

1 KINGS 1

OVERVIEW

The TITLE of the Book

Books of **1-2 KINGS** are a continuation of **1-2 SAMUEL**

In the Hebrew manuscripts, the books of **1st** and **2nd Kings** form ONE book — As did **1-2 Samuel**



Their division into 2 books has its origin in the **Septuagint**

In your Bibles you might often see a footnote that begins with LXX — that is a reference to the Septuagint — Which is Greek translation of the Jewish Scriptures.

That was undertaken between 300-200 BC.

Fewer and fewer Jews were speaking Hebrew and there were a lot of Hellenistic (Greek speaking) Jews.

There were **70 scholars** involved in the translation of the Hebrew Scriptures into Greek

Hence the title “**Septuagint**” — which means **seventy** in Latin — hence the Roman numerals **LXX**

$L = 50 \times X = 20$

The “**Septuagint**” has proven to be very helpful in understanding New Testament words by seeing the use of the same Greek words used in the “Septuagint”

In the Septuagint

The books of **1 Sam, 2 Sam, 1** and **2 Kings** are called “The 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Books of the Kingdoms.”

The PLURAL word **kingdoms** refers to the 2 kingdoms of Israel in the North and Judah in the South.

As we will see tonight, this is a very appropriate title for these 1-2 Kings

Later in the 4th century — There comes the Latin Vulgate — which is Jerome's famous translation of the entire Bible into Latin

The Latin Vulgate continues the division of these books in the same form as the Septuagint

- only they are called “The 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th books of the **Kings**” — instead of **kingdoms**
- This is equally appropriate because of the **dual monarchies** in the divided kingdom

In the **Authorized Version of 1611** (KJV) we find the subtitles of these four books

Under the Title "The First Book of Samuel" it often reads — "Otherwise called the first Book of the Kings"

The Books of 1-2 KINGS are the continuation of Israel's history

The two Books cover 400 + years in Israel's history

- Known as The Period of the Monarchy
- Roughly (970–586 b.c.) — from Solomon to Jehoiachin

They **OPEN** with SOLOMON coming to the throne and they **END** with the DESTRUCTION of Jerusalem

At the **beginning** the TEMPLE is **BUILT**

At the **END** the TEMPLE is **BURNED**

The Authorship of the Books

Jewish tradition has it that the prophet Jeremiah is the author of these 2 books

- It is possible that he wrote the books in his old age

NOTE: It is not possible to prove this with certainty

What is for certain is that it was **INSPIRED** by the Holy Spirit —

- **2 Timothy 3:16** All Scripture is breathed out by God

The major subject of 1 KINGS

It is the book which records

the **DIVISION** of the **ONE** united kingdom — over which Saul, David and Solomon reigned

into **TWO** kingdoms that would be called **ISRAEL** and **JUDAH**

- The kingdom of Israel — made up of 10 tribes, becomes the **NORTHERN** kingdom
- The kingdom of Judah — made up of Judah and Benjamin, becomes the **SOUTHERN** kingdom

In the **NORTHERN** kingdom

- **SAMARIA** becomes the capital

In the **SOUTHERN** kingdom

- **JERUSALEM** remains the capital

The STRUCTURE of the 1 KINGS

The book is made up of **22 chapters** and **divides right in the middle**

Chapters 1-11 are devoted to Solomon and his reign of 40 years

Chapters 12-22 cover approximately the first 80 years of the separate kingdoms

Chapter 11 records the death of Solomon — the dividing point of the 2 sections of the book

In the **FIRST 11** chapters we have a UNITED kingdom

In the **SECOND half** of the book comes the DISRUPTION — and in it we see the history of the **two lines** of kings

OUTLINE OF 1 KINGS

I. The Forty Years Reign Of King Solomon (Ch.1-11)

Solomon's accession and early acts (Ch. 1-4)

Solomon's Temple and palace built (Ch.5-8)

Solomon's fame and glory (Ch.9-10)

Solomon's decline and death (Ch.11:1-43)

II. The First Eighty Years Of The Two Kingdoms (Ch.12-22)

Accension of Reheboam: The Disruption (Ch.12:1-33)

Judah Kings - Reheboam to Jehoshaphat (Ch.13-22)

Israel Kings - Jereboam to Ahaziah (Ch.13-22)

