

# 2 Chronicles

THE SECOND Book of Chronicles narrates Israel's history as a kingdom. In particular, the reigns of Solomon, and of the later kings in Judah, emphasise the blessings received when the Jews gave glory to God and were faithful.

## The Nation Needs God

2 Chronicles parallels much of 1 & 2 Kings and continues the theme of the first book, showing how the Jews found their greatest blessings when they worshipped God truly and tried to obey His laws.

Instances are highlighted in which the religious zeal of the king, or the people, resulted in victories and in a period of peace, whereas wickedness led only to defeat and trouble. By such means God sought to teach His nation (see for example, 20:22; 26:5; 30:9).

Two kings who were particularly energetic in restoring the true worship of God were Hezekiah (chapters 29–32) and Josiah (chapters 34 and 35).

## The Temple

The early chapters provide details of the small but perfect temple, built to Divine plans, which was erected in the reign of Solomon and lasted 430 years – the period covered by 2 Chronicles.

When it was first built, the temple was temporarily filled with the “glory of the LORD” (7:1–3).

This remarkable event pointed forward to the future Kingdom of God, when His glory will fill the whole earth:

*Truly, as I live, all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the LORD (Numbers 14:21).*

When there is glory to God then, too, there will be peace on earth:

*Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men! (Luke 2:14).*

**Norman Owen**

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### Some interesting links with other parts of the Bible

- ◆ 2 Chronicles 7:1–2 – see Ezekiel 43:4,5; Isaiah 11:9.
- ◆ 2 Chronicles 20:17 – see Exodus 14:13; Psalm 46:10.
- ◆ 2 Chronicles 36:16 – see Jeremiah 25:3,4; Matthew 23:34–39.

