

Jerusalem Chronicles

Part 1

By Boyd Yahn

It's always wise to begin by defining a term when you are going to talk about something so everyone is on the same page. The word "Chronicle" isn't a word we hear a lot in everyday usage. If we take the time to look up "Chronicle" in Thesaurus.com, which is one of my favorite references, we get a fuller sense of the word by seeing its various synonyms associated with it.

Here are a few meanings for the word "Chronicles" then. It can mean annals, diary, journal, archives, history, record, report, story, or version. And that expands for me at least a fuzzy ill-defined concept and helps me to focus on the broader concept of the word.

Since the word "Jerusalem" is represented some 800 times in Strong's, and there are many that are missed, it can be a rather exhaustive and exhausting study. When you go down that road you find Zion is something that needs some attention and also Shiloh.

When the word "Chronicle" or the record or the report is used as a noun, it is referring to a chronological record of events in history. When it is used as a verb its principle meaning is to record in or as in a chronicle of. So we can see when we walk through the scriptures and we are looking for this reference of Jerusalem, it is a chronicle of things as it pertains to that. And we see both the record and the events of that record recorded. And we just need to be aware of those as they are helpful to know.

There's also another thing that we should keep in mind is that when God dragged Israel out of Egypt He had certain expectations for them. One of these is recorded in Exodus 19, verses 3 – 8. Exodus 19, verses 3 – 8; we see some expectations laid out. Verse 3:

³And Moses went up to God, and Yahovah called to him from the mountain, saying, "Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the children of Israel:

Again it's worthy to note that Moses was a mediator and, but he was speaking to the entire house of Israel.

⁴You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to Myself. ⁵Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth is Mine. ⁶And you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' These are the words which you shall speak to the children of Israel." ⁷So Moses came and called for the elders of the people, and laid before them all these words which the Lord commanded him. ⁸Then all the people answered together and said, "All that Yahovah has spoken we will do." So Moses brought back the words of the people to the Lord.

It's logical to ask, if you had a kingdom of priests and a holy people, what would you want to do with them? What's the point? Would it make sense as such a setup would or could serve as a launching pad to offer salvation to the entire world; by teaching it God's ways, by knowledge and by example?

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This will make more sense as we move along. If we go to Deuteronomy, where God's instructions to Israel is given prior to them actually entering into the land where God was going to place them. We go to Deuteronomy 11; Deuteronomy 11 and verses 26 – 32. Deuteronomy 11 and verses 26 – 32.

²⁶“Behold, I set before you today a blessing and a curse: ²⁷the blessing, if you obey the commandments of Yahovah your God which I command you today; ²⁸and the curse, if you do not obey the commandments of the Lord your God, but turn aside from the way which I command you today, to go after other gods which you have not known.

²⁹Now it shall be, when Yahovah your God has brought you into the land which you go to possess, that you shall put the blessing on Mount Gerizim and the curse on Mount Ebal.

³⁰Are they not on the other side of the Jordan, toward the setting sun, in the land of the Canaanites who dwell in the plain opposite Gilgal, beside the terebinth trees of Moreh?

³¹For you will cross over the Jordan and go in to possess the land which the Lord your God is giving you, and you will possess it and dwell in it.

³²And you shall be careful to observe all the statutes and judgments which I set before you today.

And if we go on in Deuteronomy 12:

¹“These are the statutes and judgments which you shall be careful to observe in the land which Yahovah God of your fathers is giving you to possess, all the days that you live on the earth. ²You shall utterly destroy all the places where the nations which you shall dispossess served their gods, on the high mountains and on the hills and under every green tree. ³And you shall destroy their altars, break their sacred pillars, and burn their wooden images with fire; you shall cut down the carved images of their gods and destroy their names from that place. ⁴You shall not worship the Lord your God with such things.

⁵“But you shall seek the place where the Lord your God chooses, out of all your tribes, to put His name for His dwelling place; and there you shall go.

⁶There you shall take your burnt offerings, your sacrifices, your tithes, the heave offerings of your hand, your vowed offerings, your freewill offerings, and the firstborn of your herds and flocks.

