

Kings

Summary

1 Kings begins with King David's final days. 1 and 2 Kings was originally one book. It was divided for the convenience of copying.

Author and Date:

The author is unknown. Ancient Jewish tradition attributes authorship to prophet Jeremiah or a group of prophets. The books are silent with regard to who the writer is. The prophetic ministries of Elijah, Elisha, and Isaiah are discussed in this book. These prophets called the people back to God so that they could avoid consequences.

Audience/ Setting:

People of Israel. Nation of Israel turned into a land that was divided (physically and spiritually).

Purpose:

Written to the Jews living in captivity in Babylon. It is the history of the united and then divided kingdom of Israel. The book talks about the reign of the kings. The message is: God provides blessing for obedience to Him and judgement for disobedience. The book of Kings contrast the lives of those who lived for God and those who refused to do so through the history of Israel's kings.

Key People:

David, Solomon, Rehoboam, Jeroboam, Elijah, Ahab, Jezebel.

References

Application Study Bible
Tony Evans Study Bible