

The Life and Times of Nehemiah



**Preparation Workbook for JUNIORS
2009 Manitoulin Youth Camp**

YOUTH CAMP 2009 - JUNIOR WORKBOOK - Introduction and Instructions

Part A - Special Project (5 minute presentation, to be presented during the camp week)

Here are some ideas for a presentation to the rest of the class. When thinking about your presentation, it is best to pick one small idea and do it well (rather than trying to fit too much information into 5 minutes)

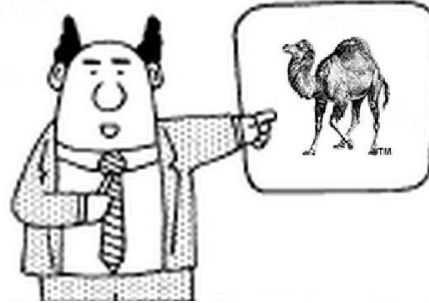
1. A 3-dimensional Model or Map of Jerusalem, showing the walls and gates Nehemiah built. Be sure it is well labeled with key names and features.

2. A theme or topic from Nehemiah: (for example)

- prayer
- faith
- teamwork
- leadership

3. A Character Study: (for example)

- Nehemiah
- Ezra
- Tobiah
- Sanballat
- Hanani



Note: There are some pages at the back called "Appendices" - you may find some useful information there for your special project.

Part B - The Questions & Activities

There are three types of questions you will come across in this workbook.

Most are of the first type - straightforward questions requiring answers that can usually be found within the verses indicated. These are "fact questions" - indicated by the ☺ symbol.

The second type is labeled with the ✨ symbol, which stands for "thought question". These are designed to make you think about the answer, so don't expect to find the answer in a specific verse! If you try real hard and still cannot figure out a good response to one of these ✨ questions then ask your Mom or Dad for some help. Actually, it's OK to ask them for help at any time. Do not be surprised if you can think of more than one answer for a ✨ question. That's just how ✨ questions are! Simply write down what you think the best answer is.

The third type is labeled as a ✍️ DIARY ENTRY. Here you are to imagine yourself as Nehemiah, writing a diary or journal entry. This is kind of like a "creative writing" assignment in school. There will be one of these at the end of each chapter.

Have fun and try to do your very best. You can do the puzzles any time you wish. Happy studying!

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call either:
Uncle Doug Jackson 905-607-0016, or Uncle Al Browning 416-284-0290.

We'll look forward to seeing you at Camp, God willing, and hearing about your studies of Nehemiah!

Nehemiah at a Glance

FOCUS	RECONSTRUCTION OF THE WALL	RESTORATION OF THE PEOPLE		
REFERENCE	1:1 ————— 3:1 ————— 8:1 ————— 11:1 ————— 13:31			
DIVISION	PREPARATION TO RECONSTRUCT THE WALL	RECONSTRUCTION OF THE WALL	RENEWAL OF THE COVENANT	OBEDIENCE TO THE COVENANT
TOPIC	POLITICAL		SPIRITUAL	
	CONSTRUCTION		INSTRUCTION	
LOCATION	JERUSALEM			
TIME	19 YEARS (444-425 B.C.)			

Nelson's Complete Book of Bible Maps and Charts © 1993 by Thomas Nelson, Inc.

Chapter 1- Jerusalem in ruins

Read the following. Underline or *highlight* the words or phrases you feel are most important.

Nehemiah hears of Jerusalem's misery

1:1-4 The words of Nehemiah the son of Hachaliah. And it came to pass in the month Chisleu, in the twentieth year, as I was in Shushan the palace. That Hanani, one of my brethren, came, he and certain men of Judah: and I asked them concerning the Jews that had escaped, which were left of the captivity, and concerning Jerusalem. And they said unto me, The remnant that are left of the captivity there in the province are in great affliction and reproach: the wall of Jerusalem also is broken down, and the gates thereof are burned with fire. And it came to pass, when I heard these words, that I sat down and wept, and mourned certain days, and fasted, and prayed before the God of heaven,

☺ 1. What other significant Biblical events happened in Shushan the palace? (See Esther 1:2 etc.)

☼ 2. Hanani was Nehemiah's brother:

a) What are some of the advantages of having family members in the truth?

b) Are there any disadvantages? See what Jesus says in Matthew 12:48-50.

☺ 3. What was it like in Jerusalem at this time, based on Hanani's report? (v.3)

☼ 4. Nehemiah wept when he thought about Jerusalem. See Luke 19:28-43 where Jesus weeps over Jerusalem. What sort of things should we weep about today? See Matthew 5:4

☺ 5. a) What does it mean to "fast"?

☼ b) Should we fast today at any time? Explain.

Read the following. Underline or *highlight* the words or phrases you feel are most important.

Nehemiah prays for forgiveness and help

1:5-7 And said, I beseech thee. O LORD God of heaven, the great and terrible God, that keepeth covenant and mercy for them that love him and observe his commandments: Let thine ear now be attentive, and thine eyes open, that thou mayest hear the prayer of thy servant, which I pray before thee now, day and night, for the children of Israel thy servants, and confess the sins of the children of Israel, which we have sinned against thee: both I and my father's house have sinned. We have dealt very corruptly against thee. and have not kept the commandments, nor the statutes, nor the judgments, which thou commandedst thy servant Moses.

☼ 6. Nehemiah prays to God when he is distressed. How is this a good example for us?

☺ 7. According to these verses, for what sort of people does God keep covenant and mercy? (v.5)

☼ 8. Imagine the following situation: You and your brother and sister are out playing with friends. There is an old apple tree nearby and everyone starts having an "apple fight". It's all very fun until one of the children throws an apple towards the house and breaks a window. Your father comes storming out of the house looking for an explanation.

a) Do you consider yourself at fault? _____

b) Would you just blame the others? _____

c) Explain how you would feel at this time. Would you take responsibility for what had happened?

Read the following. Underline or *highlight* the words or phrases you feel are most important.

Nehemiah prays for guidance

1:8-11 Remember, I beseech thee, the word that thou commandedst thy servant Moses, saying, If ye transgress, I will scatter you abroad among the nations: But if ye turn unto me, and keep my commandments, and do them; though there were of you cast out unto the uttermost part of the heaven, yet will I gather them from thence, and will bring them unto the place that I have chosen to set my name there. Now these are thy servants and thy people, whom thou hast redeemed by thy great power, and by thy strong hand. O Lord, I beseech thee, let now thine ear be attentive to the prayer of thy servant, and to the prayer of thy servants, who desire to fear thy name: and prosper, I pray thee, thy servant this day, and grant him mercy in the sight of this man. For I was the king's cupbearer.

☺ 9. What had God said would happen to the Israelites if they disobeyed God? (See Lev.26:33; Deut. 28:64)

☼ 10. If God promised great rewards for obedience and terrible punishment for disobedience, why did the children of Israel still go against Gods' laws?

