

1 Kings 5:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And it came to pass, when Hiram heard the words of Solomon, that he rejoiced greatly, and said, Blessed be the LORD this day, which hath given unto David a wise son over this great people.

Analysis

And it came to pass, when Hiram heard the words of Solomon, that he rejoiced greatly, and said, Blessed be the LORD this day, which hath given unto David a wise son over this great people.

This verse contributes to the broader narrative of preparations for building the temple, within the book's focus on Solomon's wisdom, temple building, and tragic apostasy.

The Hebrew text reveals nuances important for understanding this passage's contribution to 1 Kings' theological message about kingship, covenant, and faithfulness to Yahweh. This verse demonstrates the consequences when God's people—especially their leaders—either follow or forsake the covenant established at Sinai.

Historical Context

First Kings was written during or after the Babylonian exile (6th century BCE), reflecting on the monarchy period (10th-9th centuries BCE) to explain why the kingdoms fell. Solomon's reign (c. 970-930 BCE) represented Israel's golden age of peace and prosperity.

Ancient Near Eastern kingship ideology viewed kings as divine representatives responsible for maintaining cosmic order through right worship. Archaeological discoveries from sites like Megiddo, Hazor, and Samaria confirm the historical reliability of 1 Kings' descriptions of building projects and administrative structures.

Related Passages

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. How does the temple as God's dwelling place help us understand Christ's incarnation and the church as God's temple today?
2. What does Solomon's prayer and dedication teach about approaching God in worship and prayer?
3. How does this verse point toward or prepare for the coming of Christ and His eternal kingdom?

Interlinear Text

שָׁלֹמֹה ה'	דְּבָרָיו	אֶת	חִיבָם	כְּשָׁמַע	וַיְהִי
H853	H1697	H8010	H2438	H1961	H8085
the words	of Solomon		And it came to pass when Hiram	heard	
אֲשֶׁר	הַיּוֹם	יְהוָה	בָּרַךְ וַיֹּאמֶר	מְאֹד	וַיִּשְׂמַח
H834	H3117	H3068	H1288	H559	H8055
this day	be the LORD	Blessed	and said	greatly	that he rejoiced
הַזֶּה:	הַכֹּבֵד	הָעָם	עַל	בֶּן	לְדָוִד
H2088	H7227	H5971	H5921	H1121	H1732
over this great	people	a wise	son	unto David	which hath given

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 9:6 (Parallel theme): For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

Proverbs 23:24 (Parallel theme): The father of the righteous shall greatly rejoice: and he that begetteth a wise child shall have joy of him.

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