

1Kings 5

"A Glorious Foundation"

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What are we to make of these extensive preparations? Pastor leads his family in today's "Hopewell @Home" passage. 1Kings 5 prepares us for the first serial reading in morning public worship on the coming Lord's Day. In these eighteen verses, the Holy Spirit teaches us that the Lord kept His promise to Solomon to give him wisdom, but especially His promise to David to give him a king-son who would build the temple. While that was true in a small way of Solomon, it is true in the grandest ways of Christ, Who is glorified in the building of His church upon the foundation of Himself.

Wednesday, January 26, 2022 ▫ Read 1Kings 5

Questions from the Scripture text: Who sent what/whom to whom (v1a)? Why—what had he heard, and why did this matter to him (v1b)? How did Solomon respond (v2)? What couldn't David do (v3a)? Why (v3b)? What has Who done now (v4)? What does Solomon propose (v5a)? Why (v5b)? What does Solomon want (v6a)? What will he give (v6b)? How does he convince (v6c)? How does Hiram react to hearing this (v7)? What will he do (v8)? How (v9a)? What does he want (v9b)? How does this end up (v10)? What does Solomon give to him (v11)? How does v12a summarize this interaction? With what result (v12b)? What did Solomon raise from whom (v13a)? How many (v13b)? In what rotation (v14a)? Under whom (v14b, cf. 12:18)? How many else did what (v15–17)? What was the end result of all this (v18)?

We're still hearing about how Yahweh fulfilled His promise (v12), but now it's in fulfillment of another promise (v5b): the building of the temple. God's promise-fulfilling providence stretches back into David's reign and a delighted alliance with Hiram (v1). It was such a happy alliance that Hiram is exuberantly happy for it to continue (v7).

Once the arrangements are made, the rest of the chapter basically covers the intricate, monumental effort that goes into... laying the foundation (v17) and preparing timber and stones (v18).

There is, of course, a forward-looking aspect to all of this. The New Testament calls Christ the foundation of the eternal temple (cf. 1Cor 3:11), and the chief cornerstone of the foundation that is the apostles and prophets (cf. Eph 3:20–22). And believers are described as living stones (cf. 1Pet 2:4–6).

The wisdom that goes into Solomon's temple, and the preciousness and magnificence of the materials, all point forward to the glory of Christ in the building of His church. It teaches us to see that glory in the church and to treasure His church as a display of His glory.

Christ Himself—God incarnate!—is the chief cornerstone. The Spirit-inspired apostles and prophets are its foundation. And each stone is grace-purchased and then grace-formed until it is perfectly conformed to His glory. True, we see them (and the church) now in unfinished form. But should we dwell upon that which is lacking? Instead, let us rejoice in the wisdom of the great King and say with Hiram, "Blessed be Yahweh this day, for He has given David a wise Son!"

What can you remind yourself of, about the church, when you are unimpressed or offended or weary in it?

Sample prayer: Lord, truly Your providence in the building of Solomon's temple was marvelous. But, how much more marvelous is Your work in building the church of Jesus Christ! Forgive us for how unimpressed we tend to be with it—and often even unwilling to live forgivingly and peacefully in it or to lay our lives out in serving it. Grant that by Your Spirit, we might be willing workers, as we delight in the coming perfection of Christ's church, which we ask in His Name, AMEN!!

Suggested songs: ARP122 "I Was Filled" or TPH404 "The Church's One Foundation"

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(The following is a machine-generated transcription. Please be aware of—and patient with—transcribing errors. If there is something confusing or obviously erroneous, you are invited to listen to the audio recording referenced above)

First Kings, chapter 5, beginning in verse 1, Since this is the words of God and the worship of God, we should hear it in such a way as to offer him the hearing as worship. Now here I'm King of Tere sent his servants to Solomon because he heard that they had anointed him King in place of his father For him here.

I'm had always loved David. Then Solomon sent to her. I'm saying, you know, how my father David could not build a house for the name of Y'all pray. His God because of the wars which were fought against him and every side until you all play, put his foes under the sole of his feet.

But now Yahweh, my God has given me rest on every side. There is neither adversary nor evil occurrence and behold. I propose to build a house for the name of Yahweh. My God, as Yahweh spoke to my father, David saying your son through my wall, set on your throne and your place.

He shall build the house for my name 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 not among us who has skill to cut timber like this Idonians.

So it was when Hiram heard the words of Solomon, that he rejoiced greatly and said, blessed to be Yahweh. This day for, he has given David a wise son over this great. People Then here I'm sent to Solomon saying I've considered the message which you sent me and I will do all your desire concerning the cedar and Cypress logs, 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 we'll have them broken apart there. Then you can take them away and you shall fulfill my desire by giving food for my household. And here Him gave Solomon Cedar and Cyprus. Logs according to Old is desire and Solomon gave here him.

20,000 cores of wheat as food for his household and 20 cores of pressed oil. Thus, Solomon gave to hear him here by year. So you always give Solomon wisdom as he had promised him. And there was peace between here and Solomon and the two of them made a treaty together.

Then, King Solomon. Raised up a labor force out of all Israel. And the labor force was 30,000 men and he sent them to Lebanon 10,000 a month in shifts. There are one month in Lebanon. Two months at home at a Niram was, in charge of the labor force Solomon, had 70,000 to carried burdens and 80,000, who quarried Stone in the mountains.

Besides 3,300, from the Chiefs of Solomon's Deputies who supervised the people who labored in the work and the king, commanded them to quarry. Large stones costly stones and human stones, to lay the foundation of the temple. So Solomon's, builders hereum's, builders and the Gobletes quarried them, and they prepared timber and stones to build the temple.

