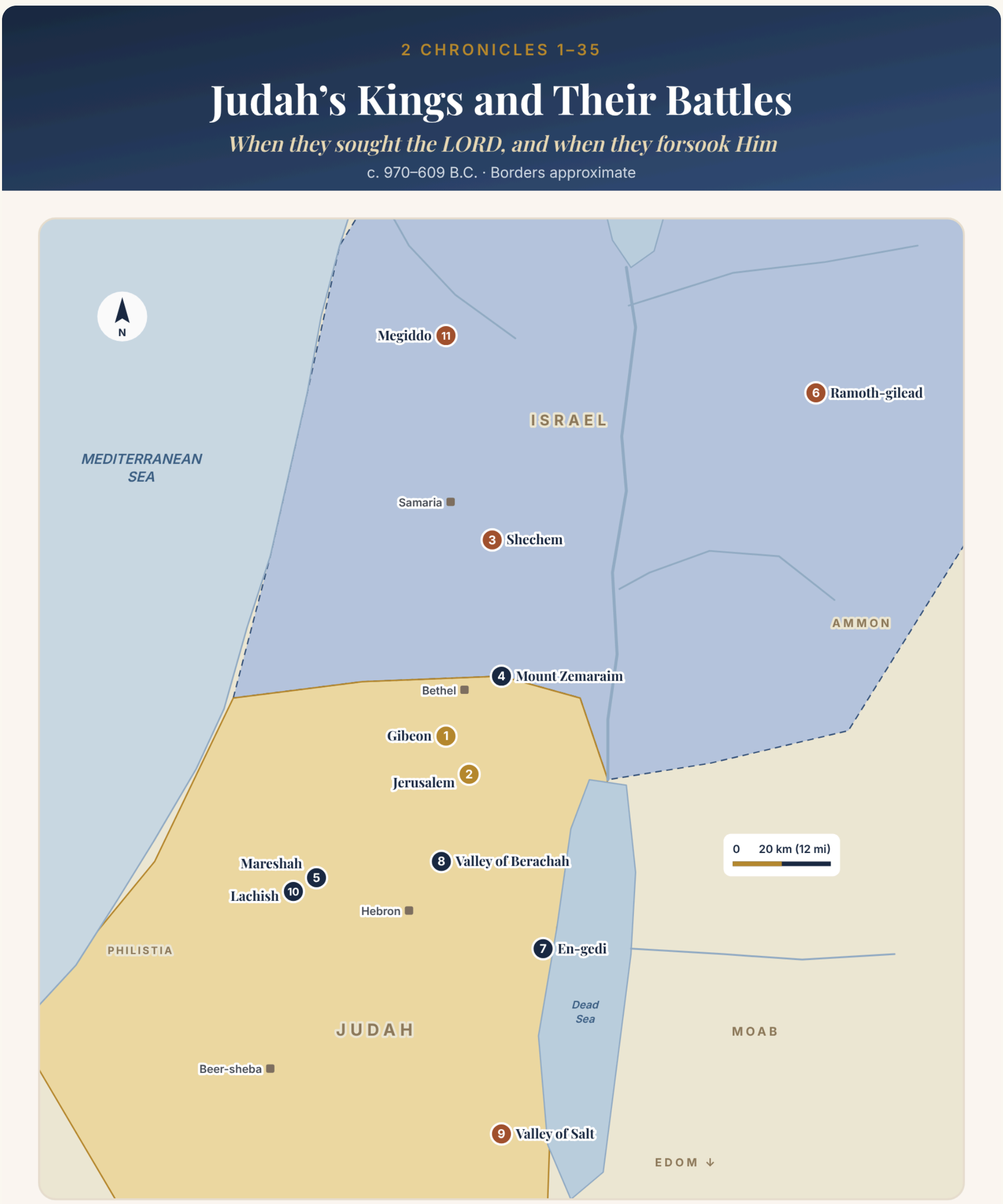
6 7:3
For His Mercy
"For He is good; for His mercy endureth for ever."

Judah’s Kings and Their Battles

MAP

Judah’s Kings and Their Battles

The places of 2 Chronicles. Gold markers belong to Solomon and the temple, navy to kings who sought the LORD and were helped, and rust to times they forsook Him. The numbers match the cards below.



Solomon and the temple
Chapters 1–9, 29–36

They sought the LORD
Chapters 13–14, 20, 32

They forsook Him
Chapters 10, 18, 25, 35

Judah (gold), Israel (blue)
After the division (10:19)

“Believe in the LORD your God, so shall ye be established.”

2 CHRONICLES 20:20 (KJV)

Borders and several sites are approximate.

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

1 1:3–13

Gibeon

Solomon and the temple. Solomon asks for “wisdom and knowledge.”

2 3:1; 5–7; 29–30; 36:19

Jerusalem

Solomon and the temple. The temple built on mount Moriah; Hezekiah’s great passover; the city burned.

3 10:1–19

Shechem

They forsook Him. Israel turns from Rehoboam: “every man to your tents.”

4 13:4–18

Mount Zemaraim

They sought the LORD. Abijah: “God Himself is with us for our captain.”

5 14:9–15

Mareshah

They sought the LORD. Asa cries to the LORD, and the Ethiopians flee.

6 18:28–34

Ramoth-gilead

They forsook Him. Jehoshaphat joins Ahab in battle; Ahab is slain.

