

**Investigating**

**God's Word...**

**I Kings 1-11,  
II Chronicles 1-9**

**YEAR FIVE**

**Sunday School Curriculum**

*Fall Quarter*

# Lesson Sequence

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## *Fall Quarter*

The **Lesson Sequence** gives the teacher an overview of the entire quarter.

The central goal of the ***Investigating God's Word...*** curriculum is to enable children the opportunity to read and study the entire Bible—from Genesis to Revelation—by the time they “graduate” from 6th grade.

Week One	I Kings 1
Week Two	I Kings 2
Week Three	I Kings 3, II Chronicles 1:1-12
Week Four	I Kings 4, II Chronicles 1:13-17
Week Five	I Kings 5, II Chronicles 2
Week Six	I Kings 6, II Chronicles 3
Week Seven	I Kings 7, II Chronicles 4
Week Eight	I Kings 8:1-13, II Chronicles 5
Week Nine	I Kings 8:14-53, II Chronicles 6
Week Ten	I Kings 8:54-66, II Chronicles 7:1-11
Week Eleven	I Kings 9, II Chronicles 7:12-8:18
Week Twelve	I Kings 10, II Chronicles 9:1-28
Week Thirteen	I Kings 11, II Chronicles 9:29-31

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Winter Quarter: I Kings 12-22,  
II Chronicles 10-20



# Lesson Two

## *I Kings 2*

### Suggested Schedule

<b>Welcome</b> <i>Proverbs 1:5</i>	<b>2-3 min.</b>
<b>Drill Time</b> <i>City of David</i>	<b>5 min.</b>
<b>W.O.W!</b> <i>Decree</i>	<b>5 min.</b>
<b>Historical Context</b> <i>Timeline</i>	<b>2-3 min.</b>
<b>Bible Investigation</b> <i>I Kings 2</i>	<b>20-30 min.</b>
<b>Lesson-At-Home</b> <i>Psalms 119:171-172</i>	<b>2-3 min.</b>

### Overview

I Kings 2 begins with King David's last words of instruction to his son, Solomon. He clearly communicates that the key to Godly manhood and Godly ruling is following God's ways, decrees and commands. This is the only way to prosperity as well as the only way to see the fulfillment of God's promise to always have a son of David on the throne. David also gives Solomon instructions regarding the elimination of the enemies of the kingdom.

The rest of the chapter elaborates on Solomon's obedience to David by dealing with all of God's enemies. While some may say this is simply revenge and unnecessary political persecution, the text does not give a negative view of Solomon's actions. Instead, King Solomon is doing what is necessary to provide the kingdom with peace and prosperity, by destroying the enemies that were within. Without such justice, there could be no peace.

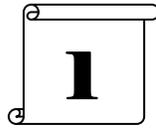
What a picture of King Jesus! As a perfect "Solomon" he obeys all His father's commands and perfectly defeats all of His enemies by His death on the cross.

### Preparation

Read and meditate on I Kings 2 this week.

### Teaching Encouragement

Does reading the stories of Scripture excite you? Does praise for God and his greatness flow from your heart as you recite God's Word to your covenant children? Learning God's Word must lead to loving God and His Word, or it is simply a time-wasting exercise of the intellect. We learn about the history of Israel and its kings in a much different way than we learn about England and its royal family. While both are historical facts, the stories arising from God's Holy Word are written in a way to bring a deeper knowledge of God and a greater love for God. Even if you are not a big history buff, these stories in I Kings should make your heart jump for joy. They tell us so much about King Jesus, not just about King David or King Solomon. When this passion explodes in your heart, your children will see it and hopefully get to experience some of it themselves.



## Welcome

**Greet the students. Welcome visitors. To prepare the students for class today, read Proverbs 1:5.**

<sup>5</sup> ...let the wise listen and add to their learning, and let the discerning get guidance...

