

## **Bibles???**

### **The Word of God is the Absolute Truth and the Final Authority**

Turn your bibles with me to 1 Kings 5

We are continuing our verse-by-verse study through 1 Kings

And we currently find ourselves in the portion of scripture that deals with the beginning of Solomon's reign over God's people.

And last week, we studied how the nation of Israel experienced tremendous blessing and prosperity under the leadership of King Solomon

Solomon asked for godly wisdom to rule over God's people and God gave Solomon that Godly wisdom – and we see the fruits of that wisdom that was bestowed upon Solomon.

**[1Ki 4:29 NKJV] 29 And God gave Solomon wisdom and exceedingly great understanding, and largeness of heart like the sand on the seashore.**

So the nation of Israel is prospering –

And in our study today and into next week, we will see how Solomon uses that godly wisdom to be obedient to the charge that exhortation had given to him – And that exhortation was that it was God's will for him to build the temple.

**Let's pray...**

Before we look at our text – I want us to look at the charge or the exhortation that David gave Solomon.

**[1Ch 22:6-10 NKJV] 6 Then he called for his son Solomon, and charged him to build a house for the LORD God of Israel. 7 And David said to Solomon: "My son, as for me, it was in my mind to build a house to the name of the LORD my God; 8 "but the word of the LORD came to me, saying, 'You have shed much blood and have made great wars; you shall not build a house for My name, because you have shed much blood on the earth in My sight. 9 'Behold, a son shall be born to you, who shall be a man of rest; and I will give him rest from all his enemies all around. His name shall be Solomon, for I will give peace and quietness to Israel in his days. 10 'He shall build a house for My name, and he shall be My son, and I [will be] his Father; and I will establish the throne of his kingdom over Israel forever.'**

One of the things that we have to understand is that even though David was not allowed by God to build the temple – David still had a significant role in the temple as he gathered much of the supplies for the temple.

**[1Ki 5:1-18 NKJV] 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.****

In my spiritual walk – one of the things that I have as I study His word more and more – is how much I become like Hiram here and begin to admire David

Because through David's life –we get to learn -

How God redeems our mistakes

How God is faithful even though we are faithless

How man might overlook us but God never overlooks us

How God will use ordinary normal people

How God is able to see our flaws and reveals them to us and help us overcome them

How God doesn't give up on us when we make a mistake –

All of these things we learn through the life of David

And even though David was not perfect – he is remembered as a “man after God's own heart”

David finished well

Yes, he stumbled along the way but he finished well.

So, here in verse 1 – it says that Hiram always loved David.

He admired David – he had a good relationship with David

Mark this verse down – when David becomes king,

**[2Sa 5:11 NKJV] 11 Then Hiram king of Tyre sent messengers to David, and cedar trees, and carpenters and masons. And they built David a house.**

David's palace was built by the supplies that Hiram sent and the labor that Hiram sent.

So Hiram loved David at the beginning of his reign and after his death – he still loved him.

And because he loved David – he also loved Solomon.

**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.**

The first thing I want us to look at is the phrase “you know”

Solomon – writing to Hiram

This means that David had spoken to Hiram about spiritual things

By the way – Hiram is an unbeliever

He is a gentile

He loved David but he did not love the God of David

And Hiram is here, helping to fulfill the will of God

And so – David in his conversations with Hiram had told him how he desired to build a temple for the Lord but it wasn't his job to do.

David was a warrior, and he was responsible for killing a lot of people.

God wanted the Temple to be built from a foundation of peace, not of bloodshed.

The other things I want to focus on that the Lord had given Solomon and the nation a period of rest.

Now – turn to 2 Sam 7

**[2Sa 7:1 NKJV] 1 Now it came to pass when the king (David) was dwelling in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies all around,**

So here is the lesson

Both Solomon and David were living during a period of rest that the Lord had given to them.

Circumstances are the same -

The difference is God's timing.

As believers, we like to quote the verse,

**(Php 4:13 NKJV) I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.**

We like the idea of being able to do anything with God's help.

The truth is that there are going to be some things that are just not in God's plan for you and me.

And it could even be good things –

God may want someone else to do it or may not be His timing.

That is why we need godly wisdom and discernment to make sure that everything that we do is according to His will and His timing.

For Solomon – this is the time to build – he is doing this according to God's timing.

**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."**

Even though David's desire was to build the temple – he didn't get bitter, he didn't get angry with the Lord

David trusted the Lord

David trusted the Lord's timing

David trusted the Lord's provisions

David trusted the Lord's ways above his own ways.

And so – God fulfills His promises.

In His time

In His way

All we need to do is follow the Lord's lead

And that is what David and Solomon did.

**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.**

Solomon uses his godly wisdom to get the best wood for the job and also to get the best wood workers for the job.

Solomon is negotiating with Hiram to get the job done.

He is asking Hiram – we want what you got – we are willing to pay for the materials and the labor to build the temple.

