

Study Tips...Read Through Chronicles at one sitting. Skip the genealogies for the first time. The second time through use a Bible atlas and dictionary to identify the people and places mentioned. Read the genealogies, if your Bible has paragraph titles, note how they are arranged (with the line of promise mentioned last). Note the Chronicler's use of themes and patterns throughout the book.

Some special studies in Chronicles: analyze the patterns of the book as the themes unfold historically; compare and contrast the differences between Chronicles and Samuel/Kings: why did the Chronicler add or omit the passages that are different; what purpose do the changes serve? Examine the Chronicler's use of earlier patterns and expressions (for example, 1 Chronicles 22 with Joshua 1).

In the classics...many classics which were drawn from 2 Samuel and Kings could have been drawn from Chronicles. Handel's oratorio "Zadok the Priest" describes in part the dedication of the Temple in 2 Chronicles 5-6. "The Defeat of Sennacherib" by Peter Paul Rubens (1577-1640) is based on the story (found in 2 Chronicles 32:20-22 and its fuller parallel in 2 Kings 19:35-37). Michelangelo's well-known sculpture of David portrays him on the same heroic scale as does Chronicles, while that of Gianlorenzo Bernini (1623), not as well-known, shows him as the young shepherd boy with a sling.

For further reading...Books on Chronicles are few. Most writers prefer to write on Samuel or Kings and refer to the parallel passages in Chronicles. Bible dictionaries provide the best background materials.

At this point we come to an end of this portion of the syllabus...the survey of Old Testament books.-.that began on page 7. Part IV- of the syllabus is a section entitled "What you should know about the Old Testament" and it is not ready for typing yet...so we will begin it on page 108 if I get that far.