**Say:** *Do you desire to be wise children this morning? Then you will listen to God's Word today and add to your learning. Your willingness to read, study and think through our lessons each week demonstrates the beginnings of wisdom. Only fools refuse to listen to God! Let's be wise guys and gals this morning.*



## Drill Time

*Now, let's move on to DRILL TIME—our weekly opportunity to review what we have learned in the past. Are you ready?*

**Today's questions:** *In what city was Jesus born? What is another name for that city? Why was He born there?*

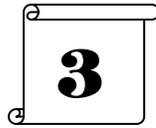
**Call on volunteers or select students to make attempts.**

**Answers:**

1. Bethlehem.
2. The City of David.
3. Joseph was of the house and lineage of David, so he had to take his family to the City of David to register.

**Say:** *Jesus is called the Son of David in Matthew 1. We will read about David for the last time in our lesson today. He was a king after God's own heart. God promised that David's kingdom would never fail. This promise refers to Jesus, the Son of David, as the eternal King of kings and Lord of lords. While David only ruled for a short period over God's people, Jesus Christ rules forever over the people of God. King David is a preview of the true king of our hearts—King Jesus.*

The answers to today's *Drill Time* questions are found in **Luke 2**.



## W.O.W!

Our *W.O.W!* (*Word of the Week*) this week is **DECREE**. Write it on the board. Who can tell me what it means? Allow answers.

A **DECREE** is an order that comes from a king or any other ruler. When a king made a decision, it became a **DECREE** that was to be treated as law throughout the kingdom. It was not a suggestion. It was not something that was optional. A **DECREE** is a command, a law.

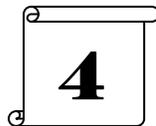
In Psalm 119:12, the Psalmist says:

<sup>12</sup> Praise be to you, O LORD; teach me your **DECREES**.

The Psalmist is asking God to teach him His commandments so he can obey them. We too are responsible to obey God's **DECREES**.

Why are we to obey God's **DECREES**? Because He is King, He is Wise, He knows what is best for us. The real question is: Why wouldn't we obey all of God's **DECREES**? His **DECREES** are perfect because He is perfect.

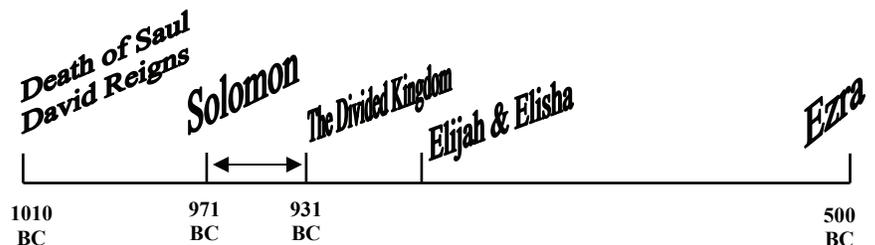
Watch for our *W.O.W!* today.

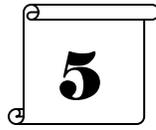


## Historical Context

As you study I Kings this quarter, draw this timeline on the board. Always remember that the students need to understand God's Word in its historical context.

*When events in I Kings 1-11; II Chronicles 1-9 took place*





## Bible Investigation

**Have the children turn in their Bibles to I Kings 2.**

**Introduction:** *Last time, we read that Adonijah tried to become king of Israel on his own. Did he succeed? [No.] Nathan the prophet alerted King David to this challenge, and David promptly had Solomon crowned as the new king of Israel. Adonijah was forced to submit to Solomon, thereby saving his own life. We continue reading in I Kings 2 today.*

**Read I Kings:1-2.**

<sup>1</sup>When the time drew near for David to die, he gave a charge to Solomon his son. <sup>2</sup>“I am about to go the way of all the earth,” he said. “So be strong, show yourself a man,

**Discussion:** *This is King David’s last conversation with his son. This is his last chance to tell him how to live his life and how to be a Godly king. He tells Solomon to be a man. What do you think this means? Do you think it means that Solomon should just be tough and macho? Let’s read HOW Solomon is to be a man.*

**Read verses 3-4.**

<sup>3</sup>and observe what the LORD your God requires: Walk in his ways, and keep his decrees and commands, his laws and requirements, as written in the Law of Moses, so that you may prosper in all you do and wherever you go, <sup>4</sup>and that the LORD may keep his promise to me: ‘If your descendants watch how they live, and if they walk faithfully before me with all their heart and soul, you will never fail to have a man on the throne of Israel.’

