

1 Chronicles 1-10

Good evening church... It is a joy to be here with you... And we welcome those of you watching online as well. Tonight we are going to continue our study through the Old Testament.

Now when you endeavor to take on the task of going through God's Word systematically as we have, there are some less desirable portions of scripture.

Oftentimes a new Christian, just on fire for the Lord, they will zealously set out to read the Bible from Genesis to Revelation.

And they will be doing awesome, and having great enthusiasm as they learn of the 6 day creation account, also the knowledge of how the sin problem entered our world, they are intrigued through Cain and Abel's story, then they get to Chapter 5 and they completely peter out as they get to a long list of names, as the family of Adam is registered in a monotonous list of names.

To our western minds, there is nothing more laborious than reading through a list of hard to pronounce names.

But understand something about God's Word, names matter to God.

The genealogical record holds some very valuable parts to the overall narrative of the Bible.

I refer to this Narrative as the Meta-Narrative.

You see there are many little stories or narratives in the Bible, Sub-Narratives.

But all of the Bible, all of those Sub-Narratives put together, they give us the Meta-Narrative, the overall theme of the Bible.

This Meta-Narrative is one of man's redemption.

The sin problem being solved in One Promised Messiah or Savior.

All of the Bible's main point is Jesus being the solution to our sin problem.

Now we will come back to that idea, but the beginning here of 1 Chronicles is a very laborious reading, as it contains one of the longest portions of genealogies in the scriptures.

But there is good reason for them, and if God thinks they are important we must too take them serious.

The Books of 1 and 2 Chronicles are very similar to what we have studied from 1 and 2 Samuel on through 1 and 2 Kings.

They are not a duplication, but really a different perspective, as we are given more information to the events that we have already studied.

The historian of Chronicles will give us a great deal of detail on the Kings, and will expand upon the narrative in specific instances.

We will see the events of the past four books brought under a microscope, and the details will be enlarged.

As we consider the whole Bible, the Holy Spirit recorded events in this way from Genesis all the way to Revelation.

Think of Genesis, how chapter 1 gives an overview of creation, then as you get to chapter 2, it goes back to the details of the six days of creation, while bringing more depth to the creation of man.

So we tend to get this wide view, then a deeper look at what is taken place within the timeline of that wider view.

Leviticus gives the law, then Deuteronomy gives us a deeper look and interpretation of the law in light of the 40 years of wondering in the wilderness.

And here is 1 and 2 Chronicles the Holy Spirit will inspire more detail of all that He covered in 1 and 2 Samuel and 1 and 2 Kings in order to add details and to highlight important events.

The focus in Chronicles will be primarily the kings of Judah.

David being the prominent coverage of 1 Chronicles and 2 Chronicles will focus on David's decedents on Judah's throne.

After the division of the two kingdoms the focus will be on the Southern Kingdom of Judah.

Many scholars believe that Ezra is the writer of the Chronicles, there is some similarity to his style and language found in the Books of Ezra and Nehemiah.

So, as we consider these things, we look at the opening of the Chronicles, and we might be tempted to skip the first 9 chapters because of the laborious listing of names.

List after list, and our western tongues cannot pronounce the majority of them.

But again we cannot ever forget the Meta-narrative, the Redemption of Mankind.

In the beginning man fell, and failed to live righteously and sinned against God, causing a spiritual separation between man and God.

From Genesis Chapter 3 God begins to explain His plan of Redemption for fallen man, a way back into a relationship with Him.

There is a promise of a Messiah, the first promise of Jesus coming to save man from the clutches of Satan.

Speaking to Satan after the fall, God said this is in...

**Gen 3:15 "And I will put enmity
Between you and the woman,
And between your seed and her Seed;
He shall bruise your head,
And you shall bruise His heel."**

This is the first prophetic promise of Jesus, the Seed born of only a woman, who would come and save man from his rebellion and sin.

The Bible has many genres within it, starting with the Books of the Law, the Books of History (For which we are in now), the Books of Wisdom, the Books of Poetry, the Major and Minor Prophets, the Gospels of the New Testament, the History of the New Testament (which we are studying in Acts on Sunday), then there is the Letters or Epistles, then finally the New Testament Prophecy and Apocalyptic Works.

Within those, there are different styles of writing, many different events covered, hundreds of characters introduced, but understand collectively, all 66 books of the Bible have this Meta-Narrative of man's redemption within them.

And this includes the genealogical record here in Chronicles.

These records are necessary to keep an accurate account of the lineage of Christ so there is no questions or disputes about who He is, and from where He came from.

The study of the genealogy of Jesus in the New Testament is a fascinating study, we have studied both in Matthew and in Luke.

In Matthew's genealogy we have Joseph's, that of the son of Jacob, then in Luke's account we have Joseph being referred to as the son of Heli.

Now, why is there an apparent contradiction.

Well, understand Luke is actually giving us the genealogy of Mary, whereas tradition was to give the man's genealogy.

But Joseph was the son of Heli by marriage only, and in Matthew we have Joseph's actual family line.

Matthew traces his genealogy back to Abraham through David, because the Messiah must be the Son of David and the Son of Abraham to be the fulfillment of Prophecy.

In Mary's genealogy, we see that it is traced back all the way to Adam who is the son of God.

Luke was writing to a Gentile audience where he was emphasizing the point that Jesus was not only Savior to the Jews, but to all of mankind therefor he goes back to Adam.

From Adam to David the Genealogies are the same, but at David the genealogies change.

The reason being that Matthew's lineage, through Joseph the adopted father of Jesus takes us through David's son Solomon.

Luke, with Mary's lineage takes us through David's son Nathan.

And something I would like to point out, because we just learned about this king a few weeks ago.

Matthew's version says this... **Matt 1:11 Josiah begot Jeconiah and his brothers about the time they were carried away to Babylon.**

Remember Jeconiah was a terrible king who did evil in the sight of the Lord, he did hideous things and because of this there was a curse put upon him and his family line.

The prophet Jeremiah gave this dire warning...

Jer. 22:28-30 "Is this man Coniah (Same as Jeconiah) a despised, broken idol — A vessel in which is no pleasure?

**Why are they cast out, he and his descendants,
And cast into a land which they do not know?**

29 O earth, earth, earth,

Hear the word of the Lord!

30 Thus says the Lord:

'Write this man down as childless,

A man who shall not prosper in his days;

For none of his descendants shall prosper,

Sitting on the throne of David,

And ruling anymore in Judah.'"

Now this is important here, because if Jesus was truly the son of Joseph He would have been disqualified from taking David's throne.

He could not have gone against this curse given by God.

But Jesus is only the adoptive son of Joseph, not from his true lineage.

Jesus was the True Son of God, born as the Seed of only a woman, through Mary's lineage, giving Him the right to the throne of David as promised, bypassing Jeconiah altogether.

Jesus is this Seed of woman, He is the King of kings, the Lord of lords, and He came to crush that serpents head and bring salvation to mankind.

I mention all of this to show why the genealogical record is super important.

Now, what we will see here in 1 Chronicles in these various genealogies is that some will just end abruptly, the reason being they do not point to the lineage of Jesus.

Other lineages will continue, and it is fascinating that the Old Testament historians preserved those genealogies that validate the promises of Jesus being the Messiah, who will come from the line of Judah.

So, enough of an introduction here, let's get into it all, we will go through the first 10 chapters tonight of 1 Chronicles.

When I was younger, and I knew I was called to be a pastor, I would come home from work, and read every single name in these lists, and I thought I was doing a noble work in my studies, I thought one day I would have to teach this section and impress the people that were listening to me.

But now that I am older, and more practical, I don't see the value in you all laughing at me as I slaughter these names in my pronunciation.

So I will take it in sections, and we will summarize each section, if you are young and zealous, I encourage you to go home and read these names out loud to yourself tonight.

So starting in chapter 1 from verse 1 to verse 54...

The Family of Adam — Seth to Abraham (Gen 5; 10; 11:10-26; Luke 3:34-38)

1 Adam, Seth, Enosh, 2 Cainan, Mahalalel, Jared, 3 Enoch, Methuselah, Lamech, 4 Noah, Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

5 The sons of Japheth were Gomer, Magog, Madai, Javan, Tubal, Meshech, and Tiras. 6 The sons of Gomer were Ashkenaz, Diphath, and Togarmah. 7 The sons of Javan were Elishah, Tarshishah, Kittim, and Rodanim.