☺ 11. Where has God "chosen to set His name"? (See Deut. 12:5; 2 Chron. 7:12, 16) _____

☼ 12. Nehemiah knew he would have to ask the King a favour. So he prayed to God for help and guidance. Describe a situation where you need to ask someone, not a Christadelphian (ex. neighbour, teacher, coach ...) a favour, relating to your belief in God. How would you feel inside? What would you do before going to see him/her?

✍ DIARY ENTRY: Pretend you are Nehemiah. Write a diary entry based on the events of chapter 1.

Chapter 2 - Nehemiah returns to Jerusalem



Read the following. Underline or *highlight* the words or phrases you feel are most important.

Nehemiah before the king

2:1-4 And it came to pass in the month Nisan, in the twentieth year of Artaxerxes the king, that wine was before him: and I took up the wine, and gave it unto the king. Now I had not been beforetime sad in his presence. Wherefore the king said unto me, Why is thy countenance sad, seeing thou art not sick? This is nothing else but sorrow of heart. Then I was very sore afraid, And said unto the king, Let the king live for ever: why should not my countenance be sad, when the city, the place of my fathers' sepulchres, lieth waste, and the gates thereof are consumed with fire? Then the king said unto me, For what dost thou make request? So I prayed to the God of heaven.

☺ 1. How much time has passed since the end of chapter 1 and the start of chapter 2?

☺ 2. What was Nehemiah's job? (v.1)

☺ 3. Why was it dangerous for Nehemiah to be sad in front of the king? (cp. Gen.40:1-3 -Pharaohs' butler and baker)

☼ 4. How do you think the King could tell Nehemiah was "sad at heart"?

☺ 5. Why was Nehemiah afraid at this point? Cp. Esther 4:2

☼ 6. Nehemiah seems to have a "prepared speech" that he now gives to the king at the first opportunity, when asked why he is sad. List at least 3 situations where you should prepare/rehearse a speech before the circumstance arrives.

☺ 7. Nehemiah was given an opportunity to appeal to the king.

a) What did he do before responding to the king? (v.4) _____

b) How long did it take him to do this? _____

Read the following. Underline or *highlight* the words or phrases you feel are most important.

Nehemiah Makes His Request

2:5-6 And I said unto the king, If it please the king, and if thy servant have found favour in thy sight, that thou wouldest send me unto Judah, unto the city of my fathers' sepulchres, that I may build it. And the king said unto me, (the queen also sitting by him,) For how long shall thy journey be? and when wilt thou return? So it pleased the king to send me; and I set him a time.



☺ 8. What did Nehemiah ask the king if he could do? (v.5)

☼ 9. a) Who was the queen (maybe)? (Hint: Remember this is in Shushan the palace. See your answer to the first question!)

b) How may this help to explain the king's favourable response?

☺ 10. Nehemiah "set him a time". How long did he ask for? (See ch. 13:6) _____

☼ 11. Nehemiah basically asked for a "leave of absence" from his job in order to take time to work for God in a special way. Ask your parents, and/or someone else in your ecclesia if they have ever taken time off work (unpaid) to do something special for God (like missionary work). List the details of any examples you find.

Read the following. Underline or *highlight* the words or phrases you feel are most important.

The King Gives a Favourable Response

2:7-8 Moreover I said unto the king, If it please the king, let letters be given me to the governors beyond the river, that they may convey me over till I come into Judah; And a letter unto Asaph the keeper of the king's forest, that he may give me timber to make beams for the gates of the palace which appertained to the house, and for the wall of the city, and for the house that I shall enter into. And the king granted me, according to the good hand of my God upon me.

☺ 12. Make a list of all the things Nehemiah asked the king for.

☺ 13. As far as Nehemiah was concerned, why had the king granted all of his requests?

Read the following. Underline or *highlight* the words or phrases you feel are most important.

Nehemiah Reaches Jerusalem

2:9-10 Then I came to the governors beyond the river, and gave them the king's letters. Now the king had sent captains of the army and horsemen with me. When Sanballat the Horonite, and Tobiah the servant, the Ammonite, heard of it. it grieved them exceedingly that there was come a man to seek the welfare of the children of Israel.

☼ 14. Why do you think the king also sent captains of the army and horsemen with Nehemiah?

☺ 15. a) List the names of the men Nehemiah confronted in the land.

b) What was their response to Nehemiah?

Rebuilding the Wall

As you complete the story below using the words in the Word Pool, you will also have the words you need to complete the crossword grid! You can read about this story in Nehemiah 1-6.

Nehemiah was the _____ to the king. One day when he was _____ the king,
11 Across 9 Down

the king said, "Why are you so _____?" Nehemiah answered, "The _____ of my
35 Across 16 Across

fathers lies in _____, its _____ destroyed by _____." The king said "What
26 Across 24 Down 1 Down

do you want to do?" Nehemiah _____ and then said, "If it pleases you, please
29 Down

send me to _____ the city." The king _____ what Nehemiah asked. He sent
19 Across 25 Down

Nehemiah to _____ with official orders to rebuild the city walls. After Nehemiah
31 Across

had been in Jerusalem for _____, he arose in the _____ to
10 Across 12 Across 20 Down

_____ out the _____ and gates. Then he said to the people, "Let's _____ up
9 Across 27 Across 30 Down

and _____." The people began to build the gates and walls, even though some
22 Across

people _____ them. When the wall was rebuilt to _____ its height, _____,
2 Down 13 Across 28 Across