⁷And there you shall eat before the Lord your God and you shall rejoice in all to which you have put your hand, you and your households, in which The Lord your God has blessed you.

⁸“You shall not at all do as we are doing here today—every man doing whatever is right in his own eyes— ⁹for as yet you have not come to the rest and the inheritance which the Lord your God is giving you.

¹⁰But when you cross over the Jordan and dwell in the land which the Lord your God is giving you to inherit, and He gives you rest from all your enemies round about, so

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that you dwell in safety, ¹¹then there will be the place where the Lord your God chooses to make His name abide. (That's important) There you shall bring all that I command you: your burnt offerings, your sacrifices, your tithes, the heave offerings of your hand, and all your choice offerings which you vow to Yahovah.

¹²And you shall rejoice before the Lord your God, you and your sons and your daughters, your male and female servants, and the Levite who is within your gates, since he has no portion nor inheritance with you.

¹³Take heed to yourself that you do not offer your burnt offerings in every place that you see; ¹⁴but in the place which the Lord chooses, in one of your tribes, there you shall offer your burnt offerings, and there you shall do all that I command you.

So God was going to place his name in one of your tribes. Going down to verse 17:

¹⁷You may not eat within your gates the tithe of your grain or your new wine or your oil, of the firstborn of your herd or your flock, of any of your offerings which you vow, of your freewill offerings, or of the heave offering of your hand.

¹⁸But you must eat them before the Lord your God in the place which the Lord your God chooses, you and your son and your daughter, your male servant and your female servant, and the Levite who is within your gates; and you shall rejoice before the Lord your God in all to which you put your hands.

Going on in verse 20:

²⁰“When the Lord your God enlarges your border (And this is very important) as He has promised you, and you say, ‘Let me eat meat,’ because you long to eat meat, you may eat as much meat as your heart desires.

²¹If the place where the Lord your God chooses to put His name is too far from you, then you may slaughter from your herd and from your flock which the Lord has given you, just as I have commanded you, and you may eat within your gates as much as your heart desires.

I did not know that! If the distance was too far, you kept the statutes and judgments locally. Only makes sense.

Going on in verse 26 – 28:

²⁶Only the holy things which you have, and your vowed offerings, you shall take and go to the place which the Lord chooses.

²⁷And you shall offer your burnt offerings, the meat and the blood, on the altar of the Lord your God; and the blood of your sacrifices shall be poured out on the altar of Yahovah your God, and you shall eat the meat.

²⁸Observe and obey all these words which I command you, that it may go well with you and your children after you forever, when you do what is good and right in the sight of the Lord your God.

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We must be very careful not to do what is good in our own eyes; we must do what is good in God's eyes, and it is God that determines exactly what that is.

And I thought it was interesting that if it was too far, you kept it locally. I can't believe I never saw that before.

Well, where was the place that God chose? If you thought it was Jerusalem, as I did, you would be wrong like me. But we need to fix that. We need to go to the book of Joshua; Joshua 18:1 to understand exactly where it was that God chose to put His name in the first place. Joshua 18, verse 1, it says:

¹ Now the whole congregation of the children of Israel assembled together at Shiloh, and set up the tabernacle of meeting there. And the land was subdued before them.

We go down to verse 8:

⁸ Then the men arose to go away; and Joshua charged those who went to survey the land, saying, "Go, walk through the land, survey it, and come back to me, that I may cast lots for you here before the Lord in Shiloh."

It's amazing, we think we've studied stuff and perhaps everybody out in listening land knew it, but this cowboy sure didn't.

⁹ So the men went, passed through the land, and wrote the survey in a book in seven parts by cities; and they came to Joshua at the camp in Shiloh.

¹⁰ Then Joshua cast lots for them in Shiloh before the Lord, and there Joshua divided the land to the children of Israel according to their divisions.

Shiloh, it turns out, is in the land of Ephraim. If you look at a map, it's north of Jerusalem and a bit east. Not, I don't know how many miles, but a ways. Notice Joshua 19 and verse 51. Joshua 19 and verse 51:

⁵¹ These were the inheritances which Eleazar the priest, Joshua the son of Nun, and the heads of the fathers of the tribes of the children of Israel divided as an inheritance by lot in Shiloh before Yahovah, at the door of the tabernacle of meeting. So they made an end of dividing the country.

