

BOOK OF 1 KINGS
SOLOMON'S ALLIANCE WITH HIRAM
1 KINGS 5:7-18

We saw last week how that King Solomon had made a request of King Hiram for some building materials. (Vs 6)
Tonight we see King Hiram's response to King Solomon's Request!
(5:7-18)

I. WE SEE KING HIRAM REJOICED AND PRAISED THE LORD FOR HAVING GIVEN UNTO DAVID SUCH A WISE SON AS SOLOMON! (Vs 7)

Solomon's wisdom of course was from the LORD Himself! As is any wisdom that any of us possess! And now the LORD was being glorified for what He was working in Solomon's life!

Remember me saying that there was an indication that this pagan king may possibly have come to believe on the LORD God through the testimony of David! Well this is the indication right here!

I wonder...Is the LORD's working in your life recognized by others? Is there anybody who is encouraged by and/or made better by the LORD's working of His wisdom in your life?

Wisdom should be a trait of each of us as Believers, for the Bible, God's Word, is a Book of wisdom and we know our Lord gives us wisdom! The more we *know* of the Bible (by "*know*" I mean "*know experientially*") The more wisdom we will possess and express!

Proverbs 2:6-7 6 For the LORD giveth wisdom: out of his mouth cometh knowledge and understanding. 7 He layeth up sound wisdom for the righteous: he is a buckler to them that walk uprightly.

Proverbs 3:7 Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil.

II. WE SEE THAT HIRAM FULFILLED THE REQUEST OF SOLOMON! (Vs 8-12)

Solomon needed trees (cedar trees and fir trees) and Hiram needed food for his household!

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As I mentioned in a previous message, the ancient city of Tyre was in Phoenicia...which is present day Lebanon and it is very mountainous and rocky.

It was great for growing cedar and fir trees and for providing stone, but not so much for food. So, Hiram swapped out trees for food with Solomon!

From what I've been able to deduce—twenty thousand measures of wheat equals about 125,000 bushels and twenty measures of oil equals about 115,000 gallons of oil. That was given each year to King Hiram by King Solomon as they formed a league together.

This was a good deal for both of these Kings! **(5:12)**

III. WE SEE THE RAISING OF A WORK FORCE! (5:13-18)

This was an enormous project and the trees weren't going to cut and ship themselves! And no doubt Solomon wanted to speed this process along! So, Solomon raised a work force to help with this project!

Later in his son, Rehoboam's reign, we will see that the people of Israel resented this of Solomon.

1 Kings 12:4—Thy father made our yoke grievous: now therefore make thou the grievous service of thy father, and his heavy yoke which he put upon us, lighter, and we will serve thee.

1 Kings 12:18—Then king Rehoboam sent Adoram, who was over the tribute; and all Israel stoned him with stones, that he died. Therefore king Rehoboam made speed to get him up to his chariot, to flee to Jerusalem.

The prophet Samuel warned the people of Israel what would happen if they insisted on having a king like other nations.

1 Samuel 8:16—And he will take your menservants, and your maidservants, and your goodliest young men, and your asses, and put them to his work.

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Notice the stones for the foundation in *verses 17-18*.

They were great, costly, and hewed stones.

The stones came from quarries north of Jerusalem. They were so precisely cut that mortar was seldom used.

From what I've gathered from others who have been to Israel they say that some of the stones can be seen today at the southeast angle under the Temple area.

One stone was just under twenty-four feet long and other stones were seventeen to twenty feet in length. **For the building to be strong, the foundation had to be strong.**

The same is true with our life. Our life needs to be grounded upon the firm foundation of the solid rock of Jesus Christ!

1 Corinthians 3:11 For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

This Foundation, This Rock Can Be Seen Back To Israel's Time

1 Corinthians 10:4 And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ.

This Goes Back To When Israel Cried Out For Water

Exodus 17:6 Behold, I will stand before thee there upon the rock in Horeb; and thou shalt smite the rock, and there shall come water out of it, that the people may drink. And Moses did so in the sight of the elders of Israel.

It Also Goes To A Second Time Israel Cried Out For Water

Numbers 20:8 Take the rod, and gather thou the assembly together, thou, and Aaron thy brother, and speak ye unto the rock before their eyes; and it shall give forth his water, and thou shalt bring forth to them water out of the rock: so thou shalt give the congregation and their beasts drink.

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Remember How Moses Was Disobedient In His Actions

Numbers 20:10-11 And Moses and Aaron gathered the congregation together before the rock, and he said unto them, Hear now, ye rebels; must we fetch you water out of this rock? 11 And Moses lifted up his hand, and with his rod he smote the rock twice: and the water came out abundantly, and the congregation drank, and their beasts also.

Moses sang of the LORD in his song in Deuteronomy 32:4...

"He is the Rock."

Hannah sang of the LORD in her song in 1 Samuel 2:2...

1 Samuel 2:2 There is none holy as the LORD: for there is none beside thee: neither is there any rock like our God.

David sang of the LORD in his song in...

2 Samuel 22:2-3 2 And he said, The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; 3 The God of my rock; in him will I trust: he is my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my high tower, and my refuge, my saviour; thou savest me from violence.

2 Samuel 22:32 For who is God, save the LORD? and who is a rock, save our God?

2 Samuel 22:47 The LORD liveth; and blessed be my rock; and exalted be the God of the rock of my salvation.

2 Samuel 23:3 The God of Israel said, the Rock of Israel spake to me, He that ruleth over men must be just, ruling in the fear of God.

The Prophet Isaiah Records These Words From the Lord GOD!

Isaiah 28:16 Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD, Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation:...

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Quoted by both Paul And Peter:

*Romans 9:33 As it is written, **Behold, I lay in Sion a stumblingstone and rock of offence: and whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed.***

*1 Peter 2:6 Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, **Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded.***

The Psalmist Recorded In Psalm 118:22-23:

*Psalm 118:22-23 22 **The stone which the builders refused is become the head stone of the corner.** 23 **This is the LORD'S doing; it is marvellous in our eyes.***

This Was Quoted Several Times In The New Testament:

*Matthew 21:42 Jesus saith unto them, **Did ye never read in the scriptures, The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner: this is the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes?***

Peter said of Jesus in *Acts 4:11 **This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner.***

*1 Peter 2:7 **Unto you therefore which believe he is precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner,***

Our life needs to be grounded upon the firm foundation of the solid rock of Jesus Christ! Is your life firmly grounded upon Him?