**Discussion:** *Do you see what it takes to be a Godly man and a Godly king? David tells his son to follow God’s ways. Do you also see our W.O.W!? Solomon is told to obey all God’s DECREES. So what are the rewards for following God’s ways and His laws? [Prosperity; always have a son of David on the throne.]*

**Application:** *As children of King Jesus, the same goes for us! The only way to success in life is by following God’s commands. Obeying God with our hearts and souls brings great reward.*

*Let’s see what else David has to say. Read verses 5-9.*

<sup>5</sup>“Now you yourself know what Joab son of Zeruiah did to me—what he did to the two commanders of Israel’s armies, Abner son

of Ner and Amasa son of Jether. He killed them, shedding their blood in peacetime as if in battle, and with that blood stained the belt around his waist and the sandals on his feet. <sup>6</sup>Deal with him according to your wisdom, but do not let his gray head go down to the grave in peace. <sup>7</sup>“But show kindness to the sons of Barzillai of Gilead and let them be among those who eat at your table. They stood by me when I fled from your brother Absalom. <sup>8</sup>“And remember, you have with you Shimei son of Gera, the Benjamite from Bahurim, who called down bitter curses on me the day I went to Mahanaim. When he came down to meet me at the Jordan, I swore to him by the LORD: ‘I will not put you to death by the sword.’ <sup>9</sup>But now, do not consider him innocent. You are a man of wisdom; you will know what to do to him. Bring his gray head down to the grave in blood.”

**Discussion:** *Do you understand what David is telling the new king? He is making sure Solomon knows who the friends of the kingdom are and who the enemies of the kingdom are. Just like in the Book of Joshua, God’s enemies must be destroyed in order for there to be peace and security in the land. Solomon must first obey all God’s commands; but he must also make sure his enemies do not live.*

*Let’s continue. Read verses 10-12.*

<sup>10</sup>Then David rested with his fathers and was buried in the City of David. <sup>11</sup>He had reigned forty years over Israel—seven years in Hebron and thirty-three in Jerusalem. <sup>12</sup>So Solomon sat on the throne of his father David, and his rule was firmly established.

**Discussion:** *How many years did David rule? [40.] How would Solomon’s rule be “firmly established?” [If he followed God’s ways and walked after God.]*

**Application:** *We too are called to walk with God all of our lives. Following God is not just something you do just when you are young—just because your parents tell you that you have to do it. As you grow older, continue to obey God in a relationship with Jesus Christ—the ruler of your heart.*

*Now Adonijah comes back into the picture. Let’s see what he is up to.*

**Read verses 13-18.**

<sup>13</sup>Now Adonijah, the son of Haggith, went to Bathsheba, Solomon’s mother. Bathsheba asked him, “Do you come peacefully?” He answered, “Yes, peacefully.” <sup>14</sup>Then he added, “I have something to say to you.” “You may say it,” she replied. <sup>15</sup>

“As you know,” he said, “the kingdom was mine. All Israel looked to me as their king. But things changed, and the kingdom has gone to my brother; for it has come to him from the LORD.”<sup>16</sup> Now I have one request to make of you. Do not refuse me.” “You may make it,” she said.<sup>17</sup> So he continued, “Please ask King Solomon—he will not refuse you—to give me Abishag the Shunammite as my wife.”<sup>18</sup> “Very well,” Bathsheba replied, “I will speak to the king for you.”

