

1 Chronicles 1-2:
Adam – The Genealogy of Judah

Lesson 1

Key Verse

Finally, my brethren, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things to you, to me
indeed *is* not grievous, but for you *it is* safe.

—Philippians 3:1

Key Verse Thought: Read today's key verse. In this lesson, we will remember many people we have studied before – ones we cannot forget!

Emphasis: We are to never tire of remembering God's people, and what He did for them (and does for us today)!

Lesson Summary: It is important, upon occasion, to take a minute and stop to remember. In this lesson, as we begin the book of 1 Chronicles, we can see it begins with the genealogy from Adam – which is basically a time of remembering back to what God had done. Oftentimes we find the genealogies mundane and boring. As we go through the first chapter of 1 Chronicles, try to see the genealogy from a different perspective. It can be fascinating if you are able to recognize names, which in turn causes a remembering of great events in history. Be encouraged to look at genealogies from this perspective. Now that we have studied many great men and women in history, we should be able to read through these genealogies with much fascination.

One important reason that the books of the Chronicles were kept was to accurately record the lineage of the Israelites – to reveal to mankind with great assurance that Jesus was the rightful heir to the throne of David.

In our last quarter, we focused on the kings of Israel, the Northern Kingdom. As we continue our study, we will focus on the kings of Judah, the Southern Kingdom. In these lessons, we will look at the books of 1 Kings and 2 Kings along with the additional information about events and people that was not recorded in the records of the kings but in the books of 1 Chronicles and 2 Chronicles. These bits of information will be helpful in better understanding some events. The books of the Chronicles help us consider the spiritual significance of these events. First Chronicles begins with Adam and brings us to the kings of Judah. Especially notice the same struggle mankind has fought since the beginning of time: man's choice. The choice is whether to obey God, or to choose not to obey God. The choice one makes determines one's

standing with God. See an example of man's disobedience and obedience as recorded in First Chronicles:

1. Disobedience brought defeat and destruction: "13. So Saul died for his transgression which he committed against the LORD, *even* against the word of the LORD, which he kept not, and also for asking *counsel* of *one that had* a familiar spirit, to enquire *of it*; 14. And enquired not of the LORD: therefore he slew him, and turned the kingdom unto David the son of Jesse" (1 Chronicles 10:13-14).

2. Obedience brought peace and God's blessing: "12. And they entered into a covenant to seek the LORD God of their fathers with all their heart and with all their soul; 13. That whosoever would not seek the LORD God of Israel should be put to death, whether small or great, whether man or woman. 14. And they sware unto the LORD with a loud voice, and with shouting, and with trumpets, and with cornets. 15. And all Judah rejoiced at the oath: for they had sworn with all their heart, and sought him with their whole desire; and he was found of them: and the LORD gave them rest round about" (1 Chronicles 15:12-15).

As we have learned and will continue to discover, faith in God, repentance, and seeking God with the whole heart (obedience) – not necessarily one's genealogy – will determine one's standing with God.

Suggested Bible Reading to Prepare for This Lesson

- Monday: 1 Chronicles 1
- Tuesday: 1 Chronicles 2
- Wednesday: Proverbs 1
- Thursday: Proverbs 2
- Friday: Proverbs 3
- Saturday: Proverbs 4

1 Chronicles 1-2:

Adam – The Genealogy of Judah

1. Generations from Adam to Noah (1 Chronicles 1:1-23)
 - Adam and his sons
 - Noah and his sons
2. Generations from Shem to Jacob (1 Chronicles 1:24-28)
 - Shem – Abraham
 - Abraham – Israel
3. The Twelve Tribes of Israel (1 Chronicles 1:34; 2:1-2)
 - Jacob's wives
 - Jacob's sons
4. The Lineage of Judah (1 Chronicles 2:3-15)
 - Remembering Achan (Achar)
 - Boaz – David

Note: Because this is a study of the genealogy listed in First Chronicles, use this time to review some of the events we have studied, keeping them familiar. God often recorded an event more than once, or listed the genealogies more than once, to give us a time of remembrance of just what God does for His people. Be encouraged to not be bored with the genealogies, but instead become excited about them as you remember not only the events, but connect those events and the people through these genealogies.