So far the reading of God's inspired and an arent word. And we see that this is still about how the Lord was fulfilling his promise to Solomon. We have that comment added to remind us that, that's what the Lord has describing to us with the spirit, who is the Lord is describing to us in this section of first Kings.

You see in verse 12. So, you always gave Solomon wisdom as he had promised him, and it's not just promises to Solomon. There's also a promise to David that is being fulfilled here. Solomon actually sends to hear him and he doesn't just give kind of the logistical reason why it would be Solomon to build, and not David to build, which is David was too.

Busy fighting wars to start such a big domestic construction project but also I promise. But now, sorry, and behold, I propose to build a house for the name of Yahweh, my God, as Yahweh spoke, My father, David saying, your son and I will set on your throne and my place he shall build the house for my name.

So there's the Solomon. The promise to Solomon for wisdom and there's the promise to David for his descendant. His son to sit on the throne and build the house of God. The temple of God and Solomon. Did this in a glorious way, so glorious that when one who was not the son of David Nehemiah was leading the people in the laying of the foundation of a temple after the return.

From the exile, Those who had seen the end of this temple of which we are just starting to see the beginning and remembered what it was like, when they saw, just the foundation of the next one was going to be. They wept because of how small and in glorious, it was by comparison.

And yet, there is a much, greater, much more, glorious temple that is built by a son of David because the promise to, which Solomon was referring here, which we hear about in second. Samuel chapter 7 is a promise that indicates Solomon as part of its fulfillment, But the great fulfillment about the forever king who had come from David's house.

And the great fulfillment of the temple itself, is the Lord Jesus and the church that he builds with himself as the foundation, or as elsewhere written in the Epistles with the apostle and Apostles and prophets as a foundation, and Jesus himself as the chief, cornerstone of that foundation. And then, of course, Jesus says, the the capstone the crowning stone of the whole thing because the spiritual house is all are all being built up into Christ made out of living stones, some of whom I see even around this table.

And so the Cydonians are very, very skilled at cutting timber so much so that it's Solomon. Didn't just

want wood, but he wanted woodworkers from here, and from science. And we have the Lord Jesus building and the Holy Spirit, applying Christ to us and fitting us together as it were.

As the scripture says, it uses that language, which means there's work to be done on each one of us as he fits us together and builds us up into Christ. And yet in this chapter as God is fulfilling this promise to Solomon and fulfilling this promise to David, there is all of this activity and wisdom, only the most quality, materials only the most skilled workers, thousands and thousands of them.

And according to the wisdom of Solomon working in shifts so that it wasn't just 10,000 men, who would get tired and be away from their families for too long. He picks 30,000, and then they're one month on, and then two months off, which if you were faced with being a labor two-thirds of the time, being time off is a pretty good deal.

And you see the wisdom of Solomon even there, but this monumental effort to prepare the foundation and some of the building materials for the temple that was coming the temple. That was not anywhere near as glorious as the one that is being built. Now, by the Son of David who sits on the throne and who builds his church and the gates of hell will not prevail against it.

So we should rejoice that, the church is Jesus's work to fulfillment, of promise to David about his descendant. Who would build the temple. And this is helpful. When whether the church congregationally speaking, or more often, because you spend more time with them, the church in your home, your parents, your brothers and sisters, your children When they show that, they are still being worked on by the Holy Spirit in order to be fit together and thus, and we're still sinful and we wear upon each other and so much of New Testament instruction is instruction in being patient with one another and tender and kind and forgiving, and bearing with one another and believing all things.

And hoping all things and what to do in your sinned against and confessing your sins, to one another and how to treat those who treat you badly, not just outside of the church but even and especially inside the church. And one of the things that helps you obey all of those commands, this to realize that We have the glorious Forever King, the Lord Jesus.

And one of the ways that he displays His glory and His wisdom is, and how he has building the church together and your brothers and sisters and parents. The other members of the congregation are his chosen materials that he is working upon and some of the work that he has called you to in Kingsley.

Wisdom and mercy is work for the building up of the church. And so even in first Kings 5, as we see some of the details, about how the, the Lord brought about through Solomon, the building of the type that which looked forward to the final and ultimate Temple of God, we can be impressed with how God gave him wisdom, God gave him favor in the eyes of harem God was already preparing Solomon to be able to receive these things from here on by the good relationship that Here him had with his dad with David and so the providence of God went even before the promise of God and and prepared the way in that way.

And we can marvel at the Lord's work here in 1st Kings 5, and all the more in our life and our church and our home in each of us, give them praise and counted a privilege to participate in it, to ask him to help us do that. Our Father in heaven, we praise you for the marvelous providence, by which you brought about the building of the first great temple.

But we praise you all the more for the providence and wisdom in, which you are building with the new temple in the New Jerusalem. And we ask that you would give us eyes to see the glory of Christ in his church and in his work in the church. And that you would give us hearts to rejoice over him and his wisdom to humbly be amazed that you give us the privilege of participating in his work that you would give us diligence and cheerfulness and patience and tenderness with one another and light of what we know ultimately to be true about the work you are doing in your church.

We do pray for your church, especially more broadly as she is, and a season of being brought very low, theologically the impurity of her worship, the lack of spiritual life, the worldliness of her members, the timidity of her preachers and so forth. Lord, We pray that you would make us to remember that.

It is Christ who builds her and we ask that you would bring the season of waxing strength and that he would be glorified by new Reformation and revival. And the building of his church would show more clearly more. Obviously his power his wisdom, his authority, his glory glorify your son.

Our Lord Jesus through. Whom also we ask this prayer. Amen