



CHAPTER 5

When

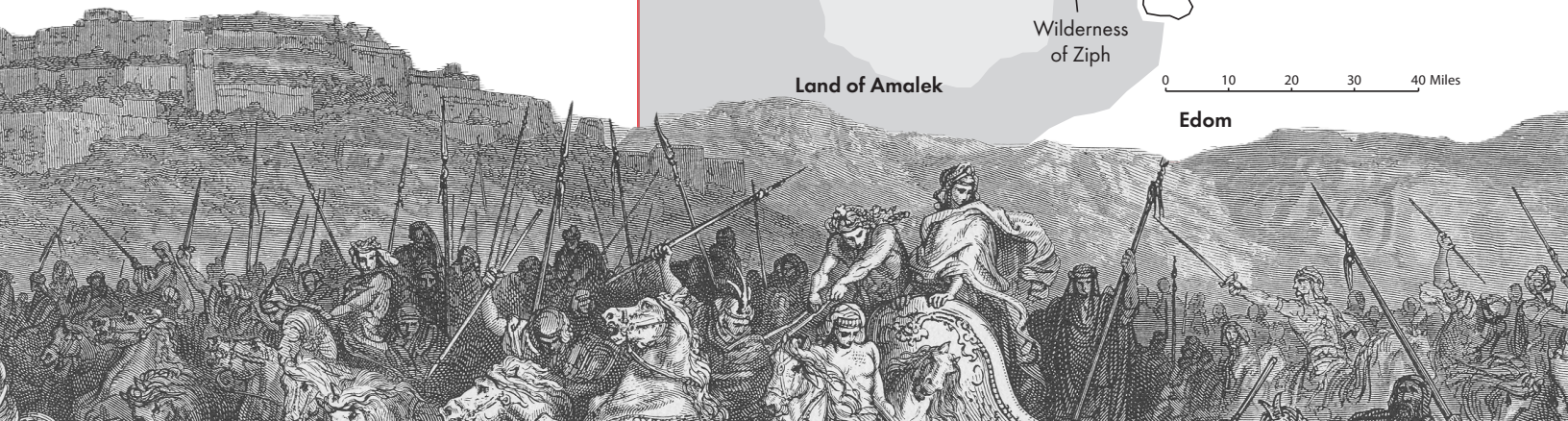
- 1 Kings 5 discusses events that took place in the early years of King Solomon's reign. Solomon was king for 40 years according to 1 Kings 11:42, from approximately 1015-975 B.C.

Key Characters

- **Solomon** – The son of David and the 3rd king of Israel and Judah.
- **Hiram** – King of Tyre. He was an ally of David.

Where

- The capital of the Kingdom of Israel and Judah was Jerusalem.
- Tyre was north of most of the Promised Land, along the coast of the Mediterranean Sea.



Outline

- SOLOMON AND HIRAM PREPARE TO BUILD THE TEMPLE (5:1-18):

- + Solomon sent messengers to Hiram, King of Tyre, asking him to help him build the Jerusalem Temple.
- + Hiram, who was a long-time friend of David, was delighted to help.
- + Hiram agreed to cut cedar and cypress trees and send them to Jerusalem.
- + Solomon agreed to pay for Hiram's labor costs, provide workers from Israel, and to pay Hiram with large quantities of oil and wheat.
- + Every year, Solomon would provide Hiram's household with 20,000 cors of wheat and 20,000 cors of beaten oil (20,000 cors = 4,400,000 liters or 1,157,895 gallons).
- + Solomon drafted 30,000 men from Israel to work in shifts in Lebanon (Hiram's land). 10,000 men would work in Lebanon for 1 month and then they would return home for 2 months.
- + Solomon also employed 70,000 burden-bearers, 80,000 stonecutters, and 3,300 officers to manage the labor.
- + They "quarried out great, costly stones" for the foundation of the Temple.

Application

- The phrase, "If you want something done right, you have to do it yourself" isn't always a good motto when doing the Lord's work.
- Solomon knew, if he was going to make the Temple as marvelous as he envisioned, he needed the help of his friends and those who had resources he didn't.
- He acknowledged, "there is no one among us who knows how to cut timber like the Sidonians" (5:6).
- Sometimes, doing the Lord's work well, requires us to acknowledge we don't have all the skills to accomplish the job ourselves.
- God has surrounded us with other believers who are talented in ways we are not.
- It is healthy and God glorifying to utilize the talents and resources of those God has placed around us.