Going on to Joshua 21, verses 1 and 2:

¹ Then the heads of the fathers' houses of the Levites came near to Eleazar the priest, to Joshua the son of Nun, and to the heads of the fathers' houses of the tribes of the children of Israel. ² And they spoke to them at Shiloh in the land of Canaan, saying, "The Lord commanded through Moses to give us cities to dwell in, with their common-lands for our livestock."

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Going on to Joshua 22:9. Again we see reference.

⁹So the children of Reuben, the children of Gad, and half the tribe of Manasseh returned, and departed from the children of Israel at Shiloh, which is in the land of Canaan, to go to the country of Gilead, to the land of their possession, which they had obtained according to the word of the Lord by the hand of Moses.

And verse 12:

¹²And when the children of Israel heard of it, the whole congregation of the children of Israel gathered together at Shiloh to go to war against them.

We see a continuation of that in the book of Judges and it turns out that Shiloh is in the land of Ephraim. Again something I simply did not know.

Judges 18:31; actually we will read a couple before that. Speaking of the tribe of Dan as an interesting side note:

²⁹And they called the name of the city Dan, after the name of Dan their father, who was born to Israel. However, the name of the city formerly was Laish.

³⁰Then the children of Dan set up for themselves the carved image; and Jonathan the son of Gershom, the son of Manasseh, and his sons were priests to the tribe of Dan until the day of the captivity of the land.

So you can see within Israel a desire to do it their way. Where they appointed for themselves priests, who obviously would have known that the Levites were supposed to be the priests; but no problem, we can take that job on. And the Danites wait for their salvation, we read in Genesis 49, is because they went into idolatry very, very soon.

In verse 31:

³¹So they set up Micah's carved image which he made, all the time that the house of the Lord was in Shiloh.

So they knew where to go, but they weren't having any of that action. So if we go to 21, Judges 21, verse 12 we see other references. Reading in here:

¹²So they found among the inhabitants of Jabesh Gilead four hundred young virgins who had not known a man intimately; and they brought them to the camp at Shiloh, which is in the land of Canaan.

And this is restoring the tribe of Benjamin. They were there for the Feast of Tabernacles in Shiloh.

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Going on it verse 19, it says:

¹⁹Then they said, "In fact, there is a yearly feast of Yahovah in Shiloh, which is north of Bethel, on the east side of the highway that goes up from Bethel to Shechem, and south of Lebonah."

Well, what else can we learn if we put our minds to it?

In I Samuel; I Samuel 1, and verse 3, and speaking of Samuel. Verse 2 actually:

²And he had two wives: the name of one was Hannah, and the name of the other Peninnah. Peninnah had children, but Hannah had no children.

³This man (This Elkanah) went up from his city yearly to worship and sacrifice to the Lord of hosts in Shiloh.

And in verse 24:

²⁴Now when she had weaned him, she took him up with her, with three bulls, one ephah of flour, and a skin of wine, and brought him to the house of Yahovah in Shiloh.

So this is in Ephraim; God's head tribe. Now if we go to verse 21 we see in the same passage of I Samuel

²¹... the man Elkanah and all his house went up to offer to the Lord the yearly sacrifice and his vow.

So Shiloh was a hub for a long time and the Ark of the covenant was also in Shiloh. And we can learn of that in I Samuel 4:3; I Samuel 4:3:

³And when the people had come into the camp, the elders of Israel said, "Why has Yahovah defeated us today before the Philistines? Let us bring the ark of the covenant of Yahovah from Shiloh to us, that when it comes among us it may save us from the hand of our enemies."

Well, it turns out that this Shiloh hiatus, where the house of God was, lasted for well over 370 years. This wasn't a one off; it wasn't something that just happened out of the blue; it was there for a long time. God trying to work through the head tribe of Ephraim; but it seemed that didn't necessarily turn out real good for Him as for what His intentions were. And it seems so King David was well aware of this earlier history, something that this, ah, this researcher knew nothing of or certainly never paid any attention to when I was looking at it.