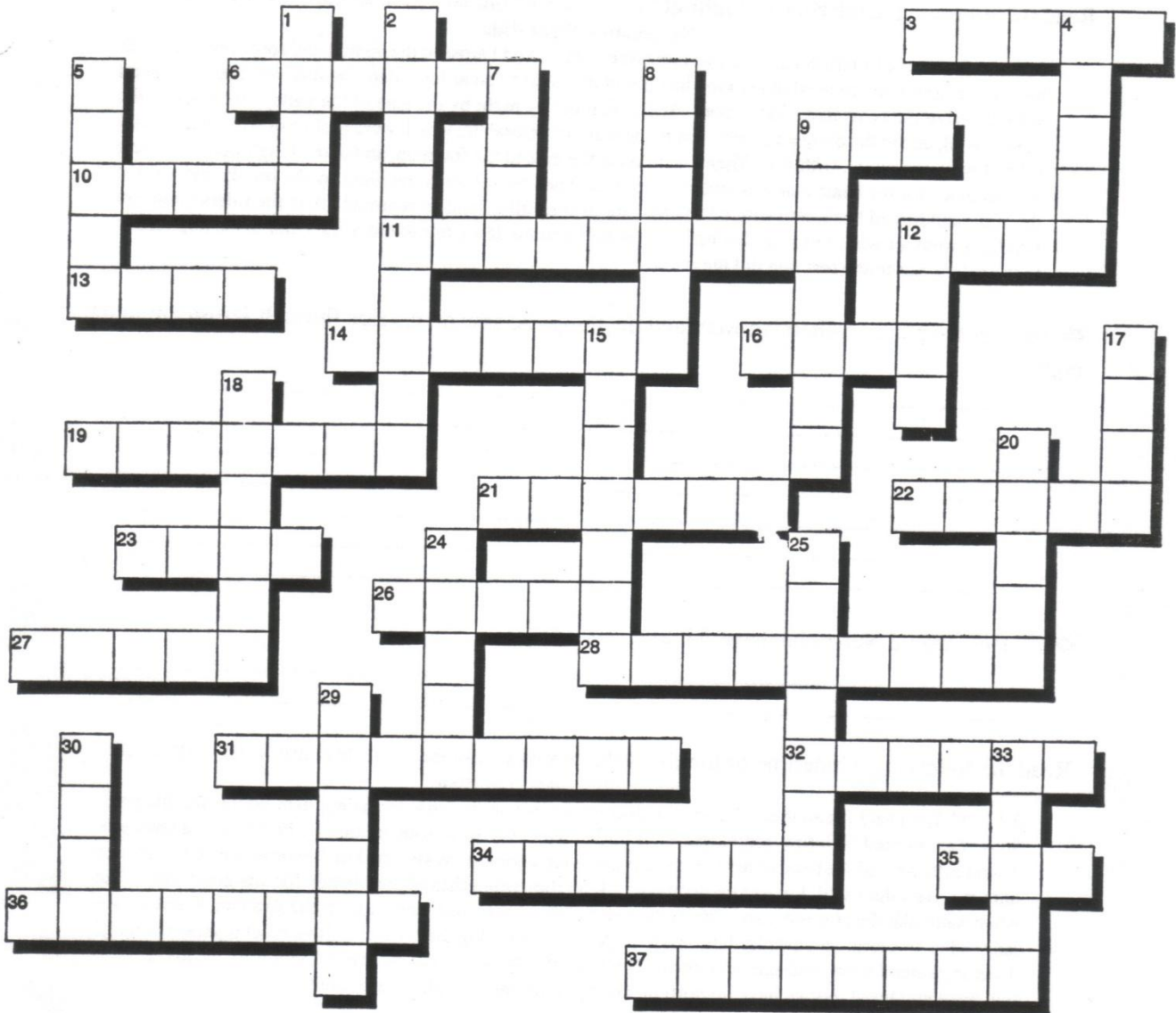
_____, the _____ and other _____ of the Israelites came together and
32 Across 33 Down 15 Down

_____ against the rebuilding. The people prayed again and set _____ on a
14 Across 18 Down

24-hour-a-day watch. Nehemiah organized the people so that half of them built while
 the other half stood _____. Nehemiah _____ the people, saying, "_____
5 Down 34 Across 36 Across

the _____ and _____ for your families and _____." Every _____ closed
17 Down 3 Across 4 Down 21 Across

the _____ in the wall that were closest to their homes. So the people were able
37 Across



to _____ the wall in fifty-two _____. When the enemies of the Israelites heard
 6 Across 12 Down

what had been done, they were _____, for they realized the _____ had been
 8 Down 23 Across

accomplished with the _____ of God.
 7 Down

Word Pool

AFRAID ARABS BREACHES BUILD CITY CUPBEARER DAYS DAYS ENEMIES FAMILY FIGHT
 FINISH FIRE GATES GRANTED GUARDS HALF HELP HOMES JERUSALEM LORD NIGHT
 PLOTTED PRAYED RALLIED REBUILD REMEMBER RIDICULED RISE SAD SANBALLAT
 SERVING SPY THREE TOBIAH WALLS WASTE WATCH WORK

Read the following. Underline or *highlight* the words or phrases you feel are most important.

Nehemiah's Night Ride

2:11-16 So I came to Jerusalem, and was there three days. And I arose in the night. I and some few men with me; neither told I any man what my God had put in my heart to do at Jerusalem: neither was there any beast with me, save the beast that I rode upon. And I went out by night by the gate of the valley, even before the dragon well, and to the dung port, and viewed the walls of Jerusalem, which were broken down, and the gates thereof were consumed with fire. Then I went on to the gate of the fountain, and to the king's pool: but there was no place for the beast that was under me to pass. Then went I up in the night by the brook, and viewed the wall, and turned back, and entered by the gate of the valley, and so returned. And the rulers knew not whither I went, or what I did; neither had I as yet told it to the Jews, nor to the priests, nor to the nobles, nor to the rulers, nor to the rest that did the work.

☺ 16. List the places Nehemiah went and the things he saw on his ride through Jerusalem in the night.



⚙ 17. How do you think Nehemiah would have felt after his ride?

Read the following. Underline or *highlight* the words or phrases you feel are most important.

Nehemiah Reveals His Plan

2:17-20 Then said I unto them, Ye see the distress that we are in, how Jerusalem lieth waste, and the gates thereof are burned with fire: come, and let us build up the wall of Jerusalem, that we be no more a reproach. Then I told them of the hand of my God which was good upon me; as also the king's words that he had spoken unto me. And they said, Let us rise up and build. So they strengthened their hands for this good work. But when Sanballat the Horonite, and Tobiah the servant, the Ammonite, and Geshem the Arabian, heard it, they laughed us to scorn, and despised us, and said. What is this thing that ye do? Will ye rebel against the king? Then answered I them, and said unto them. The God of heaven, he will prosper us; therefore we his servants will arise and build: but ye have no portion, nor right, nor memorial, in Jerusalem.

☺ 18. a) What was the response of the people to Nehemiah and his plan? (v.18)

b) What did they say to him?

⚙ 19. What sort of "projects" could you support in your ecclesia? (Think about the meeting, Sunday School, CYC)

☺ 20. What did Sanballat think of Nehemiah's plan? (v.19)

☼ 21. a) Have you ever had someone ridicule a plan or idea you had? Explain.

b) Describe how you would have felt if you were Nehemiah.

☺ 22. Who did Nehemiah say would help him accomplish his task? (v.20) _____

✍️ DIARY ENTRY: Pretend you are Nehemiah. Write a diary entry based on the events of chapter 2.

Chapter 3 - Builders of the wall.

☺ 1. The Gates: *Match* the builders to the gates each built by putting the gate number beside the right builder.

Gate #	Builder	
	Eliashib the high priest rose up with his brethren the priests	1. the gate of the fountain
	Shallun the son of Colhozeh	2. the gate Miphkad
	the sons of Hassenaah	3. the fish gate
	Malchiah the son of Rechab	4. the east gate
	Jehoiada the son of Paseah and Meshullam the son of Besodeiah	5. the sheep gate
	the priests	6. the old gate
	Hanun, and the inhabitants of Zanoah	7. the water gate
	the Nethinims	8. the dung gate
	Shemaiah the son of Shechaniah	9. The valley gate
	Malchiah the goldsmith's son	10. the horse gate

READ Chapter 3 to complete the following charts on this page and the next.