Ministry of the prophet Elijah to Israel (Ch.17-22)

The CENTRAL spiritual message of 1 KINGS

The COST of DISOBEDIENCE

1 Ki 11:11-13 ¹¹Therefore the Lord said to Solomon, "Since this has been your practice and you have not kept my covenant and my statutes that I have commanded you, I will surely tear the kingdom from you and will give it to your servant. ¹²Yet for the sake of David your father I will not do it in your days, but I will tear it out of the hand of your son. ¹³However, I will not tear away all the kingdom, but I will give one tribe to your son, for the sake of David my servant and for the sake of Jerusalem that I have chosen."

CHAPTER 1

1Now King David was old and advanced in years. And although they covered him with clothes, he could not get warm.

David is now 70 years old (2 Sam 5:4-5)

THAT is OLD back then. You were worn out when you were 40 back then.

There was no Gym memberships or health clubs — No anti-biotics.

And David's life wasn't easy!

When he was a teenager he was fighting lions to protect his father's flock.

He goes from there to fighting Goliath

from there to fleeing from Saul — living like a fugitive — hiding in caves.

His life was filled with tremendous peaks and valleys.

On top of the physical combat and life threatening confrontations he endured — he also suffered time and again the kind of deep emotional grief that AGES you! (Kathy S.)

David was

- a prophet
- a poet
- a psalmist
- a military genius

He united Israel as one kingdom

- He established a capital in Jerusalem

Laid out the plan for the Temple given to him by God.

Organized the ministry of the priests and the Levites and the musicians within the Temple.

A truly REMARKABLE man!

BEAR IN MIND — He's been king for FORTY years!

Imagine that — Many of you aren't 40 years old.

Imagine being born and for your entire life there's been ONE guy in the White House.

Imagine that he is a good guy.

A guy who brought the nation to prayer and set up worship and wrote songs of worship to the Lord.

THAT was what it was like for MANY in Israel.

They had only known THIS man as their king

- And NOW they are going to see a new king come to the throne.

So Here is David — 70 years old and he can't get warm

The heart's worn out!

It can no longer pump well enough to keep his circulation strong and his body warm.

NOTE: David is not RUSTED out — He is BURNED out!

2Therefore his servants said to him, "Let a young woman be sought for my lord the king, and let her wait on the king and be in his service. Let her lie in your arms, that my lord the king may be warm."

Nothing sexual here — THIS is the electric blanket of the day!

Josephus — describes this in his Antiquities of the Jews, he says that this was a medical treatment and he calls the **servants of 1 Kings 1:2 "physicians."**

Josephus tells us that it was practiced in the time of Jesus — There are even places in the Middle East where it is still practiced.

3So they sought for a beautiful young woman throughout all the territory of Israel, and found Abishag the Shunammite, and brought her to the king. 4The young woman was very beautiful, and she was of service to the king and attended to him, but the king knew her not. Nothing sexual.

5Now Adonijah the son of Haggith exalted himself, saying, "I will be king."

Adonijah is the oldest son

Amnon is dead — Absalom is dead — Chiliab is passed from the scene

In the NATURAL order of things Adonijah is heir to the throne.

As we will see in the chapter — David has already made it clear that SOLOMON is to succeed him as the next king of Israel.

Solomon was about 15 – 17 years old.

David was 50 when he committed adultery with Bathsheba — He is 70 at this time.

So sometime after the time that the first child of David and Bathsheba dies they conceive and have Solomon.

Adonijah is much older

Adonijah.... exalted himself, saying, “I will be king.”

David has had a BUNCH of sons that were trouble.

INTERESTING — Some feel that Nathan (the prophet and friend of David) raised Solomon

- because Solomon had character in the beginning of his life.
- The other sons lacked character and were ambitious from the beginning.
- In fact — in just a moment we will see Adonijah act just like Absalom

Adonijah.... exalted himself, saying, “I will be king.”

Psalms 75:4-7 NASB “I said to the boastful, ‘Do not boast,’ And to the wicked, ‘Do not lift up the horn;’⁵ Do not lift up your horn on high, Do not speak with insolent pride.”⁶ For not from the east, nor from the west, Nor from the desert comes exaltation;⁷ But God is the Judge; He puts down one and exalts another.