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And it says a contemplation of Asaph in Psalm 78 and Asaph was a very good friend and companion of David, so he's, he's the one that put this together. It says:

¹ Give ear, O my people, to my law; incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

² I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings of old, ³which we have heard and known, and our fathers have told us.

⁴ We will not hide them from their children, telling to the generation to come the praises of Yahovah, and His strength and His wonderful works that He has done.

⁵ For He established a testimony in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel, which He commanded our fathers, that they should make them known to their children; ⁶that the generation to come might know them,

So we have a responsibility today, as they did at that time, to teach our children the things of God because you can be rest assured that if we don't do that; the world will teach them of their god and they won't know the difference.

Going on in verse 6 of chapter 78 of Psalm:

⁶that the generation to come might know them, the children who would be born, that they may arise and declare them to their children,

So God wanted a perpetuity of understanding and the responsibility of the children lay on the parents to teach their children the things of God.

⁷that they may set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep His commandments; ⁸and may not be like their fathers, a stubborn and rebellious generation, a generation that did not set its heart aright, and whose spirit was not faithful to God.

Now we have learned in past studies that it's our spirit, that is the prize; it is what goes back to God and it needs to be in harmony and at one with God so that God might take our spirit and place it in a spirit body in His family.

And here we go on, remember that Shiloh was in Ephraim.

⁹The children of Ephraim, (In verse 9) being armed and carrying bows, turned back in the day of battle. ¹⁰They did not keep the covenant of God; they refused to walk in His law, ¹¹and forgot His works and His wonders that He had shown them.

¹²Marvelous things He did in the sight of their fathers, in the land of Egypt, in the field of Zoan. ¹³He divided the sea and caused them to pass through; and He made the waters stand up like a heap. ¹⁴In the daytime also He led them with the cloud, and all the night with a light of fire. ¹⁵He split the rocks in the wilderness, and gave them drink in abundance like the depths. ¹⁶He also brought streams out of the rock, and caused waters to run down like rivers. ¹⁷But they sinned even more against Him by

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rebelling against the Most High in the wilderness. ¹⁸And they tested God in their heart by asking for the food of their fancy. ¹⁹Yes, they spoke against God: they said, "Can Jehovah prepare a table in the wilderness? ²⁰Behold, He struck the rock, so that the waters gushed out, and the streams overflowed. Can He give bread also? Can He provide meat for His people?" ²¹Therefore Jehovah heard this and was furious;

Well no kidding! And part of what we are going through here we need to come to understand how our Father thinks; and when we don't think like He thinks we need to fix that. That's what repentance and becoming one with God the Father is all about.

so a fire was kindled against Jacob, and anger also came up against Israel, ²²because they did not believe in God, and did not trust in His salvation. ²³Yet He had commanded the clouds above, and opened the doors of heaven, ²⁴had rained down manna on them to eat, and given them of the bread of heaven. ²⁵Men ate angels' food; He sent them food to the full.

It still wasn't enough!

²⁶He caused an east wind to blow in the heavens; and by His power He brought in the south wind. ²⁷He also rained meat on them like the dust, feathered fowl like the sand of the seas; ²⁸and He let them fall in the midst of their camp, all around their dwellings.

They didn't even have to kill em.

²⁹So they ate and were well filled, for He gave them their own desire. ³⁰They were not deprived of their craving; but while their food was still in their mouths, ³¹the wrath of God came against them, and slew the stoutest of them, and struck down the choice men of Israel. ³²In spite of this they still sinned, and did not believe in His wondrous works. ³³Therefore their days He consumed in futility, and their years in fear. ³⁴When He slew them, then they sought Him; and they returned and sought earnestly for God. ³⁵Then they remembered that Jehovah was their rock, and the Most High Jehovah their Redeemer. ³⁶Nevertheless they flattered Him with their mouth, and they lied to Him with their tongue; ³⁷for their heart was not steadfast with Him, nor were they faithful in His covenant.

You know, let's not and say we did is an old game; it's been going on for a long time.