**Discussion:** *What is Adonijah up to? Why is he going to Solomon’s mother to ask to marry Abishag? Is he trying to find a way to capture the throne? It seems like Adonijah thinks he should be king and is manipulating a way to grab the throne.*

*Let’s see Solomon’s response. Read verses 19-23.*

<sup>19</sup> When Bathsheba went to King Solomon to speak to him for Adonijah, the king stood up to meet her, bowed down to her and sat down on his throne. He had a throne brought for the king’s mother, and she sat down at his right hand.<sup>20</sup> “I have one small request to make of you,” she said. “Do not refuse me.” The king replied, “Make it, my mother; I will not refuse you.”<sup>21</sup> So she said, “Let Abishag the Shunammite be given in marriage to your brother Adonijah.”<sup>22</sup> King Solomon answered his mother, “Why do you request Abishag the Shunammite for Adonijah? You might as well request the kingdom for him—after all, he is my older brother—yes, for him and for Abiathar the priest and Joab son of Zeruiah!”<sup>23</sup> Then King Solomon swore by the LORD: “May God deal with me, be it ever so severely, if Adonijah does not pay with his life for this request!

**Discussion:** *Solomon certainly believes that Adonijah is trying to take the throne from him. Bathsheba was manipulated into feeling sorry for Adonijah. Now, it is clear that Adonijah is an enemy of the kingdom as well as an enemy of the LORD.*

*Let’s read on. Read verses 24-25.*

<sup>24</sup> And now, as surely as the LORD lives—he who has established me securely on the throne of my father David and has founded a dynasty for me as he promised—Adonijah shall be put to death today!”<sup>25</sup> So King Solomon gave orders to Benaiah son of Jehoiada, and he struck down Adonijah and he died.

**Discussion:** *Boys and girls, this was not some act of meanness or revenge on Solomon’s part. Remember that David, his father, told Solomon that he must do away with his enemies. Only then would the kingdom of Israel be safe. Solomon was obeying his father and doing all that God commanded him to do.*

*Let's continue. Read verses 26-27.*

<sup>26</sup>To Abiathar the priest the king said, "Go back to your fields in Anathoth. You deserve to die, but I will not put you to death now, because you carried the ark of the Sovereign LORD before my father David and shared all my father's hardships." <sup>27</sup>So Solomon removed Abiathar from the priesthood of the LORD, fulfilling the word the LORD had spoken at Shiloh about the house of Eli.

**Discussion:** *Abiathar the priest took Adonijah's side, so he deserved to die. But Solomon chose just to remove him from being a priest, which followed God's ways. Who's next?*

*Let's see. Read verses 28-34.*

<sup>28</sup>When the news reached Joab, who had conspired with Adonijah though not with Absalom, he fled to the tent of the LORD and took hold of the horns of the altar. <sup>29</sup>King Solomon was told that Joab had fled to the tent of the LORD and was beside the altar. Then Solomon ordered Benaiah son of Jehoiada, "Go, strike him down!" <sup>30</sup>So Benaiah entered the tent of the LORD and said to Joab, "The king says, 'Come out!'" But he answered, "No, I will die here." Benaiah reported to the king, "This is how Joab answered me." <sup>31</sup>Then the king commanded Benaiah, "Do as he says. Strike him down and bury him, and so clear me and my father's house of the guilt of the innocent blood that Joab shed. <sup>32</sup>The LORD will repay him for the blood he shed, because without the knowledge of my father David he attacked two men and killed them with the sword. Both of them—Abner son of Ner, commander of Israel's army, and Amasa son of Jether, commander of Judah's army—were better men and more upright than he. <sup>33</sup>May the guilt of their blood rest on the head of Joab and his descendants forever. But on David and his descendants, his house and his throne, may there be the LORD's peace forever." <sup>34</sup>So Benaiah son of Jehoiada went up and struck down Joab and killed him, and he was buried on his own land in the desert.