David **knew** that promotion does not come from anywhere but the Lord.

David NEVER once lifted his hand against Saul — a rebellious man.

David NEVER once lifted his hand to exalt himself.

- The people came to him and made him king over all of Israel

David learned those things in the crucible of affliction

- He learned to bow the knee to the Lord in the midst of heartbreak and adversity.

BY CONTRAST — His sons were raised in the palace.

They never lacked food — they ate at the kings table.

They never worried about where they were going to sleep.

They had a military escort wherever they went.

And — they also had GREAT ambition — with virtually NO character.

You KNOW there is going to be trouble when it says **Adonijah EXALTED HIMSELF** and said **I WILL be king!**

SELF EXALTATION is Satanic!

Isaiah 14:11-15 “How you are fallen from heaven, O Day Star, son of Dawn! How you are cut down to the ground, you who laid the nations low!¹³ You said in your heart, ‘I will ascend to heaven; above the stars of God I will set my throne on high; I will sit on the mount of assembly in the far reaches of the north; ¹⁴ I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High.’¹⁵ But you are brought down to Sheol, to the far reaches of the pit.

BY CONTRAST — HUMILITY is DIVINE in origin.

Jesus said — **as the Father has sent Me** — so send I you! **John 20:21**

HOW did the Father send His Son?

- He was born in a BARN in BETHLEHEM
- He was laid in a FEEDING TROUGH.

We can NOT comprehend the CONDESCENSION — the INFINITE HUMILITY — of the INCARNATION

INCARNATION = Incarnation comes from two latin words — IN (into) and CARNARE (flesh) = Into Flesh

IN order to SAVE us God put on MEAT

And **to do that** — the eternal God — of whom Scriptures say

- **the heaven of heavens can not contain His glory**
- **He dwells in light unapproachable**

EMPTIED Himself of the right to express His Divine glory!

Satan EXALTED Himself to become god

God HUMBLed Himself to become man!

Jesus said that when the Father sent Him — that the Father bore witness of Him!

When the Father sends YOU or me — we don't have to exalt ourselves — the father bears witness of us — lifts us up.

David definitely had moments of great moral failure.

But self exaltation was not one of them.

His sons — on the other hand — lived exalting themselves.

And he prepared for himself chariots and horsemen, and fifty men to run before him.

QUOTE: Adam Clarke — "He copied the conduct of his brother Absalom in every respect." (2 Sam 15)

6His father had never at any time displeased him by asking, "Why have you done thus and so?" He was also a very handsome man, and he was born next after Absalom.

If you raise a kid and at NO TIME in your life you **don't displease** him — something is wrong!

We're NOT supposed to live to PLEASE our children. We are supposed to LOVINGLY TRAIN them

It means that David not only let this guy have his way all the time — it also means that David NEVER disciplined him!

CRUCIAL: I think that David's moral failure with Bathsheba and the murder of Uriah **left David crippled**

He never sensed that he could lift his hand to correct another person — It left him a **broken man** and a **poor father!**

LISTEN GUYS — SATAN has a **LONG TERM PLAN** when it comes to temptation and the consequences of sin — even forgiven sin.

AMAZING — Here is a man who could

Defeat Goliath

Defeat any army

But he could NEVER defeat his kids at home.

And whether our kids believe it or not — our kids NEED to be DEFEATED once in a while!

IF you have raised kids you KNOW that it is NOT an easy job!

Particularly when the hit 12 or 13

Hormones are changing

Thoughts are changing

Complexion is changing

Height is changing

Looks are changing

Friends are changing

Priorities are changing

You can't deal with a human being going through that many changes!

Mark Twain said — When your kid turns 13 years old seal them in a barrel — feed them through a hole — and when they turn 16 — SEAL the hole!

Imagine taking a kid — just like that

and placing them in a palace where they have EVERYTHING at their disposal

and then he has a dad who NEVER DISPLEASED him!

And then this guy was incredibly handsome — making it worse.

7He conferred with Joab the son of Zeruiah and with Abiathar the priest. And they followed Adonijah and helped him.

It is TRAGIC to see these guys who once occupied places of trust in David's life — **turning on David** at the end of David's life.

