

out of a number of sources. The might be part of the actual chronicles of the kings of Judah and Israel...many of the kings of antiquity kept such records. Their great work is to show the hand of the Lord active in the history of the nation.

a. Theme: The King is in the Hand of God

b. Outline:

- I. The reign of Solomon I. 1-11
- II. The Divided Kingdom I:12--II:25
(and many sub-divisions, you know)

c. Author: Unknown but I will elaborate

d. Major events:

- (1) The rule of each of the kings
- (2) The division of the nation
- (3) The strife between Israel and Judah
- (4) Fall of the northern kingdom
- (5) Fall of the southern kingdom

e. Particular features:

- (1) the character of the kings
- (2) The role of God in the king/people relationship
- (3) The development of the nation in its sociological, economic pattern.
- (4) The cause of national failure and the resultant captivities.
- (5) Contrasting Baal and Jehovah worship

f. Kings tends to show the outworking of the covenants of God as the people listened or did not listen. It is a vital link in the redemptive history and demonstrates in a vigorous way that when men make their own religion, nothing good comes of it.