### 2 Chronicles

## Chapter 2

1It was then that Solomon gave the word to start building the Temple to the Name of Jehovah, as well as a palace for his own kingship. 2So he brought together:  
  
 • 70,000 laborers,  
 • 80,000 quarry workers to work in the mountains, and  
 • 3,600 supervisors.  
  
3Then Solomon sent a message to King HiRam [I] of Tyre, saying:  
  
 ‘I know what you did for my father David by sending cedars to build a palace for himself... 4But look; I (his son) am now building a Temple to the Name of my God Jehovah as a Holy Place for Him.  
  
 ‘It’s a place to burn incense before Him throughout the ages and a place for Him to stay where we can sacrifice whole burnt offerings in the mornings, in the evenings, and on the Sabbaths, New Moons, and on the Lord’s holidays.  
  
 ‘I am doing this for all of IsraEl.  
  
 5‘Now, the Temple that I am to build will be great, because our God Jehovah is greater than all other gods... 6But, who is great enough to build a House for Him, since the skies and the heavens above them can’t bear His glory?  
  
 ‘So, who am I to build such a Temple since [I’m not even qualified] to burn incense before Him?  
  
 7‘However, what I’m asking of you is to send me a wise man who knows how to work with gold, silver, bronze, and iron, as well as with blue [thread], purple [yarn], and scarlet cloth.  
  
 ‘[I must have such a man to take the lead] over those wise ones who are with me in Judah and JeruSalem, to do the carving and to make the things that have been prepared by my father David.  
  
 8‘Also, please send me some cedar, juniper, and pine boards from Lebanon, because your servants know how to cut up the timber of Lebanon... And then {Look!} your servants can direct the servants 9that [I’ll send], who’ll bring back the large quantities of timber for the great and glorious Temple that I’m about to build.  
  
 10‘And look!  
  
 ‘Then I’ll send you gifts of grain as food for your servants who’ll be cutting the trees… I’ll send:  
  
 • 140,000 • 140,000 <a href="https://2001translation.org/notes/bible-measurements" class="tnote">bushels of wheat,  
 • 140,000 bushels of barley,  
 • 20,000 barrels of wine, and  
 • 20,000 barrels of olive oil.’  
  
11So King HiRam of Tyre sent a return letter to Solomon that said:  
  
 ‘Jehovah must love His people very much to put such a king over them.’  
  
12And he added:  
  
 ‘Praise Jehovah the God of IsraEl who made the skies and the lands, and who gave King David such a wise son who knows enough and understands enough to build a Temple to Him, as well as a palace for his kingdom!  
  
 13‘Now, I’ve sent you a man who’s wise and knowledgeable, my servant HiRam. His mother is one of the daughters of Dan, although his father is from Tyre.  
  
 ‘He knows how to work with gold, silver, bronze, iron, stone, and wood; and he knows how to weave blue [thread], purple [yarn], scarlet [cloth], and linen, as well as how to do carving. 14He’s good at doing everything that you’ll assign him to do alongside your wise men and the wise men of your father, my Lord David.  
  
 15‘And concerning the grain, barley, olive oil, and wine that my lord spoke of... Let him send it to his servants, 16and we’ll fell all the trees of Lebanon that you need and send them to you by sea to JopPa on barges.  
  
 ‘You can then carry it on from there to JeruSalem.’  
  
17So Solomon gathered all the foreign men in the land of IsraEl who’d been counted by his father David (all 153,600 of them). 18Then he put 70,000 to work loading the carriers, 80,000 to work in the mountain quarries, and 3,600 were assigned as the supervisors.