No doubt — Adonijah saw Joab as a prime candidate to stand with him against David

as a means of revenge for David making Amasa general in Joab's place. 2 Samuel 19:13

Or because Benaiah now had more authority over military affairs.

Abiathar might have been jealous of Zadok the high priest (2 Samuel 8:17).

QUOTE: Alexander Maclaren —

- "Professional rivalry had darkened into bitter hate."
- "Joab and Abiathar tarnished a life's devotion and broke sacred bonds, because they thought of themselves rather than of God's will."

We are pathetic creatures who are DESPERATE for the grace of God and the power of the Holy Spirit to KEEP us from THIS!

8But Zadok the priest and Be-naiah the son of Jehoiada and Nathan the prophet and Shimei and Rei and David's mighty men were not with Adonijah.9Adonijah sacrificed sheep, oxen, and fattened cattle by the Serpent's Stone, which is beside En-rogel,

CRUCIAL INSIGHT: This was both a sacrifice and a feast.

The feast was to make him popular — the sacrifice was to make it appear that he had received his authority from God

and he invited all his brothers, the king's sons, and all the royal officials of Judah,

10but he did not invite Nathan the prophet or Benaiah or the mighty men or Solomon his brother.

People at that gathering should have been SUSPICIOUS because of those who were conspicuously absent —

The PROPHET to the king

The LOYAL servant to the king

The other son of the king — who was widely known to be the divinely named heir to the throne of Israel

11Then Nathan said to Bathsheba the mother of Solomon, "Have you not heard that Adonijah the son of Haggith has become king and David our lord does not know it?"

This shows us how far removed from the workings of the kingdom David really was.

He didn't know what was going on around him in the kingdom.

12 Now therefore come, let me give you advice, that you may save your own life and the life of your son Solomon.

Nathan knew that if Adonijah became king he would immediately kill every potential rival to his throne, including Bathsheba and Solomon.

13 Go in at once to King David, and say to him, 'Did you not, my lord the king, swear to your servant, saying, "Solomon your son shall reign after me, and he shall sit on my throne"? Why then is Adonijah king?'

David made this promise to Bathsheba.

The specific promise is not recorded before this

but we know from 1 Chronicles 22:5-9 that David did in fact intend for Solomon to succeed him as king.

WE MUST STOP here for a moment and think of what an AWESOME picture of GRACE we have here!

That a son of the wife David took through adultery and murder — in the most infamous scandal of his life

- should be his heir
- a part of the fulfilling of the Davidic covenant.

14 Then while you are still speaking with the king, I also will come in after you and confirm your words."

15 So Bathsheba went to the king in his chamber (now the king was very old, and Abishag the Shunammite was attending to the king). 16 Bathsheba bowed and paid homage to the king, and the king said, "What do you desire?" 17 She said to him, "My lord, you swore to your servant by the Lord your God, saying, 'Solomon your son shall reign after me, and he shall sit on my throne.' 18 And now, behold, Adonijah is king, although you, my lord the king, do not know it. 19 He has sacrificed oxen, fattened cattle, and sheep in abundance, and has invited all the sons of the king, Abiathar the priest,

and Joab the commander of the army, but Solomon your servant he has not invited. 20 And now, my lord the king, the eyes of all Israel are on you, to tell them who shall sit on the throne of my lord the king after him. 21 Otherwise it will come

to pass, when my lord the king sleeps with his fathers, that I and my son Solomon will be counted offenders.” 22While she was still speaking with the king, Nathan the prophet came in. 23And they told the king, “Here is Nathan the prophet.” And when he came in before the king, he bowed before the king, with his face to the ground. 24And Nathan said,

“My lord the king, have you said, ‘Adonijah shall reign after me, and he shall sit on my throne’? 25For he has gone down this day and has sacrificed oxen, fattened cattle, and sheep in abundance, and has invited all the king’s sons, the commanders of the army, and Abiathar the priest. And behold, they are eating and drinking before him, and saying, ‘Long live King Adonijah!’ 26But me, your servant, and Zadok the priest, and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, and your servant Solomon he has not invited. 27Has this thing been brought about by my lord the king

and you have not told your servants who should sit on the throne of my lord the king after him?”