☺ 2. Match the people with their occupations (Put the occupation number beside the right name)

Occupation #	Person	
	Uzziel the son of Harhaiah	1. the ruler of part of Bethhaccerem
	Shallum the son of Haloresh, and his daughters	2. the apothecaries
	Hananiah	3. the keeper of the east gate
	Nehemiah the son of Azbuk	4. the ruler of the half part of Jerusalem
	Shemaiah the son of Shechaniah	5. the ruler of part of Mizpah
	Bavai the son of Henadad	6. the ruler of the half part of Keilah
	Rephaiah the son of Hur	7. the goldsmiths
	Malchiah the son of Rechab	8. the ruler of the half part of Bethzur
	Shallun the son of Colhozeh	9. the ruler of Mizpah
	Hashabiah	10. the ruler of the half part of Jerusalem
	Ezer the son of Jeshua	11. the ruler of the half part of Keilah.

3. Read the following verses about the Tekoites.

3:5 And next unto them the Tekoites repaired: but their nobles put not their necks to the work of their Lord.

3:27 After them the Tekoites repaired another piece, over against the great tower that lieth out, even unto the wall of Ophel.

☺ a) What was the attitude of the Tekoites to the work? (v. 5)

☼ b) Why do you think Nehemiah gave them another part of the wall to build? (v. 27)

4. Many people built the wall **by their own house**.

3:10 And next unto them repaired Jedaiah the son of Harumaph, even over against his house.

3:23 After him repaired Benjamin and Hashub over against their house. After him repaired Azariah the son of Maaseiah the son of Ananiah by his house.

3:28 From above the horse gate repaired the priests, every one over against his house.

3:29 After them repaired Zadok the son of Immer over against his house...

☼ a) Why do you think Nehemiah had people build 'by their own house'?

☼ b) Would there have been any problems building the wall near to where your house was?

☼ 5. How should our attitude be like Baruch's when it comes to doing the work of God?

3:20 After him Baruch the son of Zabbai earnestly repaired the other piece, from the turning of the wall unto the door of the house of Eliashib the high priest.

✍️ DIARY ENTRY: Pretend you are Nehemiah. Write a diary entry based on the events of chapter 3.

Chapter 4 - Opposition to the Building

Read the following. Underline or *highlight* the words or phrases you feel are most important.

Enemies Mock Nehemiah and the Builders

4:1-6 But it came to pass, that when Sanballat heard that we builded the wall, he was wroth, and took great indignation, and mocked the Jews. And he spake before his brethren and the army of Samaria, and said, What do these feeble Jews? Will they fortify themselves? Will they sacrifice? Will they make an end in a day? Will they revive the stones out of the heaps of the rubbish which are burned? Now Tobiah the Ammonite was by him, and he said, Even that which they build, if a fox go up, he shall even break down their stone wall. Hear, O our God; for we are despised: and turn their reproach upon their own head, and give them for a prey in the land of captivity: And cover not their iniquity, and let not their sin be blotted out from before thee: for they have provoked thee to anger before the builders. So built we the wall; and all the wall was joined together unto the half thereof: for the people had a mind to work,

☼ 1. The leaders of the opposition (Sanballat and Tobiah) mocked the work of Nehemiah and the Jews. Give some examples of things you could do for God that other people might make fun of, (like spending a week of your summer holidays at a Bible School!).

☺ 2. Who did Nehemiah ask to help him finish the work? (v.4) _____

☺ 3. a) What does it mean "the people had a mind to work"?

☼ b) How did this help them to complete the work more quickly?

Read the following. Underline or *highlight* the words or phrases you feel are most important.

The Enemies Plot to Fight Nehemiah

4:7-9 But it came to pass, that when Sanballat, and Tobiah, and the Arabians, and the Ammonites, and the Ashdodites, heard that the walls of Jerusalem were made up, and that the breaches began to be stopped, then they were very wroth, And conspired all of them together to come and to fight against Jerusalem, and to hinder it. Nevertheless we made our prayer unto our God, and set a watch against them day and night, because of them.

☺ 4. a) What made Sanballat so angry? (v.7)

☺ b) What did he do to try and stop the building of the wall? (v.8)

☺ 5. a) What two things did the Jews do when threatened by their enemies? (v.9)

⚙ b) How is this a lesson for us?

Read the following. Underline or *highlight* the words or phrases you feel are most important.

The People with Nehemiah Despair

4:10-12 And Judah said, The strength of the bearers of burdens is decayed, and there is much rubbish; so that we are not able to build the wall. And our adversaries said. They shall not know, neither see, till we come in the midst among them, and slay them, and cause the work to cease. And it came to pass, that when the Jews which dwelt by them came, they said unto us ten times. From all places whence ye shall return unto us they will be upon you.

6. Things did not look good for Nehemiah and the builders.

☺ a) Did they let the bad news get them down? _____

⚙ b) Have you ever felt overwhelmed by what you had to get done in a short amount of time?

☺ c) What should we do when things look hopeless?

Read the following. Underline or *highlight* the words or phrases you feel are most important.

Building with Weapons in Hand!

4:13-18 Therefore set I in the lower places behind the wall, and on the higher places, I even set the people after their families with their swords, their spears, and their bows. And I looked, and rose up, and said unto the nobles, and to the rulers, and to the rest of the people, Be not ye afraid of them: remember the Lord, which is great and terrible, and fight for your brethren, your sons, and your daughters, your wives, and your houses. And it came to pass, when our enemies heard that it was known unto us, and God had brought their counsel to nought, that we returned all of us to the wall, every one unto his work. And it came to pass from that time forth, that the half of my servants wrought in the work, and the other half of them held both the spears, the shields, and the bows, and the

habergeons; and the rulers were behind all the house of Judah. They which builded on the wall, and they that bare burdens, with those that laded, every one with one of his hands wrought in the work, and with the other hand held a weapon. For the builders, every one had his sword girded by his side, and so builded. And he that sounded the trumpet was by me.

☺ 7. Why do you think Nehemiah put the people together with their families, near their homes to help defend the city?

☼ 8. How were Nehemiah and the Jews able to keep on building the wall while being attacked by their enemies?

Read the following. Underline or *highlight* the words or phrases you feel are most important.

Building Continues Day and Night

4:19-23 And I said unto the nobles, and to the rulers, and to the rest of the people. The work is great and large, and we are separated upon the wall, one far from another. In what place therefore ye hear the sound of the trumpet, resort ye thither unto us: our God shall fight for us. So we laboured in the work: and half of them held the spears from the rising of the morning till the stars appeared. Likewise at the same time said I unto the people. Let every one with his servant lodge within Jerusalem, that in the night they may be a guard to us, and labour on the day. So neither I, nor my brethren, nor my servants, nor the men of the guard which followed me, none of us put off our clothes, saving that every one put them off for washing.

☺ 9. For what did Nehemiah use the trumpet? (v.20)

☺ 10. List as many things as you can from chapter 4 that show Nehemiah and the builders were 100% dedicated and committed to building the wall.

✍ DIARY ENTRY: Pretend you are Nehemiah. Write a diary entry based on the events of chapters 4.

Chapter 5 - More Hindrances to the Building

Read the following. Underline or *highlight* the words or phrases you feel are most important.