³⁸But He, being full of compassion, forgave their iniquity, and did not destroy them. Yes, many a time He turned His anger away, and did not stir up all His wrath; ³⁹for He remembered that they were but flesh, a breath that passes away and does not come again. ⁴⁰How often they provoked Him in the wilderness, and grieved Him in the desert! ⁴¹Yes, again and again they tempted God, and limited the Holy One of

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Israel. ⁴²They did not remember His power: the day when He redeemed them from the enemy, ⁴³when He worked His signs in Egypt, and His wonders in the field of Zoan; ⁴⁴turned their rivers into blood, and their streams, that they could not drink. ⁴⁵He sent swarms of flies among them, which devoured them, and frogs, which destroyed them. ⁴⁶He also gave their crops to the caterpillar, and their labor to the locust. ⁴⁷He destroyed their vines with hail, and their sycamore trees with frost. ⁴⁸He also gave up their cattle to the hail, and their flocks to fiery lightning. ⁴⁹He cast on them the fierceness of His anger, wrath, indignation, and trouble, by sending angels of destruction among them. ⁵⁰He made a path for His anger; He did not spare their soul from death, but gave their life over to the plague, ⁵¹and destroyed all the firstborn in Egypt, the first of their strength in the tents of Ham. ⁵²But He made His own people go forth like sheep, and guided them in the wilderness like a flock; ⁵³and He led them on safely, so that they did not fear; but the sea overwhelmed their enemies. ⁵⁴And He brought them to His holy border, this mountain which His right hand had acquired. ⁵⁵He also drove out the nations before them, allotted them an inheritance by survey, and made the tribes of Israel dwell in their tents.

The game is the same.

⁵⁶Yet they tested and provoked the Most High God, and did not keep His testimonies, ⁵⁷but turned back and acted unfaithfully like their fathers; they were turned aside like a deceitful bow. ⁵⁸For they provoked Him to anger with their high places, and moved Him to jealousy with their carved images.

Ephraim and the Israelites were in idolatry up to their ears; they would not worship God and isn't that the case, you look about and you see some very good people who are quite willing to keep the last six commandments, but they will not, they just won't keep the first four. Going on:

⁵⁹When God heard this, He was furious, and greatly abhorred Israel, ⁶⁰so that He forsook the tabernacle of Shiloh,

Remember it had been there for nearly 400 years.

the tent He had placed among men, ⁶¹and delivered His strength into captivity, and His glory into the enemy's hand. ⁶²He also gave His people over to the sword, and was furious with His inheritance. ⁶³The fire consumed their young men, and their maidens were not given in marriage. ⁶⁴Their priests fell by the sword, and their widows made no lamentation. ⁶⁵Then the Lord awoke as from sleep, like a mighty man who shouts because of wine. ⁶⁶And He beat back His enemies; He put them to a perpetual reproach. ⁶⁷Moreover (This is something I did not know) He rejected the tent of Joseph,

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His tabernacle was in Ephraim in Shiloh for centuries and we just heard why He rejected them.

and did not choose the tribe of Ephraim, ⁶⁸but chose the tribe of Judah, Mount Zion which He loved. ⁶⁹And He built His sanctuary like the heights, like the earth which He has established forever. ⁷⁰He also chose David His servant, and took him from the sheepfolds; ⁷¹from following the ewes that had young He brought him, to shepherd Jacob His people, and Israel His inheritance. ⁷²So he shepherded them according to the integrity of his heart, and guided them by the skillfulness of his hands.

And now we know how we got to Jerusalem. It was after the rejection of Ephraim in Shiloh. If we go to the book of Jeremiah; there is a rather interesting passage here in Jeremiah 7 where we see some historical perspective of this and how we see we did get to an instant replay. Asaph understood the history, knew what was going on. And so with that understanding let's now go to Jeremiah 7 and see if we can contextually put this in place.

