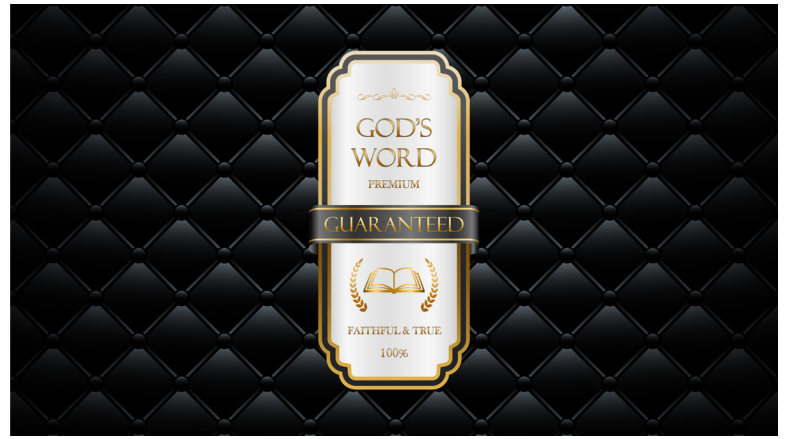


# Crossed Fingers

*1 Kings 1; 2 Kings 25*

## Introduction

In this story, Adonijah exalts himself as king, which does not end well, as David has already appointed Solomon as his successor. David's faithful followers, Joab, Abiathar, Nathan, and Benaiah, help Solomon ascend to the throne, and the people celebrate. Jonathan then interrupts the insurrectionist's festivities to inform Adonijah that Solomon is now king, leading to Adonijah's downfall. After a civil war and exile, the book of Second Kings ends with a feast in which the pagan king of Babylon restores Jehoiachin, a descendant of David, by allowing him to eat at his table and giving him a regular allowance, thus connecting the beginning and end of the book.



Christians began crossing their fingers to form the Ichthus as a sign of trust and safety. It has evolved into a symbol of one's self-verification of their trustworthiness. In the Bible, many people cross their fingers and make promises to God but ultimately fail to keep them, leading to their downfall.

In the book Kings, God's word is sure and will always remain, even when kings and their people try to take control. At the end of Kings, hope is resurrected to show that everything hinges on belief in God's word and aligning behavior with it rather than doubting it and facing the consequences.

## 1. God is Faithful in Ministering His Power.

In First Kings, Solomon is initially helpless, and God grants him wisdom and understanding. However, Solomon eventually abandons his loyalty to God, pursuing hundreds of wives and foreign gods, leading to God's anger and Solomon's downfall.

## 2. God is Faithful in Monitoring His People.

In the time of King Solomon, the Israelites were enslaved and unhappy, leading to a rebellion and the splitting of the kingdom. God sent prophets like Elijah and Elisha to monitor the people and remind them of His covenant, but even Elijah fell into hopelessness. God showed His presence and faithfulness to Elijah in a still, small voice.

## 3. God is Faithful in Maintaining His Promise.

Despite the destruction of Jerusalem and the captivity of Israel and Judah, God's promises remain valid and can still come to fruition. Through faith and obedience, God is faithful to maintain his promises, even when we feel helpless, hopeless, and worthless.

## Conclusion

The writer of Kings is communicating the same message as Moses in Deuteronomy 30 — that God will restore and redeem those who put their faith in His Word, and those who do will receive blessings. Through the stories of Kings, we are reminded that we have the choice of life or curse and should choose wisely.