1. Generations from Adam to Noah (1 Chronicles 1:1-23)

Note: *sometimes names are spelled differently in different places in the Bible.*

Today we will begin at the beginning. “**Adam, Sheth, Enosh**” (1 Chronicles 1:1). **Adam** was created by God. Adam and Eve had Cain and Abel. Remember, “4b. ... **the LORD had respect unto Abel and to his offering: 5a. But unto Cain and to his offering he had not respect ...**” (Genesis 4:4-5). It was at this point that Cain rose up and killed his brother Abel. Next, we see, “25. **And Adam knew his wife again; and she bare a son, and called his name Seth: For God, said she, hath appointed me another seed instead of Abel, whom Cain slew. 26. And to Seth, to him also there was born a son; and he called his name Enos: then began men to call upon the name of the LORD**” (Genesis 4:26-26). **Sheth** is Seth (1 Chronicles 1:1). To Seth was born Enos, the same as **Enosh**. Notice what we read – after Enos was born: “... **then began men to call upon the name of the LORD**” (Genesis 4:26).

The next names we vividly recognize. “**Enoch, Methuselah, Lamech,**” (1 Chronicles 1:3). **Enoch** is the same as Enoch in Genesis 4:18-24. One important thing to remember about Enoch is in Genesis 5:24: “**And Enoch walked with God: and he was not; for God took him.**” Enoch was one of only two men to never die, “... **for God took him.**” (Remember the other man was Elijah.) **Methuselah** lived the longest on this earth, 969 years (Genesis 5:27). **Lamech** was the father of Noah.

Noah brings us to 1 Chronicles 1:4: “**Noah, Shem, Ham, and Japheth.**” We remember that the sons of **Noah** were **Shem, Ham, and Japheth**. We must also remember that it is at this time, Genesis chapter 6, that mankind had become exceedingly wicked. God wants to destroy all of His creation because of man’s continual wickedness (Genesis 6:5). “**But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD**” (Genesis 6:8). This is the first extension of grace we read in the Bible. **Grace** means “favor or kindness; as in ‘find favor in the eyes of.’” God was willing to spare one family,

a tremendous showing of grace. Notice that God saw Noah's righteousness even among all of the wickedness. "... For thee have I seen righteous before me in this generation" (Genesis. 7:1b). We considered before the possibility that some of Noah's godly family probably joined him when he began building the ark. While he was building, he must have been warning all of the people around of the coming flood. "And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth *person*, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly" (2 Peter 2:5). You might also remember the faith that it took for Noah to build that ark (remember, it had never rained!). "By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith" (Hebrews 11:7).

Once we reach Shem, Ham, and Japheth, we find that from these three sons of Noah came all of the people of the world after the flood. "These *are* the families of the sons of Noah, after their generations, in their nations: and by these were the nations divided in the earth after the flood" (Genesis 10:32). We can then read the genealogies of these three in 1 Chronicles 1:5-23 (also in Genesis 10:5-32).

A Deeper Path: All of the people we have studied are real people – not made up stories. We must understand that God has been actively involved in history since He created the world. Moreover, God had a purpose for each person He created. Some were not only remembered in the records of the Old Testament, but some were also reiterated in the New Testament – sometimes giving us even more insight into these people's lives. Today we will look at a few scriptures in the New Testament that give us more insight to some of the people we have studied:

- **Adam:** "For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive" (1 Corinthians 15:22). And "13. For Adam was first formed, then Eve. 14. And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression" (1 Timothy 2:13-14).
- **Enoch:** "14. And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints, 15. To execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard *speeches* which ungodly sinners have spoken against him" (Jude 1:14-15).

- **Noah:** “And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth *person*, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly” (2 Peter 2:5).

2. Generations from Shem to Jacob (Israel) (1 Chronicles 1:24-28)

As we come to 1 Chronicles 1:24, we once again see Shem, the son of Noah, and his descendants listed. However, this time, instead of listing all of his sons, and their sons, it becomes more specific. We can begin to trace through one of Shem’s sons, Arphaxad, until we come to, “**Abram; the same *is* Abraham**” (1 Chronicles 1:27). Remember what we learned about Abraham. God called Abraham to leave his home and his kindred to walk the land that God promised would belong to his descendants. Notice: Abraham was 75 years old when God called him. His wife was also old (about 65 – past childbearing age) and they had no children, yet Abraham trusted God’s promise to give the land to his descendants. We read of a promise of Jesus at the time God calls Abraham. “... **And in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed**” (Genesis 12:2-3). Later, God reaffirmed that promise to Abraham because Abraham had obeyed God. “**And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice**” (Genesis 22:18).