8 The sons of Ham were Cush, Mizraim, Put, and Canaan. 9 The sons of Cush were Seba, Havilah, Sabta, Raama, and Sabtecha. The sons of Raama were Sheba and Dedan. 10 Cush begot Nimrod; he began to be a mighty one on the earth. 11 Mizraim begot Ludim, Anamim, Lehabim, Naphtuhim, 12 Pathrusim, Casluhim (from whom came the Philistines and the Caphtorim). 13 Canaan begot Sidon, his firstborn, and Heth; 14 the Jebusite, the Amorite, and the Girgashite; 15 the Hivite, the Arkite, and the Sinite; 16 the Arvadite, the Zemarite, and the Hamathite.

17 The sons of Shem were Elam, Asshur, Arphaxad, Lud, Aram, Uz, Hul, Gether, and Meshech. 18 Arphaxad begot Shelah, and Shelah begot Eber. 19 To Eber were born two sons: the name of one was Peleg, for in his days the earth was divided; and his brother's name was Joktan. 20 Joktan begot Almodad, Sheleph, Hazarmaveth, Jerah, 21 Hadoram, Uzal, Diklah, 22 Ebal, Abimael, Sheba, 23 Ophir, Havilah, and Jobab. All these were the sons of Joktan.

24 Shem, Arphaxad, Shelah, 25 Eber, Peleg, Reu, 26 Serug, Nahor, Terah, 27 and Abram, who is Abraham. 28 The sons of Abraham were Isaac and Ishmael.

The Family of Ishmael(Gen 25:12-16)

29 These are their genealogies: The firstborn of Ishmael was Nebajoth; then Kedar, Adbeel, Mibsam, 30 Mishma, Dumah, Massa, Hadad, Tema, 31 Jetur,

Naphish, and Kedemah. These were the sons of Ishmael.

The Family of Keturah(Gen 25:1-4)

32 Now the sons born to Keturah, Abraham's concubine, were Zimran, Jokshan, Medan, Midian, Ishbak, and Shuah. The sons of Jokshan were Sheba and Dedan. 33 The sons of Midian were Ephah, Epher, Hanoch, Abida, and Eldaah. All these were the children of Keturah.

The Family of Isaac(Gen 36:10-14)

34 And Abraham begot Isaac. The sons of Isaac were Esau and Israel. 35 The sons of Esau were Eliphaz, Reuel, Jeush, Jaalam, and Korah. 36 And the sons of Eliphaz were Teman, Omar, Zephi, Gatam, and Kenaz; and by Timna, Amalek. 37 The sons of Reuel were Nahath, Zerah, Shammah, and Mizzah.

The Family of Seir(Gen 36:20-28)

38 The sons of Seir were Lotan, Shobal, Zibeon, Anah, Dishon, Ezer, and Dishan. 39 And the sons of Lotan were Hori and Homam; Lotan's sister was Timna. 40 The sons of Shobal were Alian, Manahath, Ebal, Shephi, and Onam. The sons of Zibeon were Ajah and Anah. 41 The son of Anah was Dishon. The sons of Dishon were Hamran, Eshban, Ithran, and Cheran. 42 The sons of Ezer were Bilhan, Zaavan, and Jaakan. The sons of Dishan were Uz and Aran.

The Kings of Edom(Gen 36:31-43)

43 Now these were the kings who reigned in the land of Edom before a king reigned over the children of Israel: Bela the son of Beor, and the name of his city was Dinhabah. 44 And when Bela died, Jobab the son of Zerah of Bozrah reigned in his place. 45 When Jobab died, Husham of the land of the Temanites reigned in his place. 46 And when Husham died, Hadad the son of Bedad, who attacked Midian in the field of Moab, reigned in his place. The name of his city was Avith. 47 When Hadad died, Samlah of Masrekah reigned in his place. 48 And when Samlah died, Saul of Rehoboth-by-the-River reigned in his place. 49 When Saul died, Baal-Hanan the son of Achbor reigned in his place. 50 And when Baal-Hanan died, Hadad reigned in his place; and the name of his city was Pai. His wife's name was Mehetabel the daughter of Matred, the daughter of Mezahab. 51 Hadad died also. And the chiefs of Edom were Chief Timnah, Chief Aliah, Chief Jetheth, 52 Chief Aholibamah, Chief Elah, Chief Pinon, 53 Chief Kenaz, Chief Teman, Chief Mibzar, 54 Chief Magdiel, and Chief Iram. These were the chiefs of Edom.

The writer gives us first Adam to Noah, then the three sons of Noah, Shem, Ham and Japheth with their decedents.

All if humanity from the Great Flood forward would come through these lines.

It is believed that Japheth founded Europe and Northern Asia with his decedents.

Ham's family supposedly founded the African nations and the Far East.

Some of Ham's lineage is followed for a short time, and the writer drops them but then he narrows in on Shem, and this is important.

In verse 18, from Shem's decedents came Eber, where many believe the word Hebrew came from.

They settled in the Middle East.

Shem's line also goes on through to Abraham from whom God declares that all men will be blessed through.

The plan of redemption is promised through his lineage.

Then from Abraham you can see Ishmael for a few generations, but it eventually drops off, and moves onto Isaac.

Isaac of course is the carrier of this Messianic gene.

Isaac then has two sons, and Esau his oldest is tracked for a bit, but the Messianic lineage is through Jacob, and that is where the focus shifts next in Chapter 2, as Jacob is referred to as Israel, the name God gave to him.

Chapter 2 begins with...

The Family of Israel(Gen 35:23-26; 46:8-25)

2:1 These were the sons of Israel: Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, Zebulun, 2 Dan, Joseph, Benjamin, Naphtali, Gad, and Asher.

From Judah to David(Ruth 4:18-22; Matt 1:2-6; Like 3:31-33)

3 The sons of Judah were Er, Onan, and Shelah. These three were born to him by the daughter of Shua, the Canaanitess. Er, the firstborn of Judah, was wicked in the sight of the Lord; so He killed him. 4 And Tamar, his daughter-in-law, bore him Perez and Zerah. All the sons of Judah were five.

5 The sons of Perez were Hezron and Hamul. 6 The sons of Zerah were Zimri, Ethan, Heman, Calcol, and Dara — five of them in all.

7 The son of Carmi was Achar, the troubler of Israel, who transgressed in the accursed thing.

8 The son of Ethan was Azariah.

9 Also the sons of Hezron who were born to him were Jerahmeel, Ram, and Chelubai. 10 Ram begot Amminadab, and Amminadab begot Nahshon, leader of the children of Judah; 11 Nahshon begot Salma, and Salma begot Boaz; 12 Boaz begot Obed, and Obed begot Jesse; 13 Jesse begot Eliab his firstborn, Abinadab the second, Shimea the third, 14 Nethanel the fourth, Raddai the fifth, 15 Ozem the sixth, and David the seventh.

16 Now their sisters were Zeruiah and Abigail. And the sons of Zeruiah were Abishai, Joab, and Asahel — three. 17 Abigail bore Amasa; and the father of Amasa was Jether the Ishmaelite.

The Family of Hezron

18 Caleb the son of Hezron had children by Azubah, his wife, and by Jerioth. Now these were her sons: Jeshur, Shobab, and Ardon. 19 When Azubah died, Caleb took Ephrath as his wife, who bore him Hur. 20 And Hur begot Uri, and Uri begot Bezalel.

21 Now afterward Hezron went in to the daughter of Machir the father of Gilead, whom he married when he was sixty years old; and she bore him Segub. 22 Segub begot Jair, who had twenty-three cities in the land of Gilead. 23 (Geshur and Syria took from them the towns of Jair, with Kenath and its towns — sixty towns.) All these belonged to the sons of Machir the father of Gilead. 24 After Hezron died in Caleb Ephrathah, Hezron's wife Abijah bore him Ashhur the father of Tekoa.

The Family of Jerahmeel

25 The sons of Jerahmeel, the firstborn of Hezron, were Ram, the firstborn, and Bunah, Oren, Ozem, and Ahijah. 26 Jerahmeel had another wife, whose name was Atarah; she was the mother of Onam. 27 The sons of Ram, the firstborn of Jerahmeel, were Maaz, Jamin,

and Eker. 28 The sons of Onam were Shammai and Jada. The sons of Shammai were Nadab and Abishur. 29 And the name of the wife of Abishur was Abihail, and she bore him Ahban and Molid. 30 The sons of Nadab were Seled and Appaim; Seled died without children. 31 The son of Appaim was Ishi, the son of Ishi was Sheshan, and Sheshan's son was Ahlai. 32 The sons of Jada, the brother of Shammai, were Jether and Jonathan; Jether died without children. 33 The sons of Jonathan were Peleth and Zaza. These were the sons of Jerahmeel.