Problems Among the Builders

5:1-5 And there was a great cry of the people and of their wives against their brethren the Jews. For there were that said, We, our sons, and our daughters, are many: therefore we take up corn for them, that we may eat, and live. Some also there were that said, We have mortgaged our lands, vineyards, and houses, that we might buy com, because of the dearth. There were also that said, We have borrowed money for the king's tribute, and that upon our lands and vineyards. Yet now our flesh is as the flesh of our brethren, our children as their children: and, lo, we bring into bondage our sons and our daughters to be servants and some of our daughters are brought unto bondage already: neither is it in our power to redeem them; for other men have our lands and vineyards.

☺ 1. a) What problem arose amongst the Jews in Jerusalem?

⚙ b) How do you think this would this make Nehemiah feel?

⚙ 2. a) Why do you think would God allow the builders to come into hardship? (See Acts 14:22)

⚙ b) Have you ever felt that God "let you down" when you were trying your hardest to serve Him? Explain.

Read the following. Underline or *highlight* the words or phrases you feel are most important.

Nehemiah is Angry

5:6-10 And I was very angry when I heard their cry and these words. Then I consulted with myself, and I rebuked the nobles, and the rulers, and said unto them, Ye exact usury, every one of his brother. And I set a great assembly against them. And I said unto them. We after our ability have redeemed our brethren the Jews, which were sold unto the heathen; and will ye even sell your brethren? or shall they be sold unto us? Then held they their peace, and found nothing to answer. Also I said, It is not good that ye do: ought ye not to walk in the fear of our God because of the reproach of the heathen our enemies? I likewise, and my brethren, and my servants, might exact of them money and corn: I pray you, let us leave off this usury.

☺ 3. What was Nehemiah's response to the misdeeds of some of the Jews? (v.6)

☺ 4. How did they react to Nehemiah's rebuke? (v.8)

⚙ 5. What lessons can we learn from this about how to treat other people in the ecclesia?

Read the following. Underline or *highlight* the words or phrases you feel are most important.

Nehemiah Solves the Problem

5:11-13 Restore, I pray you, to them, even this day, their lands, their vineyards, their oliveyards, and their houses, also the hundredth part of the money, and of the corn, the wine, and the oil, that ye exact of them. Then said they, We will restore them, and will require nothing of them: so will we do as thou sayest. Then I called the priests, and took an oath of them, that they should do according to this promise. Also I shook my lap, and said. So God shake out every man from his house, and from his labour, that performeth not this promise, even thus be he shaken out, and emptied. And all the congregation said, Amen, and praised the LORD. And the people did according to this promise.

☺ 6. How was the problem resolved? (v.11)

☺ 7. What did Nehemiah do to ensure that the people would keep their word? (v.12, 13)

⚙ 8. Do you think the group of builders was "closer knit" after the trouble was over? Or would there have been lingering suspicion and mistrust? Explain.

☺ 9. What does it mean to say "Amen" to something?

Read the following. Underline or *highlight* the words or phrases you feel are most important.

Nehemiah's Support for the Building Project

5:14-19 Moreover from the time that I was appointed to be their governor in the land of Judah, from the twentieth year even unto the two and thirtieth year of Artaxerxes the king, that is, twelve years, I and my brethren have not eaten the bread of the governor. But the former governors that had been before me were chargeable unto the people, and had taken of them bread and wine, beside forty shekels of silver; yea, even their servants bare rule over the people: but so did not I, because of the fear of God. Yea, also I continued in the work of this wall, neither bought we any land: and all my servants were gathered thither unto the work. Moreover there were at my table an hundred and fifty of the Jews and rulers, beside those that came unto us from among the heathen that are about us. Now that which was prepared for me daily was one ox and six choice sheep; also fowls were prepared for me, and once in ten days store of all sorts of wine: yet for all this required not I the bread of the governor, because the bondage was heavy upon this people. Think upon me, my God, for good, according to all that I have done for this people.

☺ 10.a) Did Nehemiah take support from the government? (v.14) _____

☺ b) Did Nehemiah take support from the people he ruled over? (v.15)

⚙ c) What is the lesson for us today? When should we accept help from others, and when should we refuse?

😊 11. Make a list of all the people Nehemiah supported and how much they ate. (v.17,18)

⚙ 12. Was it wrong or boastful for Nehemiah to list all his good deeds and ask God to think upon him for good? Explain your answer.

✍ DIARY ENTRY: Pretend you are Nehemiah. Write a diary entry based on the events of chapter 5.



Chapter 6 - The Wall is Finished

Read the following. Underline or *highlight* the words or phrases you feel are most important.

A Plot Against Nehemiah

6:1-4 Now it came to pass, when Sanballat, and Tobiah, and Geshem the Arabian, and the rest of our enemies, heard that I had builded the wall, and that there was no breach left therein; (though at that time I had not set up the doors upon the gates;) That Sanballat and Geshem sent unto me, saying, Come, let us meet together in some one of the villages in the plain of Ono. But they thought to do me mischief. And I sent messengers unto them, saying, I am doing a great work, so that I cannot come down: why should the work cease, whilst I leave it, and come down to you? Yet they sent unto me four times after this sort; and I answered them after the same manner.

😊 1. a) What plan did Nehemiah's enemies have for him now? (v.2)

😊 b) Did Nehemiah fall for their trick? (v.3) Explain.

😊 c) How many times did they try this trick? (v.4)

Read the following. Underline or *highlight* the words or phrases you feel are most important.

Nehemiah Accused of Treason

6:5-8 Then sent Sanballat his servant unto me in like manner the fifth time with an open letter in his hand: Wherein was written. It is reported among the heathen, and Gashmu saith it, that thou and the Jews think to rebel: for which cause thou buildest the wall, that thou mayest be their king, according to these words. And thou hast also appointed prophets to preach of thee at Jerusalem, saying. There is a king in Judah: and now shall it be reported to the king according to these words. Come now therefore, and let us take counsel together. Then I sent unto him, saying. There are no such things done as thou sayest, but thou feignest them out of thine own heart.

⚙ 2. Nehemiah's enemies now make up a false story to make Nehemiah look bad.

a) Has this ever happened to you? Explain

b) How did you feel when you heard about it?

⚙ 3. Make a list of other people in the Bible who had false rumours spread about them.

Read the following. Underline or *highlight* the words or phrases you feel are most important.

Nehemiah Is Not Afraid of the Enemies

6:9-13 For they all made us afraid, saying, Their hands shall be weakened from the work, that it be not done. Now therefore, O God, strengthen my hands. Afterward I came unto the house of Shemaiah the son of Delaiah the son of Mehetabeel, who was shut up; and he said. Let us meet together in the house of God, within the temple, and let us shut the doors of the temple: for they will come to slay thee; yea, in the night will they come to slay thee. And I said, Should such a man as I flee? and who is there, that, being as I am, would go into the temple to save his life? I will not go in. And, lo, I perceived that God had not sent him; but that he pronounced this prophecy against me: for Tobiah and Sanballat had hired him. Therefore was he hired, that I should be afraid, and do so, and sin, and that they might have matter for an evil report, that they might reproach me.

😊 4. What did Nehemiah's enemies hope would happen when the people heard their false rumours about Nehemiah? (v.9)

⚙ 5. Why did Nehemiah not run and hide from these wicked men and their plots against him?