We must also remember at this point that God had promised Abraham and Sarah a son in their old age. Keep in mind also that in trying to fulfill God’s plan for that son, Ishmael was born to Abraham (when he was 86 years old) by his wife’s handmaiden, Hagar. “1. **Now Sarai Abram's wife bare him no children: and she had an handmaid, an Egyptian, whose name *was* Hagar.** 2. **And Sarai said unto Abram, Behold now, the LORD hath restrained me from bearing: I pray thee, go in unto my maid; it may be that I may obtain children by her. And Abram hearkened to the voice of Sarai**” (Genesis 16:1-2). However, even though Abraham and Sarah had not waited upon God to fulfill His promise, God still reaffirmed that same promise to them. “19. **And God said, Sarah thy wife shall bear thee a son indeed; and thou shalt call his name Isaac: and I will establish my covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, *and* with his seed after him.** 20. **And as for Ishmael, I have heard thee: Behold, I have blessed him, and will make him fruitful, and will multiply him exceedingly; twelve princes shall he beget, and I will make him a great nation.** 21. **But my covenant will I establish with Isaac, which Sarah shall bear unto thee at this set time in the next year**” (Genesis 17:19-21). Years passed before God fulfilled his promise of a son (Genesis 21:1-8).

See the sons of Abraham listed in I Chronicles 1:28: “The sons of Abraham; Isaac, and Ishmael.” Remember that Isaac was the son of promise – but he was born after Ishmael.

A Deeper Path: Read of the descendants of Ishmael and of Abraham’s sons by Keturah (1 Chronicles 1:29-35 and compare them to Genesis 25). Keturah became Abraham’s wife after Sarah died. Read also of the descendants of Esau (1 Chronicles 1:36-54 and compare them to Genesis 36).

There are many scriptures about **Abraham**. Just consider the following few scriptures in the New Testament that give us more insight into Abraham’s life:

See a couple of the things Jesus revealed about Abraham. “I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob? God is not the God of the dead, but of the living” (Matthew 22:32). And “Your father Abraham rejoiced to see my day: and he saw it, and was glad” (John 8:56).

“For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness” (Romans 4:3).

“And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise” (Galatians 3:29).

“And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called the Friend of God” (James 2:23).

3. The Twelve Tribes of Israel (1 Chronicles 1:34; 2:1-2)

“And Abraham begat Isaac. The sons of Isaac; Esau and Israel” (1 Chronicles 1:34). To remember the events accurately, reread Genesis 27-30. Twin sons were born to Isaac and Rebekah: Esau and Jacob. Remember the animosity between them. After receiving the blessing from their father (remember: Rebecca told Jacob to trick his father by posing as Esau), Jacob had to flee from home for fear his brother, Esau, would kill him. “41. And Esau hated Jacob because of the blessing wherewith his father blessed him: and Esau said in his heart, The days of mourning for my father are at hand; then will I slay my brother Jacob. 42. And these words of Esau her elder son were told to Rebekah: and she sent and called Jacob her younger son, and said unto him, Behold, thy brother Esau, as touching thee, doth comfort himself, *purposing* to kill thee. 43. Now therefore, my son, obey my voice; and arise, flee thou to Laban my brother to Haran” (Genesis 27:41-43). Then his father called Jacob to instruct him. “1. And Isaac called Jacob, and blessed him, and charged him,

and said unto him, Thou shalt not take a wife of the daughters of Canaan. 2. Arise, go to Padanaram, to the house of Bethuel thy mother's father; and take thee a wife from thence of the daughters of Laban thy mother's brother. 3. And God Almighty bless thee, and make thee fruitful, and multiply thee, that thou mayest be a multitude of people; 7. And that Jacob obeyed his father and his mother, and was gone to Padanaram” (Genesis 28:1-3, 7). When Esau wanted to kill Jacob, Jacob fled for his life. He was sent to stay with his mother’s family, away from the Canaanites.

Jacob lived among his mother’s relatives. Once there, he fell in love with Rachel and wanted to marry her. Rachel’s father demanded seven years of labor for his daughter’s hand, but after working for seven years, Rachel’s father tricked Jacob and gave him Rachel’s sister, Leah, instead. Nevertheless, because Jacob loved Rachel, he was willing to work another seven years so Rachel could become his wife. Therefore, he worked seven more years for Rachel. By these women (and their handmaidens), Jacob had twelve sons and at least one daughter (Dinah). After marrying and having many children, he returned to his homeland. On the way, he was faced once again with meeting his brother, Esau. On the night before Jacob met Esau, Jacob made sure his family was a safe distance from any possible threat (remember: Esau had sworn to kill Jacob many years before, which is why Jacob fled). Jacob struggled all that night with a “man” (remember that it was the pre-incarnate Christ), and it was the next morning that Jacob was renamed Israel. “And he said, Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel: for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed” (Genesis 32:28). That is why in First Chronicles the sons of Isaac are listed as Esau and Israel.