There are a couple of things for us to feast on here —

FIRST — The MAN that David was

The last time we saw Nathan was in [2 Samuel 12](#), where he rebuked his friend David over his sins of adultery and murder

Yet here is David — 70 years old — at the end of his life — and he receives Nathan

The sense is that Nathan has remained a trusted friend.

David did not treat Nathan as an enemy just because Nathan had confronted him with a painful truth.

QUOTE: John Trapp — “So far was David from hatred of the truth, that he **loved Nathan the better** for his plain dealing while he lived — and gave him free access to his bed-chamber — and now nameth him a commissioner for the declaring of his successor.”

SECOND — Nathan’s PLAN

[Deu 19:15](#) “A single witness shall not suffice against a person for any crime or for any wrong in connection with any offense that he has committed. Only on the evidence of two witnesses or of three witnesses shall a charge be established.

THAT is why Nathan first told Bathsheba to go in and that he would follow

When he hears your report and then my report, our words will be established

Jesus sets this same principle forth in Matthew's Gospel concerning dealing with problems within the Body of Christ

Mat 18:15-16 "If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. ¹⁶But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses.

Paul said the same thing

2 Cor 13:1 ¹This is the third time I am coming to you. Every charge must be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses.

1 Tim 5:19 Do not admit a charge against an elder except on the evidence of two or three witnesses.

We NEED to be aware of this principle of TWO witnesses

People come with reports

- "May I quote you on that?"
- "Come with me, we'll go check it out with that person now"

IF you do not take that position, you will become the dumping grounds for every foul rumor imaginable

I NEVER deal with questionable issues or people alone anymore

Because if we discuss a matter alone

they can walk away and distort what I said

Or they might truly misunderstand me and then misquote me to others

REMEMBER — Yesterday I had mentioned that ministry can be UGLY.

Some of the most painful dealings that I have ever had have been with individuals in the ministry

Things have been said to others about those dealings that have been untrue, yet sometimes believed

BUT — In many/most of those circumstances I have been able rest in the fact that I made sure that I had another WITNESS with me

28Then King David answered, "Call Bathsheba to me." So she came into the king's presence and stood before the king. 29And the king swore, saying, "As the Lord lives, who has redeemed my soul out of every adversity, 30as I swore to you by the Lord, the God of Israel, saying, 'Solomon your son shall reign after me, and he shall sit on my throne in my place,' even so will I do this day." 31Then Bathsheba bowed with her face to the ground

and paid homage to the king and said, "May my lord King David live forever!"32King David said, "Call to me Zadok the priest, Nathan the prophet, and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada." So they came before the king. 33And the king said to them, "Take with you the servants of your lord and have Solomon my son **ride on my own mule**, and bring him down to Gihon.

A FEW THINGS ON DONKEYS

This was essentially the Old Testament equivalent to a presidential motorcade.

The mule was something special in ancient Israel.

QUOTE: Dillard — "Since Mosaic law forbade crossbreeding (Leviticus 19:19), mules had to be imported and were therefore very expensive. So while the common people rode donkeys, the mule was reserved for royalty."

QUOTE: Adam Clarke — "No subject of the king could use any thing that belonged to the prince, without forfeiting his life. As David offered Solomon to ride on his own mule, this was full evidence that he had appointed him his successor." (Clarke)

ALSO —

Donkeys were ridden by kings in times of PEACE.

They rode horses in time of WAR.

So David gave this command to make a statement about Solomon — that he was a king of peace!

CHECK THIS OUT —

REMEMBER — In **Luke 19** — When Jesus entered Jerusalem entered Jerusalem the week before His death —

- He came riding on a donkey.
- WHY a donkey?

REMEMBER — When Jesus was in the synagogue of Nazareth on a Sabbath

- **Luke 4:16-20** ¹⁶And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read. ¹⁷And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written, “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed,¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”²⁰And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down.

On the day that Jesus entered Jerusalem — April 6, 32 AD — the Sunday before Passover — the Sunday before He would be crucified — **Jesus was offering Himself as the prince of peace**

But they did NOT receive Him

BACK TO Luke 4 — Jesus **DELIBERATELY STOPPED** reading from Isaiah at a very specific place

Jesus was reading from **Isaiah 61**

He stopped at the first part of verse 2 — ² to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor,

The verse ends with — and the day of vengeance of our God;

In the FIRST coming of Jesus He came to make PEACE between God and man — reconcile sinners to God.

