



OLD TESTAMENT • HISTORY

1 Kings

Wisdom, worship, and divided loyalties

AUTHORSHIP · Anonymous; compiled from royal and prophetic records

DATE & CONTEXT · Events from Solomon to the divided kingdom; final form often linked to exile

The big picture

Solomon's wisdom and the temple's construction open a season of splendor, but divided loyalties undermine his reign. After his death, Israel divides into northern and southern kingdoms. Royal decisions draw communities toward or away from God. Elijah's ministry confronts idolatry and exposes the limits of political power. The book asks whether outward achievement can endure without inward faithfulness.

Words to carry

"Let your heart therefore be perfect with the LORD our God, to walk in his statutes, and to keep his commandments, as at this day."

1 Kings 8:61 · KJV

Live it

01 Ask for wisdom before pursuing an impressive outcome.

02 Examine a loyalty that competes with your commitment to God.

03 Support truthful voices even when they make you uncomfortable.

Pause & reflect

What success might be hiding a divided heart?

Original SELAH37 introduction. Read the text in context; historical dates and attributions are approximate.

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