¹ *The word that came to Jeremiah from Yahovah, saying, ²“Stand in the gate of Yahovah’s house,*

This is in Jerusalem now and we know why it was moved.

and proclaim there this word, and say, ‘Hear the word of Yahovah, all you of Judah who enter in at these gates to worship Yahovah!’” ³Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: “Amend your ways and your doings, and I will cause you to dwell in this place. ⁴Do not trust in these lying words, saying, ‘The temple of the Lord, the temple of the Lord, the temple of the Lord are these.’ ⁵“For if you thoroughly amend your ways and your doings, if you thoroughly execute judgment between a man and his neighbor, ⁶if you do not oppress the stranger, the fatherless, and the widow, and do not shed innocent blood in this place, or walk after other gods to your hurt,

Doesn't this sound familiar to the dance at Shiloh?

⁷*then I will cause you to dwell in this place, in the land that I gave to your fathers forever and ever.*

Was God all in on this when He put His presence in Shiloh and he gave them His holy days? Was He establishing a kingdom that He was prepared to work with and deal with forever? Yes!

And because of Israel's refusal to do so; like over and over and we read a lot of the Old Testament prophecy about the restoration and what's God going to do? He is going to set up a righteous nation in the Middle East and it will be the spearhead of the

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conversion of the whole world. He's never changed; the people he chose to work with booted it bad. The stories the same, it's consistent. What's the problem?

⁸“Behold, you trust in lying words that cannot profit. ⁹Will you steal, murder, commit adultery, swear falsely, burn incense to Baal, and walk after other gods whom you do not know, ¹⁰and then come and stand before Me in this house which is called by My name, and say, ‘We are delivered to do all these abominations’?”

I'm in the right church, I go to the right church, I can do whatever I want, um, right.

¹¹Has this house, which is called by My name, become a den of thieves in your eyes? Behold, I, even I, have seen it,” says Yahovah. ¹²“But go now to My place which was in Shiloh,

Go take a look!

where I set My name at the first, and see what I did to it because of the wickedness of My people Israel. ¹³And now, because you have done all these works,” says the Lord, “and I spoke to you, rising up early and speaking, but you did not hear, and I called you, but you did not answer, ¹⁴therefore I will do to the house which is called by My name, in which you trust, and to this place which I gave to you and your fathers, as I have done to Shiloh. ¹⁵And I will cast you out of My sight, as I have cast out all your brethren—the whole posterity of Ephraim. ¹⁶“Therefore do not pray for this people, nor lift up a cry or prayer for them, nor make intercession to Me; for I will not hear you. ¹⁷Do you not see what they do in the cities of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem?”

Which was to be a centerpiece of righteousness to God.

¹⁸The children gather wood, the fathers kindle the fire, and the women knead dough, to make cakes for the queen of heaven;

They chose to worship demons rather than to worship God the Father.

and they pour out drink offerings to other gods, that they may provoke Me to anger. ¹⁹Do they provoke Me to anger?” says Yahovah. “Do they not provoke themselves, to the shame of their own faces?”

They had the true God and they went for the false.

²⁰Therefore thus says Yahovah God: “Behold, My anger and My fury will be poured out on this place—on man and on beast, on the trees of the field and on the fruit of the ground. And it will burn and not be quenched.” ²¹Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: “Add your burnt offerings to your sacrifices and eat meat. ²² For I did

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not speak to your fathers, or command them in the day that I brought them out of the land of Egypt, concerning burnt offerings or sacrifices. ²³But this is what I commanded them, saying, 'Obey My voice, and I will be your God, and you shall be My people. And walk in all the ways that I have commanded you, that it may be well with you.' ²⁴*Yet they did not obey or incline their ear, but followed the counsels and the dictates of their evil hearts, and went backward and not forward.*

The story is the same over and over and over again.

²⁵*Since the day that your fathers came out of the land of Egypt until this day, I have even sent to you all My servants the prophets, daily rising up early and sending them.*

You notice here, you see this constant reference; "My servants." Is that not what you and I are to become? Servants to God so that when He does set up the kingdom and restores Israel to His holy land, that all things will be in place and we will serve our God.