34 Now Sheshan had no sons, only daughters. And Sheshan had an Egyptian servant whose name was Jarha. 35 Sheshan gave his daughter to Jarha his servant as wife, and she bore him Attai. 36 Attai begot Nathan, and Nathan begot Zabad; 37 Zabad begot Ephlal, and Ephlal begot Obed; 38 Obed begot Jehu, and Jehu begot Azariah; 39 Azariah begot Helez, and Helez begot Eleasah; 40 Eleasah begot Sismai, and Sismai begot Shallum; 41 Shallum begot Jekamiah, and Jekamiah begot Elishama.

The Family of Caleb

42 The descendants of Caleb the brother of Jerahmeel were Mesha, his firstborn, who was the father of Ziph, and the sons of Mareshah the father of Hebron. 43 The sons of Hebron were Korah, Tappuah, Rekem, and Shema. 44 Shema begot Raham the father of Jorkoam,

and Rekem begot Shammai. 45 And the son of Shammai was Maon, and Maon was the father of Beth Zur.

46 Ephah, Caleb's concubine, bore Haran, Moza, and Gazez; and Haran begot Gazez. 47 And the sons of Jahdai were Regem, Jotham, Geshan, Pelet, Ephah, and Shaaph.

48 Maachah, Caleb's concubine, bore Sheber and Tirhanah. 49 She also bore Shaaph the father of Madmannah, Sheva the father of Machbenah and the father of Gibeon. And the daughter of Caleb was Achsah.

50 These were the descendants of Caleb: The sons of Hur, the firstborn of Ephrathah, were Shobal the father of Kirjath Jearim, 51 Salma the father of Bethlehem, and Hareph the father of Beth Gader.

52 And Shobal the father of Kirjath Jearim had descendants: Haroeh, and half of the families of Manuhoth. 53 The families of Kirjath Jearim were the Ithrites, the Puthites, the Shumathites, and the Mishraites. From these came the Zorathites and the Eshtaolites.

54 The sons of Salma were Bethlehem, the Netophathites, Atroth Beth Joab, half of the Manahethites, and the Zorites.

55 And the families of the scribes who dwelt at Jabez were the Tirathites, the Shimeathites, and the

Suchathites. These were the Kenites who came from Hammath, the father of the house of Rechab.

We have now the Twelve Tribes of Israel given here, but the writer narrows in on the Tribe of Judah, which is interesting, naturally we would think Reuben the firstborn would be followed.

But it was Judah who received the Prophetic Promise from his father back in Genesis...

Gen 49:8-10 "Judah, you are he whom your brothers shall praise; Your hand shall be on the neck of your enemies; Your father's children shall bow down before you. 9 Judah is a lion's whelp; From the prey, my son, you have gone up. He bows down, he lies down as a lion; And as a lion, who shall rouse him? 10 The scepter shall not depart from Judah, Nor a lawgiver from between his feet, Until Shiloh comes; And to Him shall be the obedience of the people.

This Kingly Messiah shall descend from Judah, so Judah's lineage is what matters here to the Meta-Narrative.

Of course, David came from the lineage of Judah, and the Messiah, in order to further fulfill Prophecy He must descend as a Seed of David as well.

And in Chapter 3 the genealogy narrows in on the Royal line of David and the house of Jesse.

The Family of David(Matt 1:6)

3:1 Now these were the sons of David who were born to him in Hebron: The firstborn was Amnon, by Ahinoam the Jezreelitess; the second, Daniel, by Abigail the Carmelitess; 2 the third, Absalom the son of Maacah, the daughter of Talmai, king of Geshur; the fourth, Adonijah the son of Haggith; 3 the fifth, Shephatiah, by Abital; the sixth, Ithream, by his wife Eglah.

4 These six were born to him in Hebron. There he reigned seven years and six months, and in Jerusalem he reigned thirty-three years. 5 And these were born to him in Jerusalem: Shimea, Shobab, Nathan, and Solomon — four by Bathshua the daughter of Ammiel. 6 Also there were Ithar, Elishama, Eliphelet, 7 Nogah, Nepheg, Japhia, 8 Elishama, Eliada, and Eliphelet — nine in all. 9 These were all the sons of David, besides the sons of the concubines, and Tamar their sister.

The Family of Solomon(Matt 1:7-11)

10 Solomon's son was Rehoboam; Abijah was his son, Asa his son, Jehoshaphat his son, 11 Joram his son, Ahaziah his son, Joash his son, 12 Amaziah his son, Azariah his son, Jotham his son, 13 Ahaz his son, Hezekiah his son, Manasseh his son, 14 Amon his son, and Josiah his son. 15 The sons of Josiah were Johanan the firstborn, the second Jehoiakim, the third Zedekiah, and the fourth Shallum. 16 The sons of Jehoiakim were Jeconiah his son and Zedekiah his son.

The Family of Jeconiah

17 And the sons of Jeconiah were Assir, Shealtiel his son, 18 and Malchiram, Pedaiah, Shenazzar, Jecamiah, Hoshama, and Nedabiah. 19 The sons of Pedaiah were Zerubbabel and Shimei. The sons of Zerubbabel were Meshullam, Hananiah, Shelomith their sister, 20 and Hashubah, Ohel, Berechiah, Hasadiah, and Jushab-Hesed — five in all.

21 The sons of Hananiah were Pelatiah and Jeshaiiah, the sons of Rephaiah, the sons of Arnan, the sons of Obadiah, and the sons of Shechaniah. 22 The son of Shechaniah was Shemaiah. The sons of Shemaiah were Hattush, Igal, Bariah, Neariah, and Shaphat — six in all.

23 The sons of Neariah were Elioenai, Hezekiah, and Azrikam — three in all. 24 The sons of Elioenai were Hodaviah, Eliashib, Pelaiah, Akkub, Johanan, Delaiah, and Anani — seven in all.

David of course being Israel's most notable hero, and most popular king.

In our study of the kings, David was the standard for the good kings that were listed.

Chapter 3 focuses on his lineage and mentions his sons that succeeded him on the throne all the way to where we ended last time with Zedekiah, when the Southern Kingdom of Judah was taken into exile.

Now chapter 4 is a notable chapter in the Book of 1 Chronicles, within it is a great lesson for us as we read

through this long list of names, there comes within the midst of the names a nugget of truth found within.

While looking more in-depth at the family of Judah, Look now at 1 Chronicles Chapter 4 starting in verse 5...

The Family of Judah

4:1 The sons of Judah were Perez, Hezron, Carmi, Hur, and Shobal. 2 And Reaiah the son of Shobal begot Jahath, and Jahath begot Ahumai and Lahad. These were the families of the Zorathites. 3 These were the sons of the father of Etam: Jezreel, Ishma, and Idbash; and the name of their sister was Hazelelponi; 4 and Penuel was the father of Gedor, and Ezer was the father of Hushah.

These were the sons of Hur, the firstborn of Ephrathah the father of Bethlehem.

5 And Ashhur the father of Tekoa had two wives, Helah and Naarah. 6 Naarah bore him Ahuzzam, Hephher, Temeni, and Haahashtari. These were the sons of Naarah. 7 The sons of Helah were Zereth, Zohar, and Ethnan; 8 and Koz begot Anub, Zobebah, and the families of Aharhel the son of Harum.

We have names and more names... and just when you are getting a little boggled with them all the Historian records here next in verse 9...

9 Now Jabez was more honorable than his brothers, and his mother called his name Jabez, saying, "Because

I bore him in pain." 10 And Jabez called on the God of Israel saying, "Oh, that You would bless me indeed, and enlarge my territory, that Your hand would be with me, and that You would keep me from evil, that I may not cause pain!" So God granted him what he requested.

Then it jumps right back into more names....

11 Chelub the brother of Shuhah begot Mehir, who was the father of Eshton.

So there is this treasure found sandwiched in between all these seemingly insignificant names.

So if we just skipped through these chapters we would miss this steak in the middle of all these veggies.

Now, a bit of caution, the prayer of Jabez has been written about by the prosperity segment of the Christian world as a way to get ahead in life, and to get more for me.

They sale the Book by saying "Do you want to be extravagantly blessed by God?"

Of course the book was a best seller, because people want to know how they too can break through into the blessed life.

