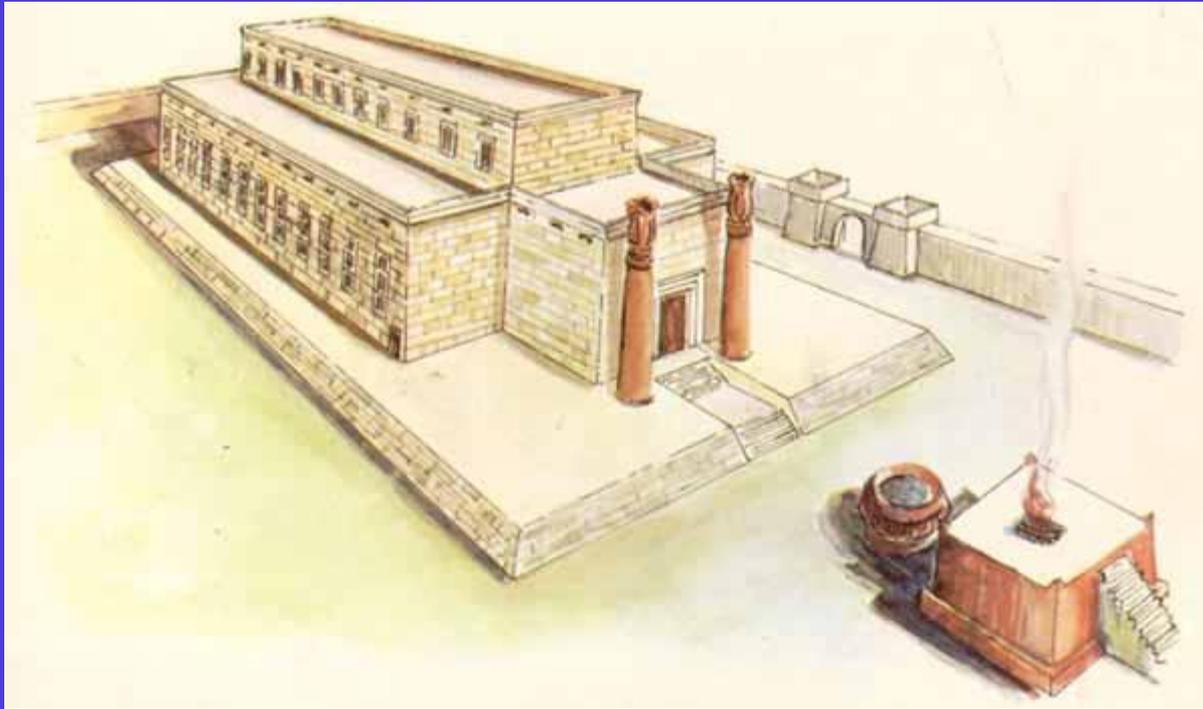


The Hiram's



Hiram, King of Tyre

Hiram Abiff

Hiram the Widow's Son

Topics

- **References**
- **Comparison of Scriptural Versions of the building of King Solomon's Temple**
 - **First Kings, Chapters 5, 6, & 7**
 - **Second Chronicles, Chapters 2, 3, & 4**
- **Analysis**
- **Conclusions**
- **And Finally**

References

- **Extracted from:**
 - **British Masonic Miscellany, 20 Volumes**
 - **Compiled by George M. Martin**
 - **Published by David Winter and Son, c. 1920**
 - **Vol 9, pp 114-125**
- **Footnotes in the AASR 7th Degree Provost and Judge regarding the number of workers building the temple**
- **www.crystalinks.com/solomonstemple.html**

Comparison of Scriptural Versions

1 Kings

Event

2 Chronicles



• King Hiram sends servants to King Solomon



• King Solomon sends letter to King Hiram



• Requests cedar, fir, and algum trees from Lebanon



• Requests a man well skilled to work in gold, silver, brass, iron, purple, crimson, blue, can grave any manner of graving



• King Hiram sends letter to King Solomon



• Will cut trees, make into rafts, float them to Joppa, leave them for King Solomon's men to take to temple

• Sends Hiram Abiff , son of a woman of the daughters of Dan, son of a man of Tyre



Comparison of Scriptural Versions

1 Kings

Event

2 Chronicles



- **King Hiram sends letter to King Solomon**
 - Requests food for his household



- **King Solomon gathered the strangers in Israel to work on the temple: 153,300**
 - 70,000 EAs – Bearers of Burden
 - 80,000 FCs – Hewers in the mountains and in the quarries
 - 3,300 MMs – Overseers of the work



- **King Solomon gathered the strangers in Israel to work on the temple: 153,600**
 - 70,000 EAs – Bearers of Burden
 - 80,000 FCs – Hewers in the mountains and in the quarries
 - 3,300 MMs – Overseers of the work
 - 300 Master Architects

Comparison of Scriptural Versions

1 Kings

Event

2 Chronicles



King Solomon sent and brought Hiram from Tyre

- A widow's son from the Tribe of Naphtali, a worker in brass
- After temple construction was nearly completed

• Hiram made everything in brass including Jachin & Boaz



- Pillar 18 cubits plus chapter of 5 cubits = 23 cubits in all
- Pillar 35 cubits plus chapter of 5 cubits = 40 cubits in all

• Hiram Abiff made the pots, shovels, and fleshhooks, and all their instruments of bright brass



Analysis

- **Timeline**
 - King Solomon's Temple preparation phase occurred during his first three years
 - King Solomon's Temple construction began in his 4th year
 - King Solomon's Temple construction completed in his 11th year
 - Hiram Abiff came to Jerusalem during the preparation phase
 - Hiram came to Jerusalem after initial construction was nearly completed
- **Hiram Abiff was a builder, skilled in every kind of metal work, also in stone and timber**
 - Made implements in bright-brass
 - Directed construction of the Temple
- **Hiram was a brass-smith only**
 - Made implements of cast-brass in the plain of Jordon on the clay grounds between Succoth and Zeredathah

Conclusions

- **There were three Hiram**
 - Hiram, King of Tyre
 - Hiram Abiff (the father) – the builder
 - Hiram (the widow's son) – the brass-smith, Son of Hiram Abiff
- **Hiramic Legend has Scriptural basis**
 - Scriptures were written ~ 350 – 600 years after completion of Temple
 - Scriptures based on oral historic tradition
 - Some things forgotten
 - Some things embellished
- **The Master Mason Degree is instructive**
 - Describes the death of Hiram Abiff
 - Describes the relations between King Solomon and Hiram, King of Tyre
 - Uses parts of 1 Kings and 2 Chronicles accounts

And Finally Israel in King Solomon's Time