**Discussion:** *Joab also became an enemy of David and an enemy of the LORD. He had to be killed to keep the kingdom safe and secure from its enemies.*

*Look at verse 35. Read verse 35.*

<sup>35</sup>The king put Benaiah son of Jehoiada over the army in Joab's position and replaced Abiathar with Zadok the priest.

**Discussion:** *Those who remained loyal to David and loyal to God were elevated to high positions in the kingdom. Let's finish reading about how Solomon dealt with God's enemies.*

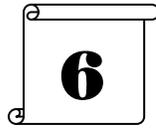
**Read verses 36-46.**

<sup>36</sup> Then the king sent for Shimei and said to him, “Build yourself a house in Jerusalem and live there, but do not go anywhere else. <sup>37</sup> The day you leave and cross the Kidron Valley, you can be sure you will die; your blood will be on your own head.” <sup>38</sup> Shimei answered the king, “What you say is good. Your servant will do as my lord the king has said.” And Shimei stayed in Jerusalem for a long time. <sup>39</sup> But three years later, two of Shimei’s slaves ran off to Achish son of Maacah, king of Gath, and Shimei was told, “Your slaves are in Gath.” <sup>40</sup> At this, he saddled his donkey and went to Achish at Gath in search of his slaves. So Shimei went away and brought the slaves back from Gath. <sup>41</sup> When Solomon was told that Shimei had gone from Jerusalem to Gath and had returned, <sup>42</sup> the king summoned Shimei and said to him, “Did I not make you swear by the LORD and warn you, ‘On the day you leave to go anywhere else, you can be sure you will die’? At that time you said to me, ‘What you say is good. I will obey.’ <sup>43</sup> Why then did you not keep your oath to the LORD and obey the command I gave you?” <sup>44</sup> The king also said to Shimei, “You know in your heart all the wrong you did to my father David. Now the LORD will repay you for your wrongdoing. <sup>45</sup> But King Solomon will be blessed, and David’s throne will remain secure before the LORD forever.” <sup>46</sup> Then the king gave the order to Benaiah son of Jehoiada, and he went out and struck Shimei down and killed him. The kingdom was now firmly established in Solomon’s hands.

**Discussion:** *Solomon gave Shimei a merciful chance to live, even though Shimei made himself an enemy of David. Did Shimei follow Solomon’s rules? No! He did not keep his oath to the LORD. So Shimei, enemy of God and Israel, was also put to death.*

**Conclusion:** *Do you understand the two important requirements Solomon had as king? First, he had to follow God’s ways. Second, he had to eliminate God’s enemies. This is the work of a Godly king. But how does that apply to us? We must follow God’s ways; but we cannot do that perfectly. We also cannot destroy God’s enemies—only He can. So we need a king that can do both of these things for us and with us. We need King Jesus—who obeyed God’s law perfectly and thoroughly defeated sin, death and Satan on the cross! Isn’t that marvelous? He is the perfect King. Solomon is only a faint representation of Christ.*

*Keep this in mind as we continue our study of Solomon’s life next week.*



## Lesson-At-Home

**Distribute the “Lesson-At-Home” bookmarks. Read the Scripture Memory verse (Psalm 119:171-172) together.**

**Psalm 119:171-172 (NIV)**

<sup>171</sup> May my lips overflow with praise, for you teach me your decrees. <sup>172</sup> May my tongue sing of your word, for all your commands are righteous.

*Say: This is what David taught Solomon, isn't it? If we believe that all of God's commands and DECREES are righteous, then we would give praise to God for them. We can never obey them perfectly; but, we have a perfect King and Savior who can and did!*

**Review the verses.**

**Direct the students' attentions to the bottom half of the bookmark. It includes reminder points of today's lesson that can be discussed with their parents and reviewed during the week.**

**Close in prayer and dismiss the students.**