I got this little book when I was first saved, called the Prayer of Jabez and I will tell you it is very dangerous to build a doctrine off an obscure portion of scripture.

But looking at Jabez in light of the rest of scripture, we can find something truly of value.

We want to of course be very careful of the name it and claim it kind of thinking, that if I wake up every morning and petition God, like He is a genie in the bottle, and if I stay persistent in this prayer, then He will help me to become extraordinary and He will pour out His favor in my life, and I will be rich, protected and safe, that is a dangerous doctrine, it is never good to build a doctrine off of one portion of scripture.

Let's look at this man Jabez here in the text and let's glean what we can from his placement in the scriptures.

His name, Jabez means, born of sorrow, meaning perhaps his mother had a difficult time during his birth.

But something about this man's prayer causes him to get above average attention here in the record.

Now, of course he surely is not the only person in this list that ever prayed, but the Holy Spirit wanted his prayer highlighted.

First thing we notice is that he called on the Name of the God of Israel, and he directed his prayer to the source who could truly answer this prayer, not to some foreign God or idol, but a God who hears.

Now his prayer is recorded in five parts...

The first part is, "Oh God that you would bless me."

Now, it is not an unholy thing to pray for ourselves, it is not selfish, Jesus even taught us to pray for our personal needs.

“Give us this day our daily bread, and lead us not into temptation.”

Of course we do not want to get stuck on ourselves, but we also do not need to be too proud not to seek the Lord’s Will for our lives.

Secondly Jabez prayed, “Enlarge my territory.”

What a bold prayer, to ask God for more.

Jesus too said, **Luke 11:9-13** "So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. 10 For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. 11 If a son asks for bread from any father among you, will he give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent instead of a fish? 12 Or if he asks for an egg, will he offer him a scorpion?"

But of course He gives the context... this is important, God does not just give us all that we ask if we ask, He is not a genie, Jesus says in verse 13 here...

13 If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!"

It is in the context of God giving us the Holy Spirit.

You know too many today are just content with just staying afloat and treading water in their faith.

They never press in for more, for the fullness of what God offers them.

Jabez called out to the Lord to stretch his life beyond where he was, to have his border extended.

You know this has stirred me to pray in the last couple years for our own ministry here in a certain way.

One year, I mentioned this to the Elders here, how this prayer stirred me to pray for more ministry opportunity, to reach further in Jesus Name, instead of being content in where we are as a church, desiring to be more active for the Kingdom of God.

As Christians the temptation is to gather into our Holy Huddles and never break for the play, to enter into the Game.

How lame would football be if the teams just gathered to huddle each game.

No, we need to break, and step out, and put our faith into motion.

Instead of building up safe walls around us, we need to be advancing, tearing down strongholds and extending the borders of our reach for Christ.

To be a witness for Christ in this lost world, may it be in our work places, in our schools, our in the parks or shopping stores.

We don't want to stay safe and build up around our own comforts, but we should be asking God to equip and empower us to expand our borders of reach for Him.

The third aspect of Jabez' prayer was that he asked, that God's Hand would be with him.

A simple petition for the Lord's Power and Presence to be with us in all that we say and do in this life, is a much needed prayer.

Our reach would have a greater impact if we understood more clearly our need for God in this life.

To involve Him in every step of our life, not just the difficult times, but at all times, in little and big things, that God would empower us, and make us aware of His presence at all times.

Then the fourth thing that Jabez asked is something similar to what Jesus taught us to pray as well.

He asked that God would keep him from evil.

Jesus in His framework for effective prayer taught us to pray, **Matt 6:13 And do not lead us into temptation,**

But deliver us from the evil one.

For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Praying daily and throughout the day for the Lord to keep us from evil is vital to our walk.

We are naturally pulled to evil, we need the Lord to supernaturally direct us away and to keep us on guard from evil.

The fifth part of Jabez' prayer is that he would not cause pain to others.

Think of how fine church life would be if we were cautious and careful not to cause pain and conflict in the lives of others.

If we are praying that God would help us in this area of causing pain for others, we will have a much better awareness of our actions and the impact that our actions have on other people.

Now, the greatest part of Jabez' recorded prayer was the last line there, "So God granted him what he requested."

Jesus said in...

John 14:12-14 "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father. 13 And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. 14 If you ask anything in My name, I will do it."

Of course in the context of the greater works of the Father.

When we are praying for things in accordance to God's Will, we then should have the faith to watch as God Works.

This kind of faith brings a fresh excitement to your walk with the Lord.

James warns in **James 1:6-8** But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. 7 For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; 8 he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

Jabez was not double-minded, he believed what he prayed and God met him in his faith, and what a treasure of an example we have in the midst of this list of names.

So moving on now to chapter 5...

12 And Eshton begot Beth-Rapha, Paseah, and Tehinnah the father of Ir-Nahash. These were the men of Rechah.

13 The sons of Kenaz were Othniel and Seraiah. The sons of Othniel were Hathath, 14 and Meonothai who begot Ophrah. Seraiah begot Joab the father of Ge Harashim, for they were craftsmen. 15 The sons of Caleb the son of Jephunneh were Iru, Elah, and Naam. The son of Elah was Kenaz. 16 The sons of Jehallelel were Ziph, Ziphah, Tiria, and Asarel. 17 The sons of Ezra were Jether, Mered, Epher, and Jalon. And

Mered's wife bore Miriam, Shammai, and Ishbah the father of Eshtemoa. 18 (His wife Jehudijah bore Jered the father of Gedor, Heber the father of Sochoh, and Jekuthiel the father of Zanoah.) And these were the sons of Bithiah the daughter of Pharaoh, whom Mered took.

19 The sons of Hodiah's wife, the sister of Naham, were the fathers of Keilah the Garmite and of Eshtemoa the Maachathite. 20 And the sons of Shimon were Amnon, Rinnah, Ben-Hanan, and Tilon. And the sons of Ishi were Zoheth and Ben-Zoheth.

21 The sons of Shelah the son of Judah were Er the father of Lecah, Laadah the father of Mareshah, and the families of the house of the linen workers of the house of Ashbea; 22 also Jokim, the men of Chozeba, and Joash; Saraph, who ruled in Moab, and Jashubi-Lehem. Now the records are ancient. 23 These were the potters and those who dwell at Netaim and Gederah; there they dwelt with the king for his work.

The Family of Simeon(Gen 46:10)

24 The sons of Simeon were Nemuel, Jamin, Jarib, Zerah, and Shaul, 25 Shallum his son, Mibsam his son, and Mishma his son. 26 And the sons of Mishma were Hamuel his son, Zacchur his son, and Shimei his son. 27 Shimei had sixteen sons and six daughters; but his brothers did not have many children, nor did any of

their families multiply as much as the children of Judah.

28 They dwelt at Beersheba, Moladah, Hazar Shual, 29 Bilhah, Ezem, Tolad, 30 Bethuel, Hormah, Ziklag, 31 Beth Marcaboth, Hazar Susim, Beth Biri, and at Shaaraim. These were their cities until the reign of David. 32 And their villages were Etam, Ain, Rimmon, Tochen, and Ashan — five cities — 33 and all the villages that were around these cities as far as Baal. These were their dwelling places, and they maintained their genealogy: 34 Meshobab, Jamlech, and Joshah the son of Amaziah; 35 Joel, and Jehu the son of Joshibiah, the son of Seraiah, the son of Asiel; 36 Elioenai, Jaakobah, Jeshohaiah, Asaiah, Adiel, Jesimiel, and Benaiah; 37 Ziza the son of Shiphi, the son of Allon, the son of Jedaiah, the son of Shimri, the son of Shemaiah — 38 these mentioned by name were leaders in their families, and their father's house increased greatly.

39 So they went to the entrance of Gedor, as far as the east side of the valley, to seek pasture for their flocks. 40 And they found rich, good pasture, and the land was broad, quiet, and peaceful; for some Hamites formerly lived there.

41 These recorded by name came in the days of Hezekiah king of Judah; and they attacked their tents and the Meunites who were found there, and utterly destroyed them, as it is to this day. So they dwelt in

their place, because there was pasture for their flocks there. 42 Now some of them, five hundred men of the sons of Simeon, went to Mount Seir, having as their captains Pelatiah, Neariah, Rephaiah, and Uzziel, the sons of Ishi. 43 And they defeated the rest of the Amalekites who had escaped. They have dwelt there to this day.

In Chapter 5 the writer lets us know now why Reuben was not listed first since he was the firstborn...

