OLD TESTAMENT SURVEY
1 & 2 Kings

Introduction

- 1 & 2 Kings were originally a single book in the Hebrew canon (known as Kings)
    - last book of the "Former Prophets"
- Covers a ~400-year period of Israelite history from ~971 to ~560 B.C.
    - from King Solomon's reign through the fall & exile of Judah to Babylon
- Though historical, was likely written to explain the fall and exile of Israel & Judah, in relation to God's covenants with Israel
- Authorship is uncertain

Overview

- 1 Kings 1-11 - Rise & Rule of King Solomon

- 1 Kings 12 to 2 Kings 17 - Divided Kingdom
    - 1 Kings 12-16 - Kings of Israel & Judah

    - 1 Kings 17 to 2 Kings 13 - the ministries of Elijah and Elisha

    - 2 Kings 13-17 - Last days of Israel

- 2 Kings 18-25 - Last days of Judah

Major Themes and Concepts in Kings

- God
  - His sovereignty over the nations and over history
  - His holiness, righteousness, justice
  - His love, forbearance, and mercy towards His people
  - His faithfulness to His Word and to His promises
    - faithfulness to keep His covenants with Abraham & David
    - faithfulness to judge, in accordance to the warnings He gave in the Law (e.g. Lev. 26; Deut. 28) and through the prophets
- the people of God
  - the priority of worshiping and obeying God
  - the consequences of sin, both personal and corporate
  - the importance and impact of leadership
    - kings
    - prophets
    - priests

Glimpses of Christ in Kings

- Elijah
- David's greater son