### 1 Kings

## Chapter 5

1Then King HiRam [I] of Tyre sent his servants to anoint Solomon in place of his father David; for HiRam loved David throughout his whole life.  
  
2And Solomon sent [a message] to HiRam, saying:  
  
 3‘You know that my father David was unable to build a Temple to the Name of my God Jehovah, because he was fighting the wars that were going on around him, until Jehovah finally put his enemies under the soles of his feet.  
  
 4‘And now, my God Jehovah has provided rest for me all around [my land], for there are no more plotters or wicked people anywhere near me... 5So now I’m talking about building a Temple to the Name of my God who once said to my father David:  
  
 ‘Your son whom I’ll put on your throne after you will build a Temple to My Name.’  
  
 6‘Therefore, please have your men cut some timber for me from the trees in Lebanon, and I’ll pay whatever you ask for their wages... {Look!} I’ll also send my servants to go with your servants; for no one understands timber cutting better than the Sidonians!’  
  
7Well, when HiRam received Solomon’s message, he was overjoyed and said:  
  
 ‘May the God who gave David such an intelligent son to rule over this great people be praised today!’  
  
8So he sent [a message] to Solomon replying:  
  
 ‘I’ve heard everything that you asked of me, and I’ll send all the pine and cedar lumber that you’ve requested! 9My servants will cut it in Lebanon then carry it to the sea and haul it all on barges to wherever you tell me to drop it off… You can carry it on from there.  
  
 ‘All I ask from you in return, is that you send me some loaves of bread for my house.’  
  
10So HiRam gave Solomon all the cedars and pines that he wanted, 11and Solomon sent HiRam 130,000 bushels of wheat and 120,000 gallons (450,000l) of beaten olive oil for his house.  
  
In fact, he sent that amount to HiRam every year after that!  
  
  
12Well, Jehovah gave Solomon all the wisdom that he’d asked for, and there was peace between HiRam and Solomon, for they’d concluded a treaty between themselves. 13And the king sent him (as a tribute from all IsraEl) 30,000 men… 14He would send 10,000 of them to Lebanon each month in rotation, and they’d thereafter spend a month in Lebanon and 2 months at home.  
  
AdoniRam was the person whom he’d put in charge of this tribute.  
  
  
15Meanwhile, Solomon had 70,000 laborers and 80,000 stonecutters [working] in the mountains... 16And in addition to those whom Solomon placed in charge of his construction project, he had 3,600 supervisors on the job, 17whom the king had instructed to set huge, valuable stone blocks in place as the foundations for the building.  
  
18Also, the sons of Solomon and HiRam [were in charge of] assembling everything after all the blocks and timbers had been cut (which took three years).