The Family of Reuben(Gen 46:8,9)

5:1 Now the sons of Reuben the firstborn of Israel — he was indeed the firstborn, but because he defiled his father's bed, his birthright was given to the sons of Joseph, the son of Israel, so that the genealogy is not listed according to the birthright; 2 yet Judah prevailed over his brothers, and from him came a ruler, although the birthright was Joseph's —

Because Reuben slept with his step mother, his father's concubine Bilhah, his father brought a curse upon him when he was giving his final blessings to his sons.

The same place that he exalted Judah above the rest, he said this to Reuben.

Gen 49:3-4 "Reuben, you are my firstborn,

My might and the beginning of my strength,

The excellency of dignity and the excellency of power.

4 Unstable as water, you shall not excel,
Because you went up to your father's bed;
Then you defiled it —
He went up to my couch.

It was a terrible dishonor and consequence for Reuben's great folly.

Joseph, the early hero of the family was given the birthright, and this is why we see the tribe of Ephraim always trying to exert itself as the lead tribe.

However, Judah prevailed and the ruler would come from Judah, of course David came through Judah, then Jesus, who bore the title Son of David.

Then the record of the tribe of Gad and the half-tribe of Manasseh are given until the time of their captivity.

3 the sons of Reuben the firstborn of Israel were Hanoch, Pallu, Hezron, and Carmi.

4 The sons of Joel were Shemaiah his son, Gog his son, Shimei his son, 5 Micah his son, Reaiah his son, Baal his son, 6 and Beerah his son, whom Tiglath-Pileser king of Assyria carried into captivity. He was leader of the Reubenites. 7 And his brethren by their families, when the genealogy of their generations was registered: the chief, Jeiel, and Zechariah, 8 and Bela the son of Azaz, the son of Shema, the son of Joel, who dwelt in Aroer, as far as Nebo and Baal Meon. 9 Eastward they settled as far as the entrance of the wilderness this side of the

River Euphrates, because their cattle had multiplied in the land of Gilead.

10 Now in the days of Saul they made war with the Hagarites, who fell by their hand; and they dwelt in their tents throughout the entire area east of Gilead.

The Family of Gad

11 And the children of Gad dwelt next to them in the land of Bashan as far as Salcah: 12 Joel was the chief, Shapham the next, then Jaanai and Shaphat in Bashan, 13 and their brethren of their father's house: Michael, Meshullam, Sheba, Jorai, Jachan, Zia, and Eber — seven in all. 14 These were the children of Abihail the son of Huri, the son of Jaroah, the son of Gilead, the son of Michael, the son of Jeshishai, the son of Jahdo, the son of Buz; 15 Ahi the son of Abdiel, the son of Guni, was chief of their father's house. 16 And the Gadites dwelt in Gilead, in Bashan and in its villages, and in all the common-lands of Sharon within their borders. 17 All these were registered by genealogies in the days of Jotham king of Judah, and in the days of Jeroboam king of Israel.

18 The sons of Reuben, the Gadites, and half the tribe of Manasseh had forty-four thousand seven hundred and sixty valiant men, men able to bear shield and sword, to shoot with the bow, and skillful in war, who went to war. 19 They made war with the Hagarites, Jetur, Naphish, and Nodab. 20 And they were helped

against them, and the Hagarites were delivered into their hand, and all who were with them, for they cried out to God in the battle. He heeded their prayer, because they put their trust in Him. 21 Then they took away their livestock — fifty thousand of their camels, two hundred and fifty thousand of their sheep, and two thousand of their donkeys — also one hundred thousand of their men; 22 for many fell dead, because the war was God's. And they dwelt in their place until the captivity.

The Family of Manasseh (East)

23 So the children of the half-tribe of Manasseh dwelt in the land. Their numbers increased from Bashan to Baal Hermon, that is, to Senir, or Mount Hermon. 24 These were the heads of their fathers' houses: Epher, Ishi, Eliel, Azriel, Jeremiah, Hodaviah, and Jahdiel. They were mighty men of valor, famous men, and heads of their fathers' houses.

25 And they were unfaithful to the God of their fathers, and played the harlot after the gods of the peoples of the land, whom God had destroyed before them. 26 So the God of Israel stirred up the spirit of Pul king of Assyria, that is, Tiglath-Pileser king of Assyria. He carried the Reubenites, the Gadites, and the half-tribe of Manasseh into captivity. He took them to Halah, Habor, Hara, and the river of Gozan to this day.

Chapter 6 starts with in verse 1...

The Family of Levi(Gen 46:11)

6:1 The sons of Levi were Gershon, Kohath, and Merari.

Then what follows is the line of the tribe of Levi and the descendants of the priestly lineage.

Here in verse 1 Gershon, Kohath and Merari are listed. If you remember in our study of Numbers, these three were the original three priestly families.

The family Gershon was given the assignment to take care of and handle the curtains, coverings and the cords of the tabernacle of God.

Every time the camp moved, this was their duty, to move this portion, and when they had set it all up, they were to maintain these areas.

Then the family of Kohath was given the assignment to be in charge of the articles of furniture and the utensils of the tabernacle, including the most holy of them all the ark of the covenant, and even the table of the showbread and the lampstand.

Lastly, the family of Merari was given the assignment to be in charge of the boards, bars, pillars, sockets, and the vessels of the tabernacle.

And these families are listed here in 1 Chronicles chapter 6.

Then go down to verse 31...

2 The sons of Kohath were Amram, Izhar, Hebron, and Uzziel. 3 The children of Amram were Aaron, Moses, and Miriam. And the sons of Aaron were Nadab, Abihu, Eleazar, and Ithamar. 4 Eleazar begot Phinehas, and Phinehas begot Abishua; 5 Abishua begot Bukki, and Bukki begot Uzzi; 6 Uzzi begot Zerahiah, and Zerahiah begot Meraioth; 7 Meraioth begot Amariah, and Amariah begot Ahitub; 8 Ahitub begot Zadok, and Zadok begot Ahimaaz; 9 Ahimaaz begot Azariah, and Azariah begot Johanan; 10 Johanan begot Azariah (it was he who ministered as priest in the temple that Solomon built in Jerusalem); 11 Azariah begot Amariah, and Amariah begot Ahitub; 12 Ahitub begot Zadok, and Zadok begot Shallum; 13 Shallum begot Hilkiah, and Hilkiah begot Azariah; 14 Azariah begot Seraiah, and Seraiah begot Jehozadak. 15 Jehozadak went into captivity when the Lord carried Judah and Jerusalem into captivity by the hand of Nebuchadnezzar.

16 The sons of Levi were Gershon, Kohath, and Merari. 17 These are the names of the sons of Gershon: Libni and Shimei. 18 The sons of Kohath were Amram, Izhar, Hebron, and Uzziel. 19 The sons of Merari were Mahli and Mushi. Now these are the families of the Levites according to their fathers: 20 Of Gershon were Libni his son, Jahath his son, Zimmah his son, 21 Joah his son, Iddo his son, Zerah his son, and Jeatherai his son. 22 The sons of Kohath were Amminadab his son, Korah

his son, Assir his son, 23 Elkanah his son, Ebiasaph his son, Assir his son, 24 Tahath his son, Uriel his son, Uzziah his son, and Shaul his son. 25 The sons of Elkanah were Amasai and Ahimoth. 26 As for Elkanah, the sons of Elkanah were Zophai his son, Nahath his son, 27 Eliab his son, Jeroham his son, and Elkanah his son. 28 The sons of Samuel were Joel the firstborn, and Abijah the second. 29 The sons of Merari were Mahli, Libni his son, Shimei his son, Uzzah his son, 30 Shimea his son, Haggiah his son, and Asaiah his son.

Musicians in the House of the Lord

31 Now these are the men whom David appointed over the service of song in the house of the Lord, after the ark came to rest. 32 They were ministering with music before the dwelling place of the tabernacle of meeting, until Solomon had built the house of the Lord in Jerusalem, and they served in their office according to their order.

After the Philistines had lost the ark, and it was brought back to the tabernacle, David then hired certain priests that sang and played worship all day at the tabernacle.

And when the Temple was built by Solomon they were there always as well.

That is a beautiful thing, now we cannot afford to hire a choir to play continually here in the sanctuary, but if you ever need to come here and just have a place to

pray and meditate upon the Lord, Curtis would be happy to throw on some worship for you on the speakers.

Please know that the church is open Tuesday through Friday for this kind of thing, for you to come and just sit before the Lord.