Read the following. Underline or *highlight* the words or phrases you feel are most important.

The Wall is Finished

6:14-19 My God, think thou upon Tobiah and Sanballat according to these their works, and on the prophetess Noadiah, and the rest of the prophets, that would have put me in fear. So the wall was finished in the twenty and fifth day of the month Elul, in fifty and two days. And it came to pass, that when all our enemies heard thereof, and all the heathen that were about us saw these things, they were much cast down in their own eyes: for they perceived that this work was wrought of our God. Moreover in those days the nobles of Judah sent many letters unto Tobiah, and the letters of Tobiah came unto them. For there were many in Judah sworn unto him, because he was the son in law of Shechaniah the son of Arah: and his son Johanan had taken the daughter of Meshullam the son of Berechiah. Also they reported his good deeds before me, and uttered my words to him. And Tobiah sent letters to put me in fear.

☺ 6. a) How long did it take to finish the walls of the city? (v.15) _____

☺ b) Do you think this was this considered fast or slow? Explain.

☺ 7. What was the reaction of Sanballat and Tobiah to the news that the walls were finished? (v.16)

⚙ 8. A seemingly impossible task (humanly speaking) was finished with the help of God. List other examples of this from the Bible.

⚙ 9. Tobiah was Nehemiah's enemy, yet he had friends among the people with Nehemiah. How did this help Tobiah fight against Nehemiah?

✍ DIARY ENTRY: Pretend you are Nehemiah. Write a diary entry based on the events of chapter 6.

All the Day Long

Use your Bible to solve the number equation below:

When the Samaritans had come to Him,
they urged Him to stay with them;
and He stayed there ___ days (*John 4:40*) _____

Please, let us go ___ days' journey into
the wilderness, that we may sacrifice to
the LORD (*Exodus 3:18*) X _____

When he [David] had eaten, his strength
came back to him; for he had eaten no
bread nor drunk any water for ___ days
(*1 Samuel 30:12*) X _____

Moses was on the mountain ___ days and
___ nights (*Exodus 24:18*) + _____

So they called these days Purim . . . the
Jews established and imposed it . . . that
without fail they should celebrate these
___ days every year (*Esther 9:26-27*) - _____

It happened after ___ days that the word
of the LORD came to Jeremiah
(*Jeremiah 42:7*) - _____

You shall march around the city, all you
men of war; you shall go all around the
city once. This you shall do ___ days
(*Joshua 6:3*) + _____

The number of days it took for Nehemiah
and the Israelites to rebuild the walls
of Jerusalem (*Nehemiah 6:15*) = _____

Chapter 7 - Organization and Registration in the City

Read the following. Underline or *highlight* the words or phrases you feel are most important.

The Gates Set Up and Watches Set

7:1-4 Now it came to pass, when the wall was built, and I had set up the doors, and the porters and the singers and the Levites were appointed. That I gave my brother Hanani, and Hananiah the ruler of the palace, charge over Jerusalem: for he was a faithful man, and feared God above many. And I said unto them. Let not the gates of Jerusalem be opened until the sun be hot; and while they stand by. let them shut the doors, and bar them: and appoint watches of the inhabitants of Jerusalem, every one in his watch, and every one to be over against his house. Now the city was large and great: but the people were few therein, and the houses were not builded.

😊 1. a) When were the gates opened? What time of the day do you think this was? (v.3)

⚙ b) Why did they have to guard the gates?

⚙ 2. a) Why do you think they finished the wall before building their own houses?

⚙ b) What is the lesson for us? (See Matthew 6:33)

Read verses 5-63 - The Genealogy

⚙ 3. Why was it important to Nehemiah to have a record of everyone`s genealogy?

⚙ 4. How far back can you find your genealogy? Make a family tree for yourself.

Read the following. Underline or *highlight* the words or phrases you feel are most important.

All the People and Their Animals

7:64-69 These sought their register among those that were reckoned by genealogy, but it was not found: therefore were they, as polluted, put from the priesthood. And the Tirshatha said unto them, that they should not eat of the most holy things, till there stood up a priest with Urim and Thummim. The whole congregation together was forty and two thousand three hundred and threescore. Beside their manservants and their maidservants, of whom there were seven thousand three hundred thirty and seven: and they had two hundred forty and five singing men and singing women. Their horses, seven hundred thirty and six: their mules, two hundred forty and five: Their camels, four hundred thirty and five: six thousand seven hundred and twenty asses.

☺ 5. What happened to those whose genealogy could not be found? (v.64)

☺ 6. How many people were with Nehemiah in total? (v.66) _____

☺ 7. How many of each type of animal did they have at this time? (v. 68,69)

Animal	How many?
horses	
Mules	
Camels	
Asses	

Read the following. Underline or *highlight* the words or phrases you feel are most important.

Money Collected for the Work

7:70-73 And some of the chief of the fathers gave unto the work. The Tirshatha gave to the treasure a thousand drams of gold, fifty basins, five hundred and thirty priests' garments. And some of the chief of the fathers gave to the treasure of the work twenty thousand drams of gold, and two thousand and two hundred pound of silver. And that which the rest of the people gave was twenty thousand drams of gold, and two thousand pound of silver, and threescore and seven priests' garments. So the priests, and the Levites. and the porters, and the singers, and some of the people, and the Nethinims, and all Israel, dwelt in their cities; and when the seventh month came, the children of Israel were in their cities.

☺ 8. Who was the "Tirshatha"? (hint: ch. 8:9) _____

☺ 9. a) How much gold, silver and garments was given "unto the work", in total?

☺ b) What would be the equivalent value of all this today? (Approximately)

✍️ DIARY ENTRY: Pretend you are Nehemiah. Write a diary entry based on the events of chapter 7.

Chapter 8 - The Reading of the Law

Read the following. Underline or *highlight* the words or phrases you feel are most important.

The People Gather to Hear the Reading

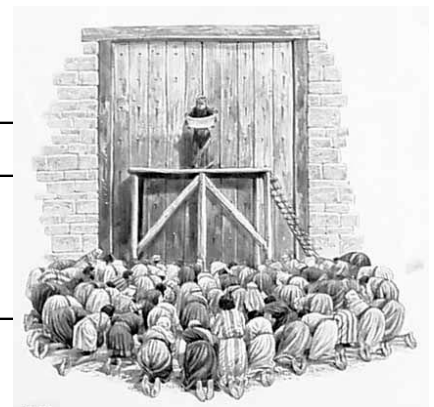
8:1-3 And all the people gathered themselves together as one man into the street that was before the water gate; and they spake unto Ezra the scribe to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the LORD had commanded to Israel. And Ezra the priest brought the law before the congregation both of men and women, and all that could hear with understanding, upon the first day of the seventh month. And he read therein before the street that was before the water gate from the morning until midday, before the men and the women, and those that could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive unto the book of the law.

⚙️ 1. What does it mean the people gathered "as one man"?

⚙️ 2. What kind of man was Ezra the scribe? (see Ezra 7:6-10)

⚙️ 3. a) How often should we read God's word?