What we are seeing here is something that you hear me say over and over again – that were God leads, God always provides.

And He always does –

This applies to not only building temples and doing the work of ministry

But also applicable to our lives –

As we are following the Lord's lead, as we are seeking the Lord to lead us and to guide us, where He guides, He provides.

**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.**

Hiram's response to what Solomon had asked –

Yes, we will give you all the word you need.

Not only will we cut the trees down, we will deliver the trees and get the lumber for you guys.



And in return, Hiram asked that the Solomon share some of the prosperity that we read about last week in chapter 4.

He is asking for food in return – and we saw Israel had an abundance of it.

So again, we see God's hand in everything that is going on – indicating His timing.

**10 Then Hiram gave Solomon cedar and cypress logs [according to] all his desire.**

Back in verse 1 – we saw the relationship that Hiram had with David – he loved David

And here we see that same type of relationship where Hiram is willing to give Solomon as much wood as is needed for the temple.

**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.**

In 2 Chronicles 22 –

You could read it later on – we have a more detailed account of the deal that is made between Solomon and Hiram.

And the writer of 2 Chronicles tells us that wine was also included in these yearly payments to Hiram's household.

Flour, oil and wine

When we look at this together,

The wheat / the barley / the bread / The wine – it all points us to Christ

Communion with the Lord / Fellowship with the Lord

Remember, oil is always a reference to the Holy Spirit

The work of the Spirit

The empowering of the Spirit

So we see God's hand all over this

**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.**

The fulfillment of God's promises to Solomon shows that we can also trust His promises for us as well.

And the scriptures tell us that He is faithful even when we are not. (2 tim 2:13)

**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.**

Here we see Solomon's wisdom on display –

He is sending his men to Lebanon – they are all going – he sends them in shifts

10k at a time -

And the benefit of his workforce going is that every single one of them is learning a new trade taught by the experts.

So he is bringing some of the knowledge to his people

He is preparing them with a skill that they may not have once Hiram is no longer king over his area.

Another reason for the shifts is that this would allow them to go back home and tend their land

Remember, Israel had become a prosperous nation – with an abundance of food

This would allow the work on the temple to continue while the land continued to be tended.

**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.**

So we see how big this project was –

We already talked about the 30,000 wood workers

Here we have another 150k people.

And Solomon appoints leaders to make sure that everything continues to run smooth.

By the way, when we read Chronicles, we find that most of this labor force is made up of non jews. It was made up of the Canaanites that lived in the land.

And this actually becomes one of the reasons that the kingdom divides.

When Solomon's son, Rehoboam takes over Solomon – the people have had it with the forced labor camps that Solomon continued to have – even after the completion of the temple.

But at this time – as they are doing the work of the Lord, they are simply doing what they are told and in some instances, to what they were commanded to do by their king.

Much in the same way that we do what our King commands us to do.

Jesus said, "If you love Me, keep my commandments"

It is a sign for us to obey our King

It is a sign for us to do what He asks of us, what He requires and what He commands – that we would live for Him in this world.

In our study on Sunday mornings –

**[1Jo 2:3-5 NKJV] 3 Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. 4 He who says, "I know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. 5 But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him.**

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

Both Jews and gentiles then worked closely together to prepare for the building of God's Temple:

Just as the Jews and gentiles had to work in unity to build God's Temple, believers are called upon to act with one accord as the Spirit leads the body to help build the Church.

I actually want to do one more verse tonight –

Just to tie Solomon's wisdom together –

Check this out.

**[1Ki 6:1 NKJV] 1 And it came to pass in the four hundred and eightieth year after the children of Israel had come out of the land of Egypt, in the fourth year of**

**Solomon's reign over Israel, in the month of Ziv, which [is] the second month, that he began to build the house of the LORD.**

Remember I talked about God's perfect timing –

Construction on the temple started on the second month.

Why not the first month?

Because this is Israel – and in the first month of the year – they worship.

Passover, the Feast of Unleavened Bread –

The first month – they remembered that they were slaves in Egypt and the Lord brought them out in a miraculous way, and established their nation and that is the only reason they were building the temple in the first place.

So they worshipped – and after the worship was done, the work on the temple began.

And so we see another example of Solomon's godly wisdom.

Let's pray...

To Receive Christ do the following:

Admit, "I am a sinner."

Confess and be willing to turn from your sin.

Believe, by faith that Jesus Christ died for you on the cross.

Receive, through prayer, Jesus Christ into your heart and receive eternal life.

Dear Lord Jesus,

I know that I am a sinner and need Your forgiveness. I believe that You died on the cross for my sins. Please forgive me for my sins and cleanse me by Your blood. I accept You by faith as my personal Lord and Savior. Give me a thirst for Your Word and Help me to follow You all of my days. In Jesus' name I pray, Amen.

[Num 6:24-26 NLT] 24 '

May the LORD bless you and protect you.

May the LORD smile on you and be gracious to you.

May the LORD show you his favor and give you his peace.'