So Chapter 6 ends with the Land Allotments, remember Levi had no inheritance, for the Lord was their inheritance, so cities were given to them to dwell in.

So moving on to chapter seven now...

33 And these are the ones who ministered with their sons: Of the sons of the Kohathites were Heman the singer, the son of Joel, the son of Samuel, 34 the son of Elkanah, the son of Jeroham, the son of Eliel, the son of Toah, 35 the son of Zuph, the son of Elkanah, the son of Mahath, the son of Amasai, 36 the son of Elkanah, the son of Joel, the son of Azariah, the son of Zephaniah, 37 the son of Tahath, the son of Assir, the son of Ebiasaph, the son of Korah, 38 the son of Izhar, the son of Kohath, the son of Levi, the son of Israel. 39 And his brother Asaph, who stood at his right hand, was Asaph the son of Berachiah, the son of Shimea, 40 the son of Michael, the son of Baaseiah, the son of Malchijah, 41 the son of Ethni, the son of Zerah, the son of Adaiah, 42 the son of Ethan, the son of Zimmah,

the son of Shimei, 43 the son of Jahath, the son of Gershon, the son of Levi.

44 Their brethren, the sons of Merari, on the left hand, were Ethan the son of Kishi, the son of Abdi, the son of Malluch, 45 the son of Hashabiah, the son of Amaziah, the son of Hilkiah, 46 the son of Amzi, the son of Bani, the son of Shamer, 47 the son of Mahli, the son of Mushi, the son of Merari, the son of Levi.

48 And their brethren, the Levites, were appointed to every kind of service of the tabernacle of the house of God.

The Family of Aaron

49 But Aaron and his sons offered sacrifices on the altar of burnt offering and on the altar of incense, for all the work of the Most Holy Place, and to make atonement for Israel, according to all that Moses the servant of God had commanded. 50 Now these are the sons of Aaron: Eleazar his son, Phinehas his son, Abishua his son, 51 Bukki his son, Uzzi his son, Zerariah his son, 52 Meraioth his son, Amariah his son, Ahitub his son, 53 Zadok his son, and Ahimaaz his son.

Dwelling Places of the Levites(Josh 21:1-42)

54 Now these are their dwelling places throughout their settlements in their territory, for they were given by lot to the sons of Aaron, of the family of the Kohathites: 55 They gave them Hebron in the land of Judah, with its surrounding common-lands. 56 But the

fields of the city and its villages they gave to Caleb the son of Jephunneh. 57 And to the sons of Aaron they gave one of the cities of refuge, Hebron; also Libnah with its common-lands, Jattir, Eshtemoa with its common-lands, 58 Hilen with its common-lands, Debir with its common-lands, 59 Ashan with its common-lands, and Beth Shemesh with its common-lands. 60 And from the tribe of Benjamin: Geba with its common-lands, Alemeth with its common-lands, and Anathoth with its common-lands. All their cities among their families were thirteen.

61 To the rest of the family of the tribe of the Kohathites they gave by lot ten cities from half the tribe of Manasseh. 62 And to the sons of Gershon, throughout their families, they gave thirteen cities from the tribe of Issachar, from the tribe of Asher, from the tribe of Naphtali, and from the tribe of Manasseh in Bashan. 63 To the sons of Merari, throughout their families, they gave twelve cities from the tribe of Reuben, from the tribe of Gad, and from the tribe of Zebulun. 64 So the children of Israel gave these cities with their common-lands to the Levites. 65 And they gave by lot from the tribe of the children of Judah, from the tribe of the children of Simeon, and from the tribe of the children of Benjamin these cities which are called by their names.

66 Now some of the families of the sons of Kohath were given cities as their territory from the tribe of

Ephraim. 67 And they gave them one of the cities of refuge, Shechem with its common-lands, in the mountains of Ephraim, also Gezer with its common-lands, 68 Jokmeam with its common-lands, Beth Horon with its common-lands, 69 Aijalon with its common-lands, and Gath Rimmon with its common-lands. 70 And from the half-tribe of Manasseh: Aner with its common-lands and Bileam with its common-lands, for the rest of the family of the sons of Kohath.

71 From the family of the half-tribe of Manasseh the sons of Gershon were given Golan in Bashan with its common-lands and Ashtaroth with its common-lands.

72 And from the tribe of Issachar: Kedesh with its common-lands, Daberath with its common-lands, 73 Ramoth with its common-lands, and Anem with its common-lands. 74 And from the tribe of Asher: Mashal with its common-lands, Abdon with its common-lands, 75 Hukok with its common-lands, and Rehob with its common-lands. 76 And from the tribe of Naphtali: Kedesh in Galilee with its common-lands, Hammon with its common-lands, and Kirjathaim with its common-lands.

77 From the tribe of Zebulun the rest of the children of Merari were given Rimmon with its common-lands and Tabor with its common-lands. 78 And on the other side of the Jordan, across from Jericho, on the east side of the Jordan, they were given from the tribe of Reuben: Bezer in the wilderness with its common-lands, Jahzah

with its common-lands, 79 Kedemoth with its common-lands, and Mephaath with its common-lands. 80 And from the tribe of Gad: Ramoth in Gilead with its common-lands, Mahanaim with its common-lands, 81 Heshbon with its common-lands, and Jazer with its common-lands.

The Family of Issachar(Gen 46:13)

7:1 The sons of Issachar were Tola, Puah, Jashub, and Shimron — four in all. 2 The sons of Tola were Uzzi, Rephaiah, Jeriel, Jahmai, Jibsam, and Shemuel, heads of their father's house. The sons of Tola were mighty men of valor in their generations; their number in the days of David was twenty-two thousand six hundred. 3 The son of Uzzi was Izrahiah, and the sons of Izrahiah were Michael, Obadiah, Joel, and Ishiah. All five of them were chief men. 4 And with them, by their generations, according to their fathers' houses, were thirty-six thousand troops ready for war; for they had many wives and sons.

5 Now their brethren among all the families of Issachar were mighty men of valor, listed by their genealogies, eighty-seven thousand in all.

The Family of Benjamin(Gen 46:21)

6 The sons of Benjamin were Bela, Becher, and Jediael — three in all. 7 The sons of Bela were Ezbon, Uzzi, Uzziel, Jerimoth, and Iri — five in all. They were heads of their fathers' houses, and they were listed by their

genealogies, twenty-two thousand and thirty-four mighty men of valor.

8 The sons of Becher were Zemirah, Joash, Eliezer, Elioenai, Omri, Jerimoth, Abijah, Anathoth, and Alemeth. All these are the sons of Becher. 9 And they were recorded by genealogy according to their generations, heads of their fathers' houses, twenty thousand two hundred mighty men of valor. 10 The son of Jediael was Bilhan, and the sons of Bilhan were Jeush, Benjamin, Ehud, Chenaanah, Zethan, Tharshish, and Ahishahar.

11 All these sons of Jediael were heads of their fathers' houses; there were seventeen thousand two hundred mighty men of valor fit to go out for war and battle. 12 Shupim and Hupim were the sons of Ir, and Hushim was the son of Aher.

The Family of Naphtali(Gen 46:24)

13 The sons of Naphtali were Jahziel, Guni, Jezer, and Shallum, the sons of Bilhah.

The Family of Manasseh (West)

14 The descendants of Manasseh: his Syrian concubine bore him Machir the father of Gilead, the father of Asriel. 15 Machir took as his wife the sister of Hupim and Shupim, whose name was Maachah. The name of Gilead's grandson was Zelophehad, but Zelophehad begot only daughters. 16 (Maachah the wife of Machir bore a son, and she called his name Peresh. The name

of his brother was Sheresh, and his sons were Ulam and Rakem. 17 The son of Ulam was Bedan.) These were the descendants of Gilead the son of Machir, the son of Manasseh.

18 His sister Hammoleketh bore Ishhod, Abiezer, and Mahlah.

19 And the sons of Shemida were Ahian, Shechem, Likhi, and Aniam.

The Family of Ephraim

20 The sons of Ephraim were Shuthelah, Bered his son, Tahath his son, Eladah his son, Tahath his son, 21 Zabad his son, Shuthelah his son, and Ezer and Elead. The men of Gath who were born in that land killed them because they came down to take away their cattle. 22 Then Ephraim their father mourned many days, and his brethren came to comfort him.

