**CHAPTER** **5**

*Hiram king of Tyre agreeth to furnish timber and workmen for building the temple: the number of workmen and overseers.*

**1** And Hiram king of Tyre sent his servants to Solomon: for he heard that they had anointed him king in the room of his father: for Hiram had always been David’s friend.

**2** And Solomon sent to Hiram, saying:

**3** Thou knowest the will of David my father, and that he could not build a house to the name of the Lord his God, because of the wars that were round about him, until the Lord put them under the soles of his feet.

**4** But now the Lord my God hath given me rest round about: and there is no adversary nor evil occurrence.

**5** Wherefore I purpose to build a temple to the name of the Lord my God, as the Lord spoke to David my father, saying: Thy son, whom I will set upon the throne in thy place, he shall build a house to my name.

**6** Give orders therefore that thy servants cut me down cedar trees out of Libanus, and let my servants be with thy servants: and I will give thee the hire of thy servants whatsoever thou wilt ask, for thou knowest how there is not among my people a man that has skill to hew wood like to the Sidonians.

**7** Now when Hiram had heard the words of Solomon, he rejoiced exceedingly, and said: Blessed be the Lord God this day, who hath given to David a very wise son over this numerous people.

**8** And Hiram sent to Solomon, saying: I have heard all thou hast desired of me: and I will do all thy desire concerning cedar trees, and fir trees.

**9** My servants shall bring them down from Libanus to the sea: and I will put them together in floats in the sea, and convey them to the place, which thou shalt signify to me; and will land them there, and thou shalt receive them: and thou shalt allow me necessaries, to furnish food for my household.

**10** So Hiram gave Solomon cedar trees, and fir trees, according to all his desire.

**11** And Solomon allowed Hiram twenty thousand measures of wheat, for provision for his house, and twenty measures of the purest oil: thus gave Solomon to Hiram every year.

**12** And the Lord gave wisdom to Solomon, as he promised him: and there was peace between Hiram and Solomon, and they two made a league together.

**13** And king Solomon chose workmen out of all Israel, and the levy was of thirty thousand men.

**14** And he sent them to Libanus, ten thousand every month by turns, so that two months they were at home: and Adoniram was over this levy.

**15** And Solomon had seventy thousand to carry burdens, and eighty thousand to hew stones in the mountain:

**16** Besides the overseers who were over every work, in number three thousand, and three hundred that ruled over the people, and them that did the work.

**17** And the king commanded, that they should bring great stones, costly stones, for the foundation of the temple, and should square them:

**18** And the masons of Solomon, and the masons of Hiram hewed them: and the Giblians prepared timber and stones to build the house.