²⁶*Yet they did not obey Me or incline their ear, but stiffened their neck. They did worse than their fathers. ²⁷"Therefore you shall speak all these words to them, but they will not obey you. You shall also call to them, but they will not answer you. ²⁸"So you shall say to them, 'This is a nation that does not obey the voice of Yahovah their God nor receive correction. Truth has perished and has been cut off from their mouth.*

People don't want truth; they don't want to hear truth today. And we have a wonderful tool that has been given to us; it's called the Holy Bible. God does not and cannot lie! So we have a book that we can go to when we are staring out into this world which is built on nothing by lies. And we can go and read here and read exactly what the truth is and I have seen over and over again that my own personal development and the development of others, is that when God says something, we either don't pay attention to it or we don't believe it; written by the prophets as they were inspired by God; who cannot lie.

So when we read stuff and we look at that, and say, "That can't possibly be true"; are we not calling God a liar? You might think about that! It's pretty amazing exactly how it plays that out. So again verse 28:

²⁸*"So you shall say to them, 'This is a nation that does not obey the voice of the Lord their God nor receive correction. Truth has perished and has been cut off from their mouth. ²⁹Cut off your hair and cast it away, and take up a lamentation on the desolate heights; for the Lord has rejected and forsaken the generation of His wrath.'* ³⁰*For the children of Judah have done evil in My sight," says Yahovah. "They have set their abominations in the house which is called by My name, to pollute it. ³¹And they have built the high places of Tophet, which is in the Valley of the Son of*

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Hinnom, to burn their sons and their daughters in the fire, which I did not command, nor did it come into My heart.

This is what Judah did, even after Israel was long gone into captivity.

³²“Therefore behold, the days are coming,” says Yahovah, “when it will no more be called Tophet, or the Valley of the Son of Hinnom, but the Valley of Slaughter; for they will bury in Tophet until there is no room. ³³The corpses of this people will be food for the birds of the heaven and for the beasts of the earth. And no one will frighten them away.

There’s going to come a day of recompense.

³⁴Then I will cause to cease from the cities of Judah and from the streets of Jerusalem the voice of mirth and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom and the voice of the bride. For the land shall be desolate.

You know the interesting part is, God’s ecclesia are the temple of God. And we read in the New Testament, if we defile our temple, God will destroy us. What did he do with the temple in Shiloh? He destroyed it! What did he ultimately do with the temple of Solomon? He destroyed it! Were the reasons the same for the temple in Shiloh, where God had placed His name? And the temple in Jerusalem, where God had placed His name. Same reasons!

You and I are the temple of the living God. I think sometimes we need to, ah think about that position. Well, how did it all begin when the temple was erected for God to dwell in? What can we learn from Solomon’s dedication prayer? What did Solomon actually understand?

As Israel once looked to Shiloh for directions, as God was there; was the same true of Jerusalem? What was the expectation, even though it was working through kings now, opposed to the nation generally and the nation generally had rejected God? What about that, what does that mean?

And you know it is interesting to consider on the whole calendar thing, when the temple was in Shiloh and the directions were, “When you start your harvest, when you put the sickle to the grain you go to where God placed His name. Well, were did He place His name? They went to Shiloh. Where was the spearhead of worship to God located? Would you just do what you wanted to locally? Or did you do what you could locally because the distance was too far; but you recognize and acknowledged that the feast timing generated from the place where God placed His name?

What did you do? How did you deal with that? Remember the direction when we go back to the calendar thing, was given to the people. “When you do this, then you do

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that.” Was there a directive that ran out of Shiloh to tell everybody what to do? Not that I can find. We do need to think about these things. It’s important that we do.

So I think that we will just leave it there. I want to move ahead in I Kings 8 which is also in the book of II Chronicles. The prayer of dedication that Solomon gave about the temple. What was the drill? What was to be accomplished? What was God’s will in establishing that? How does that all factor in?

So we will just leave that, as far as we take it today. Hopefully the history of Shiloh, totally missed by me, completely missed by me, was of some interest to you and to show and see that God’s thinking has been consistent. so when we read, “I don’t change” we can believe that; because no, He, He doesn’t.

So until next time, ah, when we get to take a second look at the Jerusalem Chronicles; we will take another at it and see what other things we can possibly learn from our examination of this, to me, very interesting topic.