⚙️ b) How carefully should we listen to it as it is read? Explain why.



Read the following. Underline or *highlight* the words or phrases you feel are most important.

Ezra Reads the Law

8:4-8 And Ezra the scribe stood upon a pulpit of wood, which they had made for the purpose ... And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people; (for he was above all the people;) and when he opened it, all the people stood up: And Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God. And all the people answered, Amen, Amen, with lifting up their hands: and they bowed their heads, and worshipped the LORD with their faces to the ground. Also Jeshua, and Bani, and Sherebiah, Jamin, Akkub, Shabbethai, Hodijah, Maaseiah, Kelita, Azariah, Jozabad, Hanan, Pelaiah, and the Levites, caused the people to understand the law: and the people stood in their place. So they read in the book in the law of God distinctly, and gave the sense, and caused them to understand the reading.

⚙ 4. a) Why did Ezra say a prayer before reading the Word?

⚙ b) Why did all the people say "Amen"?

☺ 5. Copy out Nehemiah 8:8 - This is how we should read the Bible:

Read the following. Underline or *highlight* the words or phrases you feel are most important.

A Time of Great Joy

8:9-12 And Nehemiah, which is the Tirshatha, and Ezra the priest the scribe, and the Levites that taught the people, said unto all the people, This day is holy unto the LORD your God: mourn not. nor weep. For all the people wept, when they heard the words of the law. Then he said unto them. Go your way, eat the fat, and drink the sweet, and send portions unto them for whom nothing is prepared: for this day is holy unto our Lord: neither be ye sorry; for the joy of the LORD is your strength. So the Levites stilled all the people, saying, Hold your peace, for the day is holy; neither be ye grieved. And all the people went their way to eat, and to drink, and to send portions, and to make great mirth, because they had understood the words that were declared unto them.

☺ 6. a) How did the people react to the reading of the Law? (v.9)

⚙ b) Was this a good response? _____

☺ 7. What things did they do afterwards? (v.12)

Read the following. Underline or *highlight* the words or phrases you feel are most important.

The Keeping of the Feast

8:13-18 And on the second day were gathered together the chief of the fathers of all the people, the priests, and the Levites, unto Ezra the scribe, even to understand the words of the law. And they found written in the law which the LORD had commanded by Moses, that the children of Israel should dwell in booths in the feast of the seventh month: And that they should publish and proclaim in all their cities, and in Jerusalem, saying, Go forth unto the mount, and fetch olive branches, and pine branches, and myrtle branches, and palm branches, and branches of thick trees, to make booths, as it is written. So the people went forth, and brought them, and made themselves booths, every one upon the roof of his house, and in their courts, and in the courts of the house of God, and in the street of the water gate, and in the street of the gate of Ephraim. And all the congregation of them that were come again out of the captivity made booths, and sat under the booths: for since the days of Jeshua the son of Nun unto that day had not the children of Israel done so. And there was very great gladness. Also day by day, from the first day unto the last day. he read in the book of the law of God. And they kept the feast seven days; and on the eighth day was a solemn assembly, according unto the manner.

☺ 8. What Feast did they rediscover from the law and celebrate now (for the first time since Joshua's day!)?

(v.16) _____

☼ 9. Find out the details of this Feast from the Law. (i.e. when it occurred, what events took place, etc. Hint: Lev. 23:39-44)

✍ DIARY ENTRY: Pretend you are Nehemiah. Write a diary entry based on the events of chapter 8.

Chapter 9 - The People Enter the Covenant

Read the following. Underline or *highlight* the words or phrases you feel are most important.

The People Separate Themselves

9:1-3 Now in the twenty and fourth day of this month the children of Israel were assembled with fasting, and with sackclothes, and earth upon them. And the seed of Israel separated themselves from all strangers, and stood and confessed their sins, and the iniquities of their fathers. And they stood up in their place, and read in the book of the law of the LORD their God one fourth part of the day: and another fourth part they confessed, and worshipped the LORD their God.

☺ 1. What things did the people do to show their repentance and humility before God?

Read Nehemiah 9:4-32 - A Survey of Israel's History

☺ 2. The people realized that they were in the land because of God's promise to what faithful person? (hint: v.7)

☺ 3. What characteristics of God are listed by the people in these verses? (e.g. v.8,19,27,31,33, etc.)

☺ 4. a) What blessings did God bring upon the children of Israel in the wilderness? (v.15)

⚙ b) Why are these things being mentioned here in Nehemiah's time?

⚙ 5. a) Why is it important for us to know "Bible History"?

⚙ b) How can it help us today? (See Rom. 15:4)

Read the following. Underline or *highlight* the words or phrases you feel are most important.

The Acknowledge Their Sins

9:33-38 Howbeit thou art just in all that is brought upon us; for thou hast done right, but we have done wickedly: Neither have our kings, our princes, our priests, nor our fathers, kept thy law, nor hearkened unto thy commandments and thy testimonies, wherewith thou didst testify against them. For they have not served thee in their kingdom, and in thy great goodness that thou gavest them, and in the large and fat land which thou gavest before them, neither turned they from their wicked works. Behold, we are servants this day, and for the land that thou gavest unto our fathers to eat the fruit thereof and the good thereof, behold, we are servants in it: And it yieldeth much increase unto the kings whom thou hast set over us because of our sins: also they have dominion over our bodies, and over our cattle, at their pleasure, and we are in great distress. And because of all this we make a sure covenant, and write it; and our princes, Levites, and priests, seal unto it.

⚙ 6. Why is it important to acknowledge before God that "thou (God) hast done right, but we have done wickedly"?

⚙ 7. a) Why were the Jews in Nehemiah's time renewing their covenant with God?

b) Did they keep this covenant? _____

c) What covenant should we make with God? _____

✍️ DIARY ENTRY: Pretend you are Nehemiah. Write a diary entry based on the events of chapter 9.

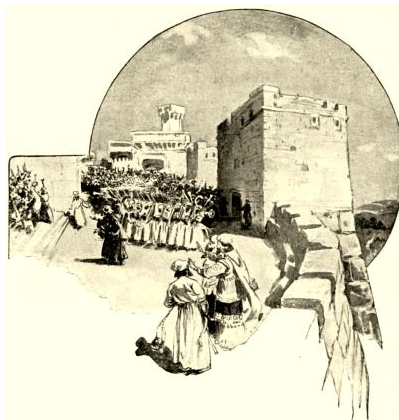
Chapter 10 - The implications of the Covenant

Read 10:1 -39

☺ 1. What were the requirements of the covenant that the people promised to perform?

Verse	Requirement of the Covenant
10:29	
10:30	
10:31	
10:32	
10:33	
10:34	
10:35	
10:36	
10:37	
10:38	
10:39	

✍️ DIARY ENTRY: Pretend you are Nehemiah. Write a diary entry based on the events of chapter 10.



Chapter 11 - Resettlement of the people

Read 11:1-36

⚙ 1. From the list of all these names, pick ONE person or place and do some research on him/it.
(Where else in the Bible is it mentioned? What happened there? What was the person like? Etc)

Read the following. Underline or *highlight* the words or phrases you feel are most important.

