

Old Testament, Religion 302  
Independent Study

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## Lesson 1

### 1 Kings 1–16

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The following assignments include various learning activities, such as questions, lists, essays, charts, comparisons, contrasts, and surveys. To receive credit for this lesson, you must complete the number of assignments indicated below and submit them to your institute instructor or administrator. You may submit your work either electronically or on paper, handwritten or typed.

Each lesson should take approximately 60–90 minutes to complete, the same amount of time you would typically spend in a weekly institute class. Since reading the scripture block listed in the lesson heading is expected of all institute students prior to class, the estimated time for each assignment does not include the time you need to spend reading the scripture block.

**Complete any two of assignments 1–4 and complete assignment 5:**

#### 1. 1 Kings 1–2. David Died and Solomon Became King

- a. Read 1 Kings 1 and the Bible Dictionary entries for each of the individuals listed below. Also read the institute student manual commentary on 1 Kings 1:1, “How Could Adonijah and Solomon Both Have Claim to the Throne of Israel?” (pp. 1–2).

David  
Adonijah  
Nathan the prophet  
Solomon  
Joab  
Zadok  
Abiathar

- b. From what you learned from your reading, write two or three paragraphs that summarize the succession of Solomon to the throne of David, mentioning the roles played by each of the individuals listed above.
- c. Read 1 Kings 2:1–4 and record in your own words the charge David gave to Solomon.
- d. David said to Solomon, “Shew thyself a man” (1 Kings 2:2). Read 1 Kings 2:3; 2 Nephi 1:21; Alma 48:11–18. Make a list of the characteristics of a man of God that you find in these verses. Using your list and the student manual

commentary for 1 Kings 2:2–3, “Be Thou Strong . . . Shew Thyself a Man” (p. 2), write a paragraph on what you feel is the definition of a man of God.

#### 2. 1 Kings 3–4. “A Wise and an Understanding Heart”

In 1 Kings 3, Solomon had a sacred experience seeing the Lord. Read 1 Kings 3:9–28; 4:29–31 and then answer the following questions in writing:

- Why do you think Solomon asked for an understanding heart? Why do you think his choice was pleasing to the Lord? What would more worldly people have asked for?
- How did Solomon demonstrate that he had received this spiritual gift at the beginning of his reign?
- How could this spiritual gift help you in your life? What do 1 Corinthians 12:31 and Doctrine and Covenants 46:8, 28, 30 explain about how you could develop more gifts of the Spirit?
- How do 1 Kings 4:1–25 and 1 Samuel 11–20 relate to each other?

#### 3. 1 Kings 6–8. Dedication of the Temple Built by Solomon

- a. Read and mark in your scriptures 1 Kings 6:11–14. Describe in writing what the Lord promised those who build temples. From 1 Kings 6:17–38 write a sentence about what impresses you most about the materials used for this temple.
- b. Read Exodus 28:36; 1 Kings 6:38; 7:1; 8:17–20. Explain in writing how long it took Solomon to build the temple. How long did it take him to build his own house? How did his priorities foreshadow his later problems?
- c. Read 1 Kings 7:23–26 and the student manual commentary for 1 Kings 7:23–26, “What Was the Molten Sea and How Was It Used?” (p. 6).
- d. Often this temple is referred to as Solomon’s temple. Read 1 Kings 8:43 and identify whose house Solomon recognized this temple was. What is the statement found on the outside of

temples today that indicates who the temples belong to?

- e. Read 1 Kings 8:22–54 and list at least four blessings Solomon prayed would come to the people because of the temple. Write about one of these blessings that you have experienced, or talk with someone you think has experienced one of these blessings and write about your conversation.
- f. Write about visits, experiences, and feelings you associate with temples. Write about those times when you have been able to perform ordinances either for yourself or for those who are dead. You may wish to record information about the temple nearest you or dedications and open houses you have participated in or hope to participate in. Additionally you may wish to record your feelings about the importance of a temple recommend and living worthy of having one.

**4. 1 Kings 9:1–7. Conditional Promises of the Lord**

- a. Read 1 Kings 9:1–3; Doctrine and Covenants 110:1–10. In writing compare the two experiences. What similarities were there? What differences?
- b. Using the following chart, identify commandments and consequences by listing the if-then statement found in 1 Kings 9:4–7.

If	Then

**5. 1 Kings 11–12. Solomon and the Children of Israel Turned from the Lord**

- a. Read 1 Kings 11 and write a statement describing the events that led up to Solomon falling away from the Lord. What can be concluded regarding Solomon’s many marriages? What were the results of his actions? Read 2 Nephi 31:15–16; Doctrine and Covenants 14:7 and write about what important gospel principle found in these verses was lacking in Solomon’s character.
- b. Read 1 Kings 12:1–15 and write this story in your own words by using the following leads:
  - The problem . . . (vv. 1–5)
  - Advice from old men . . . (vv. 6–7)
  - Advice from young men . . . (vv. 8–11)
  - What Rehoboam did . . . (vv. 8, 12–15)
- c. According to 1 Kings 12:19–21, what happened to the kingdom of Israel as a result of Rehoboam’s decisions?
- d. Read 1 Kings 12:26–32; 14:22; 15:25–26; 16:30–33 and describe in a few sentences the actions of the children of Israel. In what ways do you think the behavior of leaders affect the people?
- e. Read 1 Kings 14:15 and explain in writing the prophetic warning for Israel’s disobedience. Then read Doctrine and Covenants 1:13–16 and summarize what the Lord has promised concerning those who do not obey Him in this dispensation.