

1 Kings 5:1-18 **Preparation for building the Temple** (2 Chron 2)

Hiram, king of Tyre loved David – Solomon requested help building the Temple

1 Now Hiram king of Tyre sent his servants to Solomon, because he heard that they had anointed him king in place of his father, for Hiram had always loved David.

2 Then Solomon sent to Hiram, saying:

3 You know how my father David could not build a house for the name of the Lord his God because of the wars which were fought against him on every side, until the Lord put his foes under the soles of his feet. 4 But now the Lord my God has given me rest on every side; there is neither adversary nor evil occurrence.

5 And behold, I propose to build a house for the name of the Lord my God, as the Lord spoke to my father David, saying, "Your son, whom I will set on your throne in your place, he shall build the house for My name."

6 Now therefore, command that they cut down cedars for me from Lebanon; and my servants will be with your servants, and I will pay you wages for your servants according to whatever you say. For you know there is none among us who has skill to cut timber like the Sidonians.

Hiram agreed to help Solomon

7 So it was, when Hiram heard the words of Solomon, that he rejoiced greatly and said, Blessed be the Lord this day, for He has given David a wise son over this great people!

8 Then Hiram sent to Solomon, saying:

I have considered the message which you sent me, and I will do all you desire concerning the cedar and cypress logs.

9 My servants shall bring them down from Lebanon to the sea; I will float them in rafts by sea to the place you indicate to me, and will have them broken apart there; then you can take them away. And you shall fulfill my desire by giving food for my household.

10 Then Hiram gave Solomon cedar and cypress logs according to all his desire. 11 And Solomon gave Hiram twenty thousand kors of wheat as food for his household, and twenty kors of pressed oil. Thus Solomon gave to Hiram year by year.

The Lord kept His promise and gave Solomon the wisdom he had requested [1 Kings 3:5-9]

12 So the Lord gave Solomon wisdom, as He had promised him; and there was peace between Hiram and Solomon, and the two of them made a treaty together.

13 Then King Solomon raised up a labor force out of all Israel; and the labor force was thirty thousand men. 14 And he sent them to Lebanon, ten thousand a month in shifts: they were one month in Lebanon and two months at home; Adoniram was in charge of the labor force.

15 Solomon had seventy thousand who carried burdens, and eighty thousand who quarried stone in the mountains, 16 besides three thousand three hundred from the chiefs of Solomon's deputies, who supervised the people who labored in the work.

17 And the king commanded them to quarry large stones, costly stones, and hewn stones, to lay the foundation of the temple.

18 So Solomon's builders, Hiram's builders, and the Gebalites quarried them; and they prepared timber and stones to build the temple.

NKJV

Facts Revealed:

Hiram, king of Tyre loved David – Solomon requested help building the Temple [1 Kings 5:1-6]

- ✧ Now Hiram king of Tyre sent his servants to Solomon, because he heard that they had anointed him king in place of his father, for Hiram had always loved David. [1 Kings 5:1]
- ✧ Good men have a godly kindred love and admiration for others who demonstrate the same spirit of godliness, just like the love between Jonathan and David. [1 Samuel 18:1-4, 20:17, 2 Samuel 1:26]
- ✧ Solomon received the greetings from Hiram and responded with a request for help in building a Temple for Yahweh Elohey (The Lord God of) David his father. [1 Kings 5:2-6]
- ✧ David had been prevented from building the Temple because of the wars fought against him on every side.
- ✧ Yahweh had subdued all David's enemies under his feet.
- ✧ Now Yahweh has given Solomon peace on every side with no enemies or evil occurrences.
- ✧ Solomon desires to fulfill God's promise to David that his son after him would be the one to build the Temple for the name of Yahweh Elohey (The Lord my God).
- ✧ Solomon realizes that a building cannot contain God, but is only a place of reminder that bears the **Name** of God.
- ✧ Solomon's proposal therefore is for Hiram to provide materials and workmen from Lebanon because of their abundance of forests and skilled craftsmen.
- ✧ Solomon promised to pay whatever wages Hiram might set for the service.

Hiram agreed to help Solomon [1 Kings 5:7-12]

- ✧ So it was, when Hiram heard the words of Solomon, that he rejoiced greatly and said, Blessed be the Lord this day, for He has given David a wise son over this great people! [1 Kings 5:7]
- ✧ What a cause for rejoicing, when you see your good friend's son is wise.
- ✧ The nation of Israel was viewed by the neighboring kings as a great people because of the righteousness of David's reign and the things God had done for them.
- ✧ Hiram sent a message back to Solomon expressing his acceptance of Solomon's request and describing how he would contribute to the work ahead: [1 Kings 5:8-9]
- ✧ The cedar and cypress logs to be floated in rafts by sea to the place Solomon shall designate where the rafts will be broken apart and delivered to Solomon's workers.
- ✧ Hiram's requested wages was for Solomon to provide food for Hiram's household.
- ✧ Then Hiram gave Solomon cedar and cypress logs according to all his desire. [1 Kings 5:10]
- ✧ And Solomon gave Hiram twenty thousand kors of wheat as food for his household, and twenty kors of pressed oil. Thus Solomon gave to Hiram year by year. [1 Kings 5:11]

The Lord kept His promise and gave Solomon the wisdom he had requested [1 Kings 3:5-9]

- ✧ So the Lord gave Solomon wisdom, as He had promised him; and there was peace between Hiram and Solomon, and the two of them made a treaty together. [1 Kings 5:12]
- ✧ Wisdom from God provides a good footing for peace and a treaty between friends.

Solomon's Labor Force [1 Kings 5:13-18]

- ✧ Solomon's 30,000 man labor force sent to Hiram in Lebanon to help from there: [1 Kings 5:13-14]
- ✧ 10,000 sent each month by shifts, 1 month in Lebanon and 2 months at home.

- ◇ Adoniram was in charge of this work force.
- ☆ Solomon's workers in Israel: [\[1 Kings 5:15-16\]](#)
 - ◇ 70,000 carrying burdens.
 - ◇ 80,000 quarried Stone in the mountains.
 - ◇ 3,500 chief deputies supervised the work.
- ☆ Solomon commanded them to quarry large stones, costly stones, and hewn stones, to lay the foundation of the temple. [\[1 Kings 5:17\]](#)
- ☆ Solomon's builders, Hiram's builders, and the Gebalites quarried them; and they prepared timber and stones to build the temple. [\[1 Kings 5:18\]](#)
 - ◇ Gebalites were the men skilled in squaring the stones.