

Christ Church Detroit Adult Bible Class 2023-2024



King David on an Israeli stamp

In his book, *The Art of Biblical Narrative*, Robert Alter, scholar of Hebrew poetry and biblical translator, suggests, "...biblical narrative, from the beginning of Genesis to the end of Chronicles, is an account of how divine word—and in more ambiguous ways, often human word as well—becomes historical fact . . . The Chronicler is impelled to rewrite these stories [of the Patriarchs and the Kings of Judah] in order to make them yield a picture of divinely ordained political and cultic practice."

1	Sept 10	1 Chronicles 1:1-9:1	Background ~ limited genealogy
2	Sept 17	1 Chronicles 9:2-10:14	More background ~ King Saul
3	Sept 24	1 Chronicles 11:1-13:14	King David's rise to power
4	Oct 1	1 Chronicles 14:1-16:43	The Ark is moved to Jerusalem
5	Oct 8	1 Chronicles 17:1-22:1	God disapproves Temple building

Detroit Free Press Marathon, Sunday, October 15 ~ no class

6	Oct 22		1 Chronicles 22:2-25:31	David plans for the Temple
7	Oct 29		1 Chronicles 26:1-29:30	Solomon becomes king
8	Nov 5		2 Chronicles 1:1-4:22	Solomon builds the Temple
9	Nov 12		2 Chronicles 5:1-7:22	Building the Jerusalem Temple
10	Nov 19		2 Chronicles 8:1-9:31	Solomon's wealth & wisdom
11	Nov 26	Advent 1	2 Chronicles 10:1-13:23	Rebellion of Israel
12	Dec 3	Advent 2	2 Chronicles 14:1-16:14	King Rehoboam
13	Dec 10	Advent 3	2 Chronicles 17:1-19:11	King Jehoshaphat's reform
[Dec 17 - 31 ~ Christmas Break]				
14	Jan 7		2 Chronicles 20:1-23:21	Kings Jehoram, Azariah, Athaliah
15	Jan 14		2 Chronicles 24:1-25:28	Kings Joash & Amaziah
16	Jan 21		2 Chronicles 26:1-28:27	Kings Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz
17	Jan 28		2 Chronicles 29:1-30:27	King Hezekiah
18	Feb 4		2 Chronicles 31:1-33:25	Hezekiah's reform ~ Assyria invades
19	Feb 11		2 Chronicles 34:1-36:23	King Josiah ~ King Cyrus of Persia

Once a single book following Chronicles, Ezra & Nehemiah in our Christian Old Testament follow the "histories" and tell of the rebuilding of the Temple & Jerusalem after return from Babylonian exile.

20	Feb 18	Lent 1	Ezra 1:1-3:13	God's promise & Cyrus' decree
21	Feb 25	Lent 2	Ezra 4:1-6:22	Rebuilding the Jerusalem Temple
22	Mar 3	Lent 3	Ezra 7:1-10:44	Ezra & his mission
23	Mar 10	Lent 4	Nehemiah 1:1-4:23	Rebuilding Jerusalem's walls
24	Mar 17	Lent 5	Nehemiah 5:1-8:18	Economic hardships ~ Festival of Booths
25	Mar 24	Palm Sunday	Nehemiah 9:1-13:31	Dedication of a rebuilt Jerusalem

[March 31, Easter Sunday ~ no class]

After the New Testament canon was complete, gospels continued to be written ~ many exist as fragments only and are "gnostic," finding "hidden wisdom" in Jesus' teachings.

26	Apr 7	Gospel of Peter - 2 nd C CE
27	Apr 14	"Jewish-Christian Gospels": Ebionites, Hebrews, Nazarenes
28	Apr 21	Gospel of Thomas
29	Apr 28	Gospel of Mary
30	May 5	Gospel of Judas: Four appearances of Jesus
31	May 12	Gospel of Judas: Questions & Answers

[May 19, Pentecost ~ no class]

Probably the last written of the books included in the New Testament, these ascribed to followers of the Apostle Peter spell out rules for Christian living and hope for the future.

32	May 26	Trinity	1 Peter 1:1-3:12	Conduct in society
33	June 2		1 Peter 3:13-5:14	Suffering in doing good, joy & hope
34	June 9		2 Peter 1:1-3:18	Expectation of the coming of Christ