**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 2 Chronicles 10:1-13:23 Rebellion of Israel

12 Dec 3 Advent 1 2 Chronicles 14:1-16:14 Kings Abijah & Asa

13 Dec 10 Advent 2 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, Azahiah, 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 29:1-31:21 King Hezekiah

18 Feb 4 2 Chronicles 32:1-33:25 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

**{March 17, Lent 5 ~ no class]**

24 Mar 24 Palm Sunday Nehemiah 5:1-8:18 Economic hardships ~ Festival of Booths

**[March 31, Easter Sunday ~ no class]**

25 April 7 Easter 2 Nehemiah 9:1-13:31 Dedication of a rebuilt Jerusalem

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 14 Easter 3 Gospel of Peter – 2nd C CE

27 Apr 21 Easter 4 Jewish-Christian Gospels”: Ebionites, Hebrews, Nazarenes

28 Apr 28 Easter 5 Gospel of Thomas

29 May 5 Easter 6 Gospel of Mary

30 May 12 Ascension Gospel of Judas

**[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.

31 May 26 Trinity 1 Peter 1:1-3:12 Conduct in society

32 June 2 1 Peter 3:13-5:14 Suffering in doing good, joy & hope

33 June 9 2 Peter 1:1-3:18 Expectation of the coming of Christ