

The First Three Kings of Israel

1) Saul (1 Sam 9- 28)

- Fine physique
- Anointed by Samuel and filled with the Spirit
- Made King and victorious
- Disobeyed God - rejected as king
- Afflicted with evil spirits - jealous of David
- Ends up taking his own life in a battle

2) David (1 Sam 16-1 Kings 2, 1 Chron)

- 58 NT references to David
- Shepherd boy anointed by Samuel
- In the service of Saul - defeats Goliath
- Gifted person - poet, musician, prophet, organiser, fighter, commander - great love for God and close experience of God
- Friendship with Jonathan
- Fugitive from Saul - in desert with a band of men
- Spares Saul's life
- King in Hebron made king over Judah and over Israel
- Establishes Jerusalem - the ark - worship - plans temple
- God's covenant of Kingdom
- His sin with Bathsheba
- Family problems

2) Solomon (1 Kings 2-11, 2 Chron 1-9)

- Asks for wisdom
- Foreign wives and alliances
- Kingdom consolidated
- Builds the temple and palace
- His splendour - visit of Queen of Sheba
- His Downfall - wives and idols - God's anger - divided kingdom
- Possible author of Song of Songs, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes

Other notable Kings

- Rehoboam (Judah) and Jereboam (Israel) - first Kings of divided kingdom

Good Kings of Judah

- Asa
- Jehoshaphat
- Joash
- Hezekiah
- Josiah