23 And when he went in to his wife, she conceived and bore a son; and he called his name Beriah, because tragedy had come upon his house. 24 Now his daughter was Sheerah, who built Lower and Upper Beth Horon and Uzen Sheerah; 25 and Rephah was his son, as well as Resheph, and Telah his son, Tahan his son, 26 Laadan his son, Ammihud his son, Elishama his son, 27 Nun his son, and Joshua his son.

28 Now their possessions and dwelling places were Bethel and its towns: to the east Naaran, to the west Gezer and its towns, and Shechem and its towns, as far

as Ayyah and its towns; 29 and by the borders of the children of Manasseh were Beth Shean and its towns, Taanach and its towns, Megiddo and its towns, Dor and its towns. In these dwelt the children of Joseph, the son of Israel.

The Family of Asher(Gen 46:17)

30 The sons of Asher were Imnah, Ishvah, Ishvi, Beriah, and their sister Serah. 31 The sons of Beriah were Heber and Malchiel, who was the father of Birzaith. 32 And Heber begot Japhlet, Shomer, Hotham, and their sister Shua. 33 The sons of Japhlet were Pasach, Bimhal, and Ashvath. These were the children of Japhlet. 34 The sons of Shemer were Ahi, Rohgah, Jehubbah, and Aram. 35 And the sons of his brother Helem were Zophah, Imna, Shelesh, and Amal. 36 The sons of Zophah were Suah, Harnepher, Shual, Beri, Imrah, 37 Bezer, Hod, Shamma, Shilshah, Jithran, and Beera. 38 The sons of Jether were Jephunneh, Pispah, and Ara. 39 The sons of Ulla were Arah, Haniel, and Rizia.

40 All these were the children of Asher, heads of their fathers' houses, choice men, mighty men of valor, chief leaders. And they were recorded by genealogies among the army fit for battle; their number was twenty-six thousand.

Now, Chapter 7 Gives the Genealogies of the tribes of Issachar, Benjamin, Naphtali, Manasseh, Ephraim, and Asher, all of which went into Assyrian Captivity.

Chapter 8 now...

The Family Tree of King Saul of Benjamin(Gen 46:21)

8:1 Now Benjamin begot Bela his firstborn, Ashbel the second, Aharah the third, 2 Nohah the fourth, and Rapha the fifth. 3 The sons of Bela were Addar, Gera, Abihud, 4 Abishua, Naaman, Ahoah, 5 Gera, Shephuphan, and Huram.

6 These are the sons of Ehud, who were the heads of the fathers' houses of the inhabitants of Geba, and who forced them to move to Manahath: 7 Naaman, Ahijah, and Gera who forced them to move. He begot Uzza and Ahihud.

8 Also Shaharaim had children in the country of Moab, after he had sent away Hushim and Baara his wives. 9 By Hodesh his wife he begot Jobab, Zibia, Meshah, Malcam, 10 Jeuz, Sachiah, and Mirmah. These were his sons, heads of their fathers' houses.

11 And by Hushim he begot Abitub and Elpaal. 12 The sons of Elpaal were Eber, Misham, and Shemed, who built Ono and Lod with its towns; 13 and Beriah and Shema, who were heads of their fathers' houses of the inhabitants of Aijalon, who drove out the inhabitants of Gath. 14 Ahio, Shashak, Jeremoth, 15 Zebadiah, Arad, Eder, 16 Michael, Ispah, and Joha were the sons

of Beriah. 17 Zebadiah, Meshullam, Hizki, Heber, 18 Ishmerai, Jizliah, and Jobab were the sons of Elpaal. 19 Jakim, Zichri, Zabdi, 20 Elienai, Zillethai, Eliel, 21 Adaiah, Beraiah, and Shimrath were the sons of Shimei. 22 Ishpan, Eber, Eliel, 23 Abdon, Zichri, Hanan, 24 Hananiah, Elam, Antothijah, 25 Iphdeiah, and Penuel were the sons of Shashak. 26 Shamsherai, Shehariah, Athaliah, 27 Jaareshiah, Elijah, and Zichri were the sons of Jeroham.

28 These were heads of the fathers' houses by their generations, chief men. These dwelt in Jerusalem.

29 Now the father of Gibeon, whose wife's name was Maacah, dwelt at Gibeon. 30 And his firstborn son was Abdon, then Zur, Kish, Baal, Nadab, 31 Gedor, Ahio, Zecher, 32 and Mikloth, who begot Shimeah. They also dwelt alongside their relatives in Jerusalem, with their brethren. 33 Ner begot Kish, Kish begot Saul, and Saul begot Jonathan, Malchishua, Abinadab, and Esh-Baal. 34 The son of Jonathan was Merib-Baal, and Merib-Baal begot Micah. 35 The sons of Micah were Pithon, Melech, Tarea, and Ahaz. 36 And Ahaz begot Jehoaddah; Jehoaddah begot Alemeth, Azmaveth, and Zimri; and Zimri begot Moza. 37 Moza begot Binea, Raphah his son, Eleasah his son, and Azel his son.

38 Azel had six sons whose names were these: Azrikam, Bocheru, Ishmael, Sheariah, Obadiah, and Hanan. All these were the sons of Azel. 39 And the

sons of Eshek his brother were Ulam his firstborn, Jeush the second, and Eliphelet the third.

40 The sons of Ulam were mighty men of valor — archers. They had many sons and grandsons, one hundred and fifty in all. These were all sons of Benjamin.

Chapter 8 traces the genealogy of the tribe of Benjamin, for the purpose of getting us to Saul and his son Jonathan.

Chapter 9 starts out in verse 1 with...

Priests and Levites in Jerusalem

9:1 So all Israel was recorded by genealogies, and indeed, they were inscribed in the book of the kings of Israel. But Judah was carried away captive to Babylon because of their unfaithfulness. 2 And the first inhabitants who dwelt in their possessions in their cities were Israelites, priests, Levites, and the Nethinim.

So it seems that the genealogies of each tribe were accessible at the Temple somehow.

They were shown until the people went away into captivity, and somehow the genealogies were preserved and brought back to Jerusalem when the remnant returned from exile and rebuilt the Temple.

We will see much later on in Nehemiah, chapter 7 that when they rebuilt the Temple, the genealogies were

there, and even at the time Jesus was born those same genealogies were intact for the scribes and Pharisees to check.

You will notice that they never once tried to deny that Jesus was a descendant of David, although they tried to bring Jesus down on many other aspects, they could not do it by His genealogy which was available for them to check.

So now, moving on down to chapter 10...

Dwellers in Jerusalem

3 Now in Jerusalem the children of Judah dwelt, and some of the children of Benjamin, and of the children of Ephraim and Manasseh: 4 Uthai the son of Ammihud, the son of Omri, the son of Imri, the son of Bani, of the descendants of Perez, the son of Judah. 5 Of the Shilonites: Asaiah the firstborn and his sons. 6 Of the sons of Zerah: Jeuel, and their brethren — six hundred and ninety. 7 Of the sons of Benjamin: Sallu the son of Meshullam, the son of Hodaviah, the son of Hassenuah; 8 Ibneiah the son of Jeroham; Elah the son of Uzzi, the son of Michri; Meshullam the son of Shephatiah, the son of Reuel, the son of Ibnijah; 9 and their brethren, according to their generations — nine hundred and fifty-six. All these men were heads of a father's house in their fathers' houses.

The Priests at Jerusalem

10 Of the priests: Jedaiah, Jehoiarib, and Jachin; 11 Azariah the son of Hilkiah, the son of Meshullam, the son of Zadok, the son of Meraioth, the son of Ahitub, the officer over the house of God; 12 Adaiah the son of Jeroham, the son of Pashur, the son of Malchijah; Maasai the son of Adiel, the son of Jahzerah, the son of Meshullam, the son of Meshillemith, the son of Immer; 13 and their brethren, heads of their fathers' houses — one thousand seven hundred and sixty. They were very able men for the work of the service of the house of God.

The Levites at Jerusalem

14 Of the Levites: Shemaiah the son of Hasshub, the son of Azrikam, the son of Hashabiah, of the sons of Merari; 15 Bakbakkar, Heresh, Galal, and Mattaniah the son of Micah, the son of Zichri, the son of Asaph; 16 Obadiah the son of Shemaiah, the son of Galal, the son of Jeduthun; and Berechiah the son of Asa, the son of Elkanah, who lived in the villages of the Netophathites.

The Levite Gatekeepers

17 And the gatekeepers were Shallum, Akkub, Talmon, Ahiman, and their brethren. Shallum was the chief. 18 Until then they had been gatekeepers for the camps of the children of Levi at the King's Gate on the east.

