



The book of 1 Chronicles

DESCRIPTION SHEET

Author

While for the books of Judges, 1 and 2 Samuel, the rabbinic tradition recognizes Prophet Samuel as their author, and for the books of 1 and 2 Kings the authorship is attributed to Prophet Jeremiah, in the case of the books of 1 and 2 Chronicles, this same tradition recognizes Ezra, the scribe, as their author.

Date of writing

It seems that this text was written after the exile of the people of Israel during the period 450-425 BC. That said, this text was addressed to those returning from exile.

Main theme and target audience

This text, which largely repeated the stories told in the books of 1 and 2 Samuel, and 1 and 2 Kings, was written to remind the Israelites coming out of exile how to worship God. This is why this book emphasizes the sacerdotal aspect and the functions of the priests. As we will notice when reading this book, the text pays special attention to the tribes of Judah, Benjamin and Levi, as shown in the genealogies. Another characteristic of the text is that it does not focus on the negative side of the kings mentioned, not because the author wanted to hide the weaknesses of these kings, but because his objective was instead to relate the positive works related to the will to restore the pattern of sacrifice ordered by God.

Outline of the book

1. Selective genealogy (1 Ch.1 :1-9 :34).
2. David's ascension to the royal throne and the conquest of Jerusalem (1 Ch. 9 :35-12 :40).
3. David's reign and the preparation of Solomon as heir to the throne (1 Ch. 13:1-29:30).