HENCE — His entrance into Jerusalem is on a mule.

In His second coming — He is coming NOT to announce peace — but to bring the day of vengeance of our God;

And we are told that in THAT coming Jesus is **riding a Horse**

Rev 19:11-16 ¹¹Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse! The one sitting on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he judges and makes war. ¹²His eyes are like a flame of fire,

and on his head are many diadems, and he has a name written that no one knows but himself. ¹³He is clothed in a robe dipped in blood, and the name by which he is called is The Word of God. ¹⁴And the armies of heaven, arrayed in fine linen, white and pure, were following him on white horses. ¹⁵From his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and he will rule them with a rod of iron. He will tread the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty. ¹⁶On his robe and on his thigh he has a name written, King of kings and Lord of lords.

Back to 1 Kings — David is saying — “Present Solomon as a man of peace”

By the way — The name Solomon (sh^elômôh) means peaceful

34And let Zadok the priest and Nathan the prophet there anoint him king over Israel. Then blow the trumpet and say, ‘Long live King Solomon!’ **35**You shall then come up after him, and he shall come and sit on my throne, **36**And Benaiah the son of Jehoiada answered the king, “Amen! May the Lord, the God of my lord the king, say so.

37As the Lord has been with my lord the king, even so may he be with Solomon, and make his throne greater than the throne of my lord King David.”**38**So Zadok the priest, Nathan the prophet, and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, and the Cherethites and the Pelethites went down and had Solomon ride on King David’s mule and brought him to Gihon. **39**There Zadok the priest took the horn of oil from the tent and anointed Solomon. Then they blew the trumpet, and all the people said, “Long live King Solomon!” **40**And all the people went up after him, playing on pipes, and rejoicing with great joy,

so that the earth was split by their noise.**41**Adonijah and all the guests who were with him heard it as they finished feasting. And when Joab heard the sound of the trumpet, he said, “What does this uproar in the city mean?” **42**While he was still speaking, behold, Jonathan the son of Abiathar the priest came. And Adonijah said, “Come in, for you are a worthy man and bring good news.” **43**Jonathan answered Adonijah, “No, for our lord King David has made Solomon king, **44**and the king has sent with him Zadok the priest, Nathan the prophet,

and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, and the Cherethites and the Pelethites. And they had him ride on the king’s mule. **45**And Zadok the priest and Nathan the prophet have anointed him king at Gihon, and they have gone up from there rejoicing, so that the city is in an uproar. This is the noise that you have heard. **46**Solomon sits on the royal throne. **47**Moreover, the king’s servants came to congratulate our lord King David, saying, ‘May your God make the name of Solomon more famous than yours, and make his throne greater than your throne.’

And the king bowed himself on the bed. **48**And the king also said, ‘Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who has granted someone to sit on my throne this day, my own eyes seeing it.’”**49**Then all the guests of Adonijah trembled and rose, and each went his own way.

WOW — Not exactly the definition of commitment and loyalty

But that’s the way it is when people are banded around a rebellion

They do NOT stick together because they are only joining the rebellion to vent some bitterness or for what they can get out of it

SELF-centered AMBITION gets them in

SELF-PRESERVATION gets them out

May we NEVER be banded together by dissatisfaction or rebellion

But ONLY and ALWAYS because our eyes are fixed on Jesus Christ

May we NEVER gather around a CAUSE or a MAN other than the CAUSE of exalting Jesus and the PERSON of Jesus.

50 And Adonijah feared Solomon. So he arose and went and took hold of the horns of the altar.

The horns of the altar were on the 4 corners of the altar and they would tie down the sacrificial animals to those horns

When a man was afraid he would run into the tabernacle and lay hold of the horns of the tabernacle and beg for mercy

51 Then it was told Solomon, "Behold, Adonijah fears King Solomon, for behold, he has laid hold of the horns of the altar, saying,

'Let King Solomon swear to me first that he will not put his servant to death with the sword.'" 52 And Solomon said, "If he will show himself a worthy man, not one of his hairs shall fall to the earth, but if wickedness is found in him, he shall die." 53 So King Solomon sent, and they brought him down from the altar. And he came and paid homage to King Solomon, and Solomon said to him, "Go to your house."