19 Shallum the son of Kore, the son of Ebiasaph, the son of Korah, and his brethren, from his father's house,

the Korahites, were in charge of the work of the service, gatekeepers of the tabernacle. Their fathers had been keepers of the entrance to the camp of the Lord. 20 And Phinehas the son of Eleazar had been the officer over them in time past; the Lord was with him. 21 Zechariah the son of Meshelemiah was keeper of the door of the tabernacle of meeting.

22 All those chosen as gatekeepers were two hundred and twelve. They were recorded by their genealogy, in their villages. David and Samuel the seer had appointed them to their trusted office. 23 So they and their children were in charge of the gates of the house of the Lord, the house of the tabernacle, by assignment. 24 The gatekeepers were assigned to the four directions: the east, west, north, and south. 25 And their brethren in their villages had to come with them from time to time for seven days. 26 For in this trusted office were four chief gatekeepers; they were Levites. And they had charge over the chambers and treasuries of the house of God. 27 And they lodged all around the house of God because they had the responsibility, and they were in charge of opening it every morning.

Other Levite Responsibilities

28 Now some of them were in charge of the serving vessels, for they brought them in and took them out by count. 29 Some of them were appointed over the furnishings and over all the implements of the

sanctuary, and over the fine flour and the wine and the oil and the incense and the spices. 30 And some of the sons of the priests made the ointment of the spices.

31 Mattithiah of the Levites, the firstborn of Shallum the Korahite, had the trusted office over the things that were baked in the pans. 32 And some of their brethren of the sons of the Kohathites were in charge of preparing the showbread for every Sabbath.

33 These are the singers, heads of the fathers' houses of the Levites, who lodged in the chambers, and were free from other duties; for they were employed in that work day and night. 34 These heads of the fathers' houses of the Levites were heads throughout their generations. They dwelt at Jerusalem.

The Family of King Saul

35 Jeiel the father of Gibeon, whose wife's name was Maacah, dwelt at Gibeon. 36 His firstborn son was Abdon, then Zur, Kish, Baal, Ner, Nadab, 37 Gedor, Ahio, Zechariah, and Mikloth. 38 And Mikloth begot Shimeam. They also dwelt alongside their relatives in Jerusalem, with their brethren. 39 Ner begot Kish, Kish begot Saul, and Saul begot Jonathan, Malchishua, Abinadab, and Esh-Baal. 40 The son of Jonathan was Merib-Baal, and Merib-Baal begot Micah. 41 The sons of Micah were Pithon, Melech, Tahrea, and Ahaz. 42 And Ahaz begot Jarah; Jarah begot Alemeth, Azmaveth, and Zimri; and Zimri begot Moza; 43 Moza begot

Binea, Rephaiah his son, Eleasah his son, and Azel his son.

44 And Azel had six sons whose names were these: Azrikam, Bocheru, Ishmael, Sheariah, Obadiah, and Hanan; these were the sons of Azel.

We get here now to the life and death of King Saul.

The historian of Chronicles is mostly concerned with King David, and the history from that point on, so he will summarize Saul's life for us in one chapter.

Let's look now at the first 7 verses of chapter 10...

Tragic End of Saul and His Sons(1 Sam 31)

10:1 Now the Philistines fought against Israel; and the men of Israel fled from before the Philistines, and fell slain on Mount Gilboa. 2 Then the Philistines followed hard after Saul and his sons. And the Philistines killed Jonathan, Abinadab, and Malchishua, Saul's sons. 3 The battle became fierce against Saul. The archers hit him, and he was wounded by the archers. 4 Then Saul said to his armorbearer, "Draw your sword, and thrust me through with it, lest these uncircumcised men come and abuse me." But his armorbearer would not, for he was greatly afraid. Therefore Saul took a sword and fell on it. 5 And when his armorbearer saw that Saul was dead, he also fell on his sword and died. 6 So Saul and his three sons died, and all his house died together. 7 And when all the men of Israel who were in the valley saw that they had fled and that Saul and his

sons were dead, they forsook their cities and fled; then the Philistines came and dwelt in them.

8 So it happened the next day, when the Philistines came to strip the slain, that they found Saul and his sons fallen on Mount Gilboa. 9 And they stripped him and took his head and his armor, and sent word throughout the land of the Philistines to proclaim the news in the temple of their idols and among the people. 10 Then they put his armor in the temple of their gods, and fastened his head in the temple of Dagon.

11 And when all Jabesh Gilead heard all that the Philistines had done to Saul, 12 all the valiant men arose and took the body of Saul and the bodies of his sons; and they brought them to Jabesh, and buried their bones under the tamarisk tree at Jabesh, and fasted seven days.

Remember Saul's armor bearer would not kill the king. He honored the king too much, so Saul is forced to fall on his own sword and he commits suicide.

He knew that if the Philistines found him they would torture and humiliate him, so he just sped up the inevitable.

Even with his dead body, they mutilated him, and cut off his head, and took it to their temple of Dagon.

If you remember they then hung his body up on the mountain at Beth Shan for all to see.

Then the men of Jabesh Gilead came to Beth Shan and courageously removed the body of Saul and also those of his sons.

They cremated the bodies as told in 2 Samuel 31, and evidently the bones did not burn through, so they buried them in Jabesh.

People wonder if cremation is okay, is it okay for Christians to perform a cremation for their own loved ones.

Pastor Chuck Smith says this, “As far as cremation. This body isn’t the real me anyhow. It’s only the old tent in which I live for awhile. I’m gonna move out of it one of these days. When I move out of this body, it’s, it’s nothing. Cremation will do in thirty seven minutes, what nature will do in thirty seven years. It’s just a sped up of the process.”

And I tend to agree with him, there is no ritualistic burial needed for this old shell, when I am done with it, I am done with it, onto my heavenly, eternal body!

So let’s finish this chapter, and see why Saul’s end was so tragic.

Starting in verse 13...

13 So Saul died for his unfaithfulness which he had committed against the Lord, because he did not keep the word of the Lord, and also because he consulted a medium for guidance. 14 But he did not inquire of the

Lord; therefore He killed him, and turned the kingdom over to David the son of Jesse.

As we see ultimately life and death are in the Lord's hands...

Job put in like this in... **Job 1:21**

**"Naked I came from my mother's womb,
And naked shall I return there.**

**The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away;
Blessed be the name of the Lord."**

And Saul is dead here, and he is dead because of his many transgressions that he committed against the Lord.

If there is anyone in scripture, besides Sampson, who had the most potential to be great, to be used greatly by God, it was Saul, but he squandered his great opportunity, and his disobedience ultimately led to him even asking a medium for advice, using satanic means.

Understand this idea of God ending a life because of willful disobedience is not only an Old Testament concept, we see it in the New Testament as well.

Not too long ago in our study of Acts we saw God first kill Ananias and then his wife Sapphira for their disobedience in lying to the Holy Spirit.

Life and death are in the hands of our God.

God is still running the universe, He is still in control, He can still take one out to lift up another for the accomplishment of His will.

God is still on the Throne today, our God still reigns.

Understand something too, God is slow to anger, He is merciful, and so gracious, He was with Saul, but Saul reached the point where God just gave him up to his debased mind, and allowed the sword to take him out, in order to lift David up on the throne.

And that will lead us through to the third section of 1 Chronicles, section 1 being chapters 1-9 the genealogies, section 2 is here in chapter 10 on Saul, then next week we will begin on David's life.

And the bulk of the veggies are behind us at this point, now we will get into the narrative of 1 Chronicles, you survived two who sections tonight.

But the narrative will be much more enjoyable to read and glean from.

Remember it is all about the Meta-Narrative, about a Savior who came to this world to save us from the sin problem.

It is all a build up to the life of Jesus, who came to die and He rose again, offering us in turn this salvation and New Life.

Listen, if you are here tonight or watching online, and you have not come to Jesus yet, the Bible says today is

the day of your salvation, come to Him, what are you waiting for.

The Bible gives us so much of an undeniable witness that Jesus is the Only Way, the Only Truth, and the Only Life.

God went to great lengths here in His Word to prove this to you.

He is calling you, respond to Him.

There will be men up here during this last song, if that is you, please make your way up to them and pray with them to receive Christ, if you are online, leave a comment or email us, we will get in touch with you.

Let's pray...

Listen if you have any prayer request these guys want to pray with you.

Also, don't forget this Friday at 7pm we are having our Exalt Worship Night, you don't want to miss it.

See you then...