Also, remember what we learned about those brothers: Esau chose the things of this world, while Jacob chose to please God.

The sons of Israel (Jacob) are listed. “1. These *are* the sons of Israel; Reuben, Simeon, Levi, and Judah, Issachar, and Zebulun, 2. Dan, Joseph, and Benjamin, Naphtali, Gad, and Asher” (1 Chronicles 2:1-2).

A Deeper Path: See a few of the following scriptures in the New Testament that give us more insight to some of the people we have studied:

Jacob and Esau: “As it is written, Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated” (Romans 9:13).

Esau: “Lest there *be* any fornicator, or profane person, as Esau, who for one morsel of meat sold his birthright” (Hebrews 12:16).

4. The Lineage of Judah (1 Chronicles 2:3-15)

After the sons of Israel (Jacob) are listed, we begin to focus upon one particular son's lineage: Judah. "The sons of Judah ..." (1 Chronicles 2:3a). Read 1 Chronicles 2:3-6 and see if there are any names you recognize as you read. Read I Chronicles 2:7 and note that Achan (from Joshua 7:1) is the same as Achar. "And the sons of Carmi; Achar, the troubler of Israel, who transgressed in the thing accursed" (I Chronicles 2:7). Remember the following: God's people were to conquer the Promised Land after Joshua led them there. The first city was Jericho. God gave specific instructions once they neared Jericho. "17. And the city shall be accursed, *even it*, and all that *are* therein, to the LORD: only Rahab the harlot shall live, she and all that *are* with her in the house, because she hid the messengers that we sent. 18. And ye, in any wise keep *yourselves* from the accursed thing, lest ye make *yourselves* accursed, when ye take of the accursed thing, and make the camp of Israel a curse, and trouble it" (Joshua 6:17-18). God wanted the entire city (except for Rahab and her family) destroyed – for it belonged to God. After the mighty victory at Jericho, God was angry with the children of Israel. All because of one man, Achan. "But the children of Israel committed a trespass in the accursed thing: for Achan, the son of Carmi, the son of Zabdi, the son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, took of the accursed thing: and the anger of the LORD was kindled against the children of Israel" (Joshua 7:1). (Note the instruction in Joshua 6:19: "But all the silver, and gold, and vessels of brass and iron, *are* consecrated unto the LORD: they shall come into the treasury of the LORD.") Achan had sinned against God. One man's sin affected the whole camp of Israel. They were defeated in the battle at Ai (see Joshua 7:2-5). Read Joshua chapter seven to remember the process by which God revealed Achan and his sin. Especially take note of the severe punishment inflicted upon Achan, his family, and even all of his possessions. "24. And Joshua, and all Israel with him, took Achan the son of Zerah, and the silver, and the garment, and the wedge of gold, and his sons, and his daughters, and his oxen, and his asses, and his sheep, and his tent, and all that he had: and they brought them unto the valley of Achor. 25. And Joshua said, Why hast thou troubled us? the LORD shall trouble thee this day. And all Israel stoned him with stones, and burned them with fire, after they had stoned them with stones. 26. And they raised over him a great heap of stones unto this day. So the LORD turned from the fierceness of his anger ..." (Joshua 7:24-26). All because Achan disobeyed God's command (remember Joshua 6:19?). Achan did not even get to look at or enjoy what he had taken because he had to hide it – for he buried it under his tent

(Joshua 7:21). Moreover, as we learned today in our study of the genealogy of the sons of Judah, Achan was forever remembered as “... Achar, the troubler of Israel, who transgressed in the thing accursed” (I Chronicles 2:7).

