

8—A Kingdom of Priests

Keys to the Kingdom

2 Chronicles 31

1. Themes from the Priestly (P) Source/Redactor

- A. Remembrance—Lists and Genealogies
- B. Restoration—Redemption of the Davidic kings
- C. “All Israel”—Northern kingdom all but ignored
- D. Levites—Focus on the Temple, Tithes, and Feasts

2. The Chronicler rewrites Samuel/Kings after the Exile

Uzzah's Death	
2 Samuel 6:7 <i>The Lord's anger burned against Uzzah because of his irreverent act; therefore God struck him down, and he died there beside the ark of God.</i>	1 Chronicles 15:13 <i>"It was because you, the Levites, did not bring it up the first time that the Lord our God broke out in anger against us. We did not inquire of him about how to do it in the prescribed way."</i>
David's Census	
2 Samuel 24:1 Again the anger of the LORD burned against Israel, and he incited David against them, saying, "Go and take a census of Israel and Judah."	1 Chronicles 21:1 Satan rose up against Israel and incited David to take a census of Israel.
Hezekiah's Pride & Repentance	
2 Kings 20:2 "Remember, Lord, how I have walked before you faithfully and with wholehearted devotion and have done what is good in your eyes."	2 Chronicles 32:26 Then Hezekiah repented of the pride of his heart, as did the people of Jerusalem; therefore the Lord's wrath did not come on them during the days of Hezekiah.
Manasseh's Repentance	
2 Kings 23:26 Nevertheless, the Lord did not turn away from the heat of his fierce anger, which burned against Judah because of all that Manasseh had done to arouse his anger.	2 Chronicles 33:12 In his distress he sought the favor of the Lord his God and humbled himself greatly before the God of his ancestors. And when he prayed to him, the Lord was moved by his entreaty and listened to his plea.

3. In Samuel/Kings but missing in Chronicles

- A. Conflict with House of Saul (2Sam 1-4)
 - 1) David and Michal Saul's daughter (2Sam 6:20-23)
 - 2) David helps Mephibosheth (2Sam 9:1-13)
- B. Adultery with Bathsheba and the fallout (2Sam 11-21)
- C. "David's" psalm of deliverance (2Sam 22:1-51) Yahwist (J)
- D. "David's" last psalm (2Sam 23:1-7) Yahwist (J)
- E. Elijah & Elisha cycles (2Sam 17-21; 2K 1-8,13)
- F. Stories of the Northern kings (2Sam 15-22; 2K 13-15)
 - 1) Fall of Israel (2K 17:1-23) Deuteronomist (Dtr2) 586 BC
 - 2) Resettlement of Israel (2K 17:24-41)
 - 3) Fall of Israel restated (2K 18:1-12) Yahwist (J) & Deut (Dtr1)
 - 4) Remnants flee to Egypt (25:22-26)
 - 5) Jehoiachin released (25:27-30)

4. In Chronicles but missing in Samuel/Kings

- A. The Chronologies (1Chr 1-9)
 - 1) Lists of David's men (1Chr 12)
- B. Ark must be carried by Levites (1Chr 15:1-24)
- C. The Psalm of Asaph (1Chr 16:17-43) Priestly (P)
- D. Hezekiah's reforms
 - 1) Cleanses the temple (2Chr 29:3-19)
 - 2) Restores temple worship (2Chr 29:20-36)
 - 3) Restores Passover (2Chr 30:1-27)
 - 4) Destroys Judah's idols (2Chr 31:1)
 - 5) Organizes the Levites (2Chr 31:2-21)
- E. Proclamation by Cyrus (2Chr 36:22-23) 539 BC
"This is what Cyrus king of Persia says: 'The Lord, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth and he has appointed me to build a temple for him at Jerusalem in Judah. Any of his people among you may go up, and may the Lord their God be with them.'"