

Small Group Study Notes

1 Kings 5:1-18

1. Solomon is going to start building because “the Lord has given him peace” (v4). Moses had promised the day would come when the nation would be at peace and at that time they were to gather in a central location and worship (Deut 12:10-12). The point is Solomon’s decision to build a temple was based upon that which he had read in his bible.
 - a. List the things we do as a church and the biblical passage they are based upon. (For instance, the sending of missionaries = Mat 28:19; meeting regularly = Heb 10:25, praying = Mat 6:9).
 - b. Are there things we do as a church that are not based upon biblical principals? If so what would you say is the justification for doing them?
2. Solomon takes the promise of God in Deut 12:10 and makes it personal and acts upon it. Which promise of God is most real to you? And in what way(s) has it brought change into your life?
3. Solomon is going to build a temple for God and yet he needs the help of the old pagan king, Hiram. Solomon seems to understand that even though he and his people cannot get their temple up without outside help this will not detract from the glory of God. So can an imperfect, fallible, sinning church still be a witness to God?
4. It is obvious from the contract with Hiram (v11) that this temple is going to cost both the king and his people an awful lot of money. And maintaining a church costs. What answer do you give to those who question the amount Christians spend on their churches?