As we come to 1 Chronicles 2:12, it brings us to a very familiar family. “And Boaz begat Obed, and Obed begat Jesse.” Do you remember Boaz? He was the kinsman redeemer who redeemed Ruth, the Moabitess after her husband died. Remember the following: After Naomi’s husband and both of her sons died while they lived in Moab, she wanted to return to her homeland, Israel. One of her daughters-in-law, Ruth, wanted to go with Naomi. We then see one of the greatest statements of love and faith. “16. And Ruth said, Intreat me not to leave thee, or to return from following after thee: for whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest, I will lodge: thy people *shall be* my people, and thy God my God: 17. Where thou diest, will I die, and there will I be buried: the LORD do so to me, and more also, *if ought* but death part thee and me” (Ruth 1:16-17). Stop for a moment and remember what caused Ruth to feel so strongly. She had lived in a pagan land all of her life. All she had ever known was idol worship. In God’s Word, we see that life apart from God is described as “darkness.” She had seen a glimpse of light. (See Isaiah 9:2: “The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined.”) Ruth recognized she was in a land of darkness (Moab) and the only glimmer of light she had known was leaving. She did not want to lose that. She was willing to give up her homeland, her family, and her false gods – basically everything she was – to become one of God’s people, making the one true God her God. That is a picture of salvation. One must give up everything to become a new creature (“Therefore if any man *be* in Christ, *he is* a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new” 2 Corinthians 5:17.) When Naomi saw she was determined, she took Ruth home with her. Ruth had forsaken her people for God’s people. Once there, Ruth met Boaz – a near relative. Boaz was willing to “redeem” Ruth (marry her). They married, and Ruth had a son they named Obed. Obed was the father of Jesse, the father of David – the future king of Israel, and a man after God’s own heart (see Acts 13:22). Which brings us to 1 Chronicles 2:13-15: “13. And Jesse begat his firstborn Eliab, and Abinadab the second, and Shimma the third, 14. Nethaneel the fourth, Raddai the fifth, 15. Ozem the sixth, David the seventh.” This should bring us to yet another great remembrance.

When God sent Samuel to anoint the next king of Israel, He sent Samuel to Bethlehem. Once there, Samuel called for Jesse and his sons to the sacrifice (for that is the reason Samuel gave to King Saul for the visit to Bethlehem). “*And it came to pass, when they were come, that he looked on Eliab, and said, Surely the LORD’S anointed is before him*” (1 Samuel 16:6). Eliab was the firstborn son. However, do you remember what God told Samuel? “*But the LORD said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart*” (1 Samuel 16:7). After looking at Jesse’s first 7 sons, Samuel knew that God had not chosen any of them. When he asked if Jesse had another son, Jesse called David, the youngest (who took care of his father’s sheep). “*... And the LORD said, Arise, anoint him: for this is he*” (1 Samuel 16:12b).

David became the second king of Israel.

A Deeper Path: Read the list of Jesse’s daughters and their children (see 1 Chronicles 2:16-17), and a listing of more descendants of the tribe of Judah (see 1 Chronicles 2:18-55).

Also, remember what we learned in Genesis. God told the people that the kings (and the Promised One, Jesus) would come from the lineage of Judah. “8. *Judah, thou art he whom thy brethren shall praise: thy hand shall be in the neck of thine enemies; thy father’s children shall bow down before thee.* 9. *Judah is a lion’s whelp: from the prey, my son, thou art gone up: he stooped down, he couched as a lion, and as an old lion; who shall rouse him up?* 10. *The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him shall the gathering of the people be*” (Genesis 49:8-10). Remember that “Shiloh” was referring to Jesus and His coming.

1 Chronicles 1 – 2 at a Glance:

Chapter 1: A listing of the genealogies from Adam thru the sons of Abraham – Isaac (Jacob & Esau) and Ishmael (his 12 sons)

Chapter 2: Genealogies beginning with the 12 sons of Jacob (Israel); Judah’s descendants

Reinforcement: There is something very important to remember about all of these men and women we are remembering today: “*These all died in faith, not having received the promises,*

but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of *them*, and embraced *them*, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth” (Hebrews 11:13). They all looked forward to the promise of Jesus, who was to come. “And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise” (Hebrews 11:39). These men and women of faith died before Jesus was born, yet they understood that God would keep His promise to send One who could take away their sins, restoring the relationship between man and God. They also understood that the life they lived here on this earth was only temporary – for there would be a place where they could go to be with God for eternity.

If these men and women could have this kind of faith in a promise they never saw fulfilled, shouldn't we be more vigilant to live a life pleasing to God – especially since we know God kept His promise and sent His only begotten Son, Jesus. Be encouraged to know the importance of living a life of faith in Jesus – just as all of these people about whom we have been learning in the Bible.

Closing: It would be good to close with a short prayer reinforcing today's lesson. Always include any prayer requests you may have. *Today pray that we remember what God has done in the lives of the people in the Bible. Pray we will know that God still works in our lives today.*