7 20:1–2

En-gedi

They sought the LORD. Moab, Ammon and mount Seir gather against Judah.

8 20:20–26

Valley of Berachah

They sought the LORD. The singers go first; the enemy is destroyed; “Berachah,” blessing.

9 25:11–14

Valley of Salt

They forsook Him. Amaziah smites Edom, then bows to Edom’s gods.

10 11:9; 32:9

Lachish

They sought the LORD. Fortified by Rehoboam; Sennacherib’s camp when he threatens Jerusalem.

11 35:20–24

Megiddo

They forsook Him. Josiah goes out against Pharaoh Necho and is slain.

God’s Answer to Solomon and the Kings of Judah

2 CHRONICLES 7:12–22

God’s Answer to Solomon

The LORD appeared to Solomon by night with the promise that sums up the whole book.

2 CHRONICLES 7:14

If My People

“If My people, which are called by My name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.”

HUMBLE

Humble Yourselves

Rehoboam, Hezekiah, Manasseh, Josiah

PRAY

Pray

Asa, Jehoshaphat, Hezekiah

SEEK

Seek My Face

“Seek” is the book’s key word

TURN

Turn from Sin

Idols broken, the house cleansed

2 CHRONICLES 10–36

The Kings of Judah

Twenty rulers sat on David’s throne in Jerusalem, from Rehoboam to Zedekiah. Chronicles gives most space to the kings who sought the LORD.

THEY SOUGHT THE LORD	THEY FORSOOK HIM
Asa: “LORD, it is nothing with Thee to help” 14:11	**Asa later relies on the king of Syria and on physicians** 16:7, 12
Jehoshaphat: “our eyes are upon Thee” 20:12	**Jehoram walks in the ways of Ahab** 21:6
Joash repairs the house of the LORD 24:4	**Joash slays Zechariah the prophet** 24:20–22
Uzziah: “as long as he sought the LORD, God made him to prosper” 26:5	**Uzziah, lifted up, burns incense and is struck** 26:16–19
Hezekiah opens the doors of the house of the LORD 29:3	**Ahaz shuts up the doors of the house of the LORD** 28:24

2 CHRONICLES AT A GLANCE · PART 4 OF 5

Jehoshaphat, Hezekiah and Manasseh

2 CHRONICLES 20

The Battle Is Not Yours

When a great army came against Judah, Jehoshaphat called a fast and prayed, and God fought for His people.

1 20:3

He Feared and Sought

“Jehoshaphat feared, and set himself to seek the LORD.”

2 20:12

Our Eyes Are upon Thee

“Neither know we what to do.”

3 20:15

God’s Battle

“The battle is not yours, but God’s.”

4 20:20

Believe

“Believe in the LORD your God, so shall ye be established.”

5 20:21–22

Singers in Front

As they began to praise, the LORD set ambushments.

6 20:26

Berachah

The valley of blessing.

2 CHRONICLES 29–32

Hezekiah’s Revival

In the first month of his reign, Hezekiah opened the doors of the house of the LORD.

29:3–19

Cleansed

The house of the LORD made clean

29:20–36

Worship

Sacrifices and singing restored

30:1–27

Passover

All Israel invited; great joy

32:20–22

Delivered

An angel cuts off the Assyrians

> *“With him is an arm of flesh; but with us is the LORD our God to help us, and to fight our battles.”*
>
> 2 Chronicles 32:8 (KJV)

2 CHRONICLES 33

Manasseh Humbled

Judah’s most wicked king was taken in chains to Babylon, and there he humbled himself. Only Chronicles tells this story of grace.

33:1–9

Great Evil

Altars to Baal, an idol in God’s house, his children through the fire.

33:11

Taken in Chains

The Assyrian captains bind him and carry him to Babylon.

33:12–13

He Humbled Himself

“Then Manasseh knew that the LORD He was God.”

33:15–16

Repentance Shown

He removes the idols and repairs the altar of the LORD.

Christ in 2 Chronicles, Key Themes and Key Verse

LOOKING FORWARD

Christ in 2 Chronicles

The temple, the throne of David and the promise of return all find their fulfilment in Jesus.

5:14 · JOHN 1:14

The Glory Dwells

The cloud filled the temple; “the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld His glory ...).”

6:18 · MATTHEW 1:23

God with Us

Heaven cannot contain God, yet He came as Emmanuel.

24:20–21 · LUKE 11:51

The Blood of Zacharias

Jesus named this martyr at the close of the Hebrew Bible.

36:23 · LUKE 1:32

David’s Throne

Cyrus let the people go up; the Son of David will reign for ever.

BIG IDEAS

Key Themes

Seek the LORD

Those who sought Him prospered.

15:2; 26:5

Humble Yourselves

God hears the humble.

7:14; 33:12–13

Prayer

Our eyes are upon Thee.

14:11; 20:12

Worship

Praise, singing and the passover.

5:13; 30:21

God’s House

The temple at the heart of the nation.

7:16

Trust, Not Alliances

Rely on the LORD, not on kings.

16:7–9

God Watches the Heart

His eyes run to and fro.

16:9

Grace to the Repentant

Even Manasseh was restored.

33:12–13

Hope After Exile

The LORD stirred up Cyrus.

36:22–23

KEY VERSE

“If My people, which are called by My name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.”

2 Chronicles 7:14 (KJV)