

When

- David became king of Judah in approximately 1055 B.C.
- 1 Chronicles is primarily a record of David's reign. 1 Chronicles 10 records the death of King Saul (David's predecessor). The last chapter of the book records the death of David.
- Keep in mind, the book of 1 Chronicles was written several hundred years after David. This chapter mentions Judah's Babylonian captivity, which took place between the years 607-537 B.C.

Key Characters

- **Returning Exiles** – After being held captive in Babylon for 70 years, some of the Jews returned to Jerusalem, with the goal of rebuilding the Temple.
- **Saul** – The first king of Israel. He was chosen by God and anointed by Samuel the prophet.



Where

- When the people of Judah were conquered, they were sent to Babylon in Mesopotamia, which was hundreds of miles to the east, across the desert.
- Saul was originally from Gibeah.

Outline

- **A RECORD OF THE FIRST EXILES TO RETURN FROM BABYLON (9:1-34):**
 - + About 400 years after the death of David, God punished the people of Judah, because they refused to obey Him.
 - + He allowed the Babylonians to conquer them and exile them from their land.
 - + They were under the control of the Babylonians for 70 years before God allowed them to return to their homeland.
 - + This chapter records the names and offices of the priests, Levities, and Temple servants who were first to return to Judah.
- **THE FAMILY OF KING SAUL, REPEATED (9:35-44):**
 - + The descendants of Benjamin and the family of Saul were recorded in 1 Chronicles 8, but they are repeated at the end in 1 Chronicles 9.
 - + This repetition acts as a bridge between the genealogies found in the first 9 chapters of the book and the historical record the author is about to embark on in 1 Chronicles 10.
 - + The historical portion of the book begins with an account of the death of King Saul.

Application

- These genealogies make it clear the Bible was meant to be read as an actual historical document.
- These records span hundreds of years and could have easily been fact checked by the Jews.
- These are not made-up names from a fairytale nation, these are real names of real people, and they should be respected as historical records.
- We shouldn't accept the hypocrisy of many modern historians who want to discount the extensive biblical record as "faux history," while being willing to accept as genuine every scrap of semi-reliable evidence that seems to fit their worldview.