

# “SIN AND RETRIBUTION”

## The First and Second Book of Kings

### Who wrote The Books of Kings?

The First and Second Book of Kings was written by anonymous Deuteronomistic writers who compiled the history of Israel from the time of The Book of Deuteronomy through the time of The Second Book of Kings

### How did The Books of Kings get their name and/or what does that name mean?

The First and Second Book of Kings were written to recount the reigns of all the Kings during the Monarchy in Israel

### When did these events take place?

From the Assent of Solomon to the throne, to the destruction of Jerusalem these events took place between 961 B.C. to 561 B.C.

**For more about The Books of Kings:** See pages 295 and 321 in the [Fireside Catholic Youth Bible](#).

Have you ever had someone tell you that you just learned a "lesson in life?" Maybe you just did poorly on a test because you didn't study for it or perhaps your team got beat in the tournament because you didn't practice hard enough. Hopefully, the experience made you a little wiser and likely to not make the same mistake again.

The First and Second Books of Kings are full of stories just like that. Now that God's people had been given the Kings they longed for and the security of a land that they could call their own, they began a 400 year history of living under the rule of a series of Kings. But even the Kings find out that it isn't easy to stay in the favor of God. Like us, they often fall to the temptation of sin and failure in the eyes of God. In The Books of Kings, you'll meet prophets who caution the Kings and the people when they have strayed from God and warn them of the consequences if they don't learn their own "lessons in life." Through it all, God is always there to forgive them when they have sinned and to welcome them back into his loving arms even after turning their backs to Him.

**Interesting Fact:** The temple built by King Solomon for the Lord (1 Kings 6) was sixty cubits long, twenty cubits wide and twenty-five cubits high. Today, the western walling wall is all that remains of this original Temple.

**Bonus Point:** “The Sea”, the giant aquarium in King Solomon’s Palace, held how many gallons of water?