



## Cover to Cover: Genealogies (survey 1 Chr 1–9)

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June 10

### [1 Chronicles Introduction](#) (must watch!!)

Context: Chronicles, it has a lot of material from Samuel and Kings, so when we read it we usually think “repetition.” We’re seeking to read the Bible chronologically to the events described. However, in the Jewish Bible, the Tanakh, the book of Chronicles comes last, just after the Exile when Israel’s hopes remained largely unrealized. It acts as a summary of the whole Old Testament, where key promises remain unfulfilled; it thus reshapes that story to provide hope. It looks back so that it can look forward, and ends ( 2 Chr 36:23) in anticipation. It is a “story in search of an ending.” It focuses on the Davidic and Aaronic lines (king and priest) and develops a theme of the Messiah, new Temple and restored people, all of which find their fulfilment in Jesus and the Gospel.

Throughout much of the book we find a character study (e.g. of David and wicked kings), much like Ps 78. We need to learn from our family history so as to be faithful in the present and future. That is why the book begins with a genealogy which summarizes the OT, focusing on these two emerging themes (king and priest) where hope for the future is to be found.

*First, think about Pastor’s sermons from this past Lord’s Day:*

- A) “Passing on the Faith to the Next Generation,” Ps 78:1–8
- Ps 78:7–8, what is the purpose of passing on the faith?
  - Whose ultimate responsibility is the spiritual nurture of our children? In what ways can we actively do this?
  - Where can we find forgiveness if we’ve “dropped the ball” here? What should we do?
  - Did you have a Lois or Eunice in your life ( 2 Ti 1:5)? Who taught you the Gospel?
  - How can we be a Lois or Eunice to someone in or outside of our family?
  - Other?

- B) “Spiritual Genealogies,” 1 Chr 6
- What is your honest gut reaction to genealogies in the Bible? How does this compare with 2 Ti 3:16?
  - Do you know your family history? If not, why? If so, what is it?
  - Why are you/aren’t you interested in family history?
  - What existential<sup>1</sup> questions does an interest or want of interest in our personal history raise?
  - What existential questions were the Israelites asking when they returned from exile (see “Context”)?
  - In retelling their story, what knowledge and hope was the author seeking to illustrate?
  - Where did Israel’s story begin?
  - Focusing on the tribes of Israel (1 Ch 2:3–8:40), scan your Bible, how are these divided? If Judah and related tribes represents kingship and Levi represents the priests, what central message is the author developing?
  - How did Jesus fulfil this prophecy/hope for a Messiah who would make a new temple and restore His people? How can we see the Gospel in the message of Chronicles?
  - Think of 2 Ti 1:5. Do you have a Lois shaped, or non-Lois shaped faith? (Did you have a faithful relative that the Lord used to lead you to become a disciple of Christ?)
  - What is your families spiritual genealogy or DNA (if any)? What lessons does this teach you?
  - After we are justified through faith in Christ we are...? (Jn 1:12; Eph 1:5) What then becomes our story and not merely some story or a story? (Ro 11:17)
  - How does our identity among the people of God answer the most profound existential questions of: where do I come from, who am I, what is my purpose, where am I going?

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<sup>1</sup> Who we are, the study of our existence.