

Questions and issues in interpreting 1 Kings 1-2

1. What is the **relationship** between these chapters and the **end of 2 Samuel**?
2. What is the relationship between these two chapters and the **rest of the Solomon story, 1 Kings 3-11**?
3. **Is YHWH in support of Solomon's monarchy?** What are our criteria for determining the answer?
4. What is the **role of Abishag**? What about David's many women?
5. **Why does Adonijah jump in** and declare himself David's successor?
6. **Where is Haggith**, Adonijah's mother?
7. **What do the two coalitions (for or against Adonijah) tell us** about the lines of power in the monarchy at this point?
8. What is the **role of Nathan**, both here and earlier, in relation to Solomon and Bathsheba?
9. How do we interpret the **Nathan/Bathsheba approach to David** on behalf of Solomon?
10. How do we understand **David's state of mind and capacity**?
11. Why does **Adonijah assume his brother Solomon intends him harm**?
12. What do we make of the very **Deuteronomic speech in 2.2-4** in relation to the rest of the chapter?
13. Why does David order the **death of Joab**?
14. **Why would Adonijah ask Bathsheba to ask David for Abishag**, given its seemingly obvious implications? Why does she do it?
15. **Why does Solomon expel Abiathar from the priesthood and Jerusalem** rather than kill him with the others?
16. Why does **Solomon seem to ignore David's orders about Barzillai**?
17. **Why does Solomon tell Shimei to build a house in Jerusalem**, rather than have him live in his hometown of Bahurim?
18. **Why does Shimei go to Achish of Gath** (David's old protector) to find his runaway slaves?