11:1-2 And the rulers of the people dwelt at Jerusalem: the rest of the people also cast lots, to bring one of ten to dwell in Jerusalem the holy city, and nine parts to dwell in other cities. And the people blessed all the men, that willingly offered themselves to dwell at Jerusalem.

😊 2. What fraction of the people dwelt in the city of Jerusalem? (v.1) _____

⚙ 3. Why were only certain people to live in the city of Jerusalem?

😊 4. Where did the others live? (v.1)

✍ DIARY ENTRY: Pretend you are Nehemiah. Write a diary entry based on the events of chapter 11.

Chapter 12 - Register of the Priests and the Levites

Read 12:1-21

⚙ 1. Why was it so important to have priests and Levites among the people?

Read 12:22-30

☺ 2. List the duties that the Levites had to perform. (hint: see v.24,25,27,30)

Read 12:31-43

☺ 3. a) What does Nehemiah do (and the men with him) during the dedication of the wall ceremony? (hint. v.40)

⚙ b) Why does Nehemiah make such a spectacular show when the wall is dedicated?

⚙ 4. Have you ever been in a "big production"? (wedding, school play,.....) Describe how you felt being involved.

Read 12:44-47

⚙ 5. a) Why was it important to have singers and porters (i.e. doorkeepers) among the priests?

⚙ b) Do we have similar roles in the ecclesia today?

✍️ DIARY ENTRY: Pretend you are Nehemiah. Write a diary entry based on the events of chapter 12.

Chapter 13 - Restoration of the People

Read the following. Underline or *highlight* the words or phrases you feel are most important.

Mixed Multitude Separated

13:1-5 On that day they read in the book of Moses in the audience of the people; and therein was found written, that the Ammonite and the Moabite should not come into the congregation of God for ever; Because they met not the children of Israel with bread and with water, but hired Balaam against them, that he should curse them: howbeit our God turned the curse into a blessing. Now it came to pass, when they had heard the law, that they separated from Israel all the mixed multitude. And before this, Eliashib the priest, having the oversight of the chamber of the house of our God, was allied unto Tobiah: And he had prepared for him a great chamber, where aforetime they laid the meat offerings, the frankincense, and the vessels, and the tithes of the corn, the new wine, and the oil, which was commanded to be given to the Levites, and the singers, and the porters; and the offerings of the priests.

☺ 1. Why were the Ammonites and Moabites to be excluded from the congregation of God? (v.2)

☼ 2. The people heard the law and then acted on what they heard. What is the lesson for us? See James 1:22-25

☼ 3. Tobiah (the enemy) had an ally in the camp. Even today enemies of the Truth may be in the ecclesia or among young people. Use scripture to prove or disprove this statement.

Read the following. Underline or *highlight* the words or phrases you feel are most important.

Nehemiah Returns to the City

13:6-11 But in all this time was not I at Jerusalem: for in the two and thirtieth year of Artaxerxes king of Babylon came I unto the king, and after certain days obtained I leave of the king: And I came to Jerusalem, and understood of the evil that Eliashib did for Tobiah, in preparing him a chamber in the courts of the house of God. And it grieved me sore: therefore I cast forth all the household stuff of Tobiah out of the chamber. Then I commanded, and they cleansed the chambers: and thither brought I again the vessels of the house of God, with the meat offering and the frankincense. And I perceived that the portions of the Levites had not been given them: for the Levites and the singers, that did the work, were fled every one to his field. Then contended I with the rulers, and said, Why is the house of God forsaken? And I gathered them together, and set them in their place.

☺ 4. How did Nehemiah react to the news of Tobiah's chamber in the house of God? (v.8)

☺ 5. What was neglected while Nehemiah was away from Jerusalem? (v.9)

Read the following. Underline or *highlight* the words or phrases you feel are most important.

The Sabbath Problem

13:12-18 Then brought all Judah the tithe of the corn and the new wine and the oil unto the treasuries. And I made treasurers over the treasuries, Shelemiah the priest, and Zadok the scribe, and of the Levites, Pedaiah: and next to them was Hanan the son of Zaccur, the son of Mattaniah: for they were counted faithful and their office was to distribute unto their brethren. Remember me, O my God, concerning this, and wipe not out my good deeds that I have done for the house of my God, and for the offices thereof. In those days saw I in Judah some treading wine presses on the Sabbath, and bringing in sheaves, and lading asses; as also wine, grapes, and figs, and all manner of burdens, which they brought into Jerusalem on the Sabbath day: and I testified against them in the day wherein they sold victuals. There dwelt men of Tyre also therein, which brought fish, and all manner of ware, and sold on the Sabbath unto the children of Judah, and in Jerusalem. Then I contended with the nobles of Judah, and said unto them. What evil thing is this that ye do, and profane the Sabbath day? Did not your fathers thus, and did not our God bring all this evil upon us, and upon this city? Yet ye bring more wrath upon Israel by profaning the Sabbath.

☺ 6. What did Nehemiah do to fix the Sabbath problem? (v.15)

☺ 7. What else had gone wrong while Nehemiah was away? (v.16)

⚙ 8. Why do you think the people started doing all these things they had **promised** not to do?

Read the following. Underline or *highlight* the words or phrases you feel are most important.

Re-establishing the Sabbath

13:19-22 And it came to pass, that when the gates of Jerusalem began to be dark before the Sabbath, I commanded that the gates should be shut, and charged that they should not be opened till after the Sabbath: and some of my servants set I at the gates, that there should no burden be brought in on the Sabbath day. So the merchants and sellers of all kind of ware lodged without Jerusalem once or twice. Then I testified against them, and said unto them, Why lodge ye about the wall? if ye do so again. I will lay hands on you. From that time forth came they no more on the Sabbath. And I commanded the Levites that they should cleanse themselves, and that they should come and keep the gates, to sanctify the Sabbath day. Remember me, O my God, concerning this also, and spare me according to the greatness of thy mercy.

☺ 9. What did Nehemiah do to further solve the problem of the Sabbath Day? (v.19)

Read the following. Underline or *highlight* the words or phrases you feel are most important.

The Marriage Problem

13:23-27 In those days also saw I Jews that had married wives of Ashdod, of Ammon, and of Moab: And their children spake half in the speech of Ashdod, and could not speak in the Jews' language, but according to the language of each people. And I contended with them, and cursed them, and smote certain of them, and plucked off their hair, and made them swear by God, saying, Ye shall not give your daughters unto their sons, nor take their daughters unto your sons, or for yourselves. Did not Solomon king of Israel sin by these things? yet among many nations was there no king like him, who was beloved of his God, and God made him king over all Israel: nevertheless even him did outlandish women cause to sin. Shall we then hearken unto you to do all this great evil, to transgress against our God in marrying strange wives?

☺ 10. What other problems did Nehemiah encounter? (v.23,24)

☼ 11. How would you have felt if you were Nehemiah?

☼ 12. How do you think the people could have turned from God so soon after Nehemiah left?

Read the following. Underline or *highlight* the words or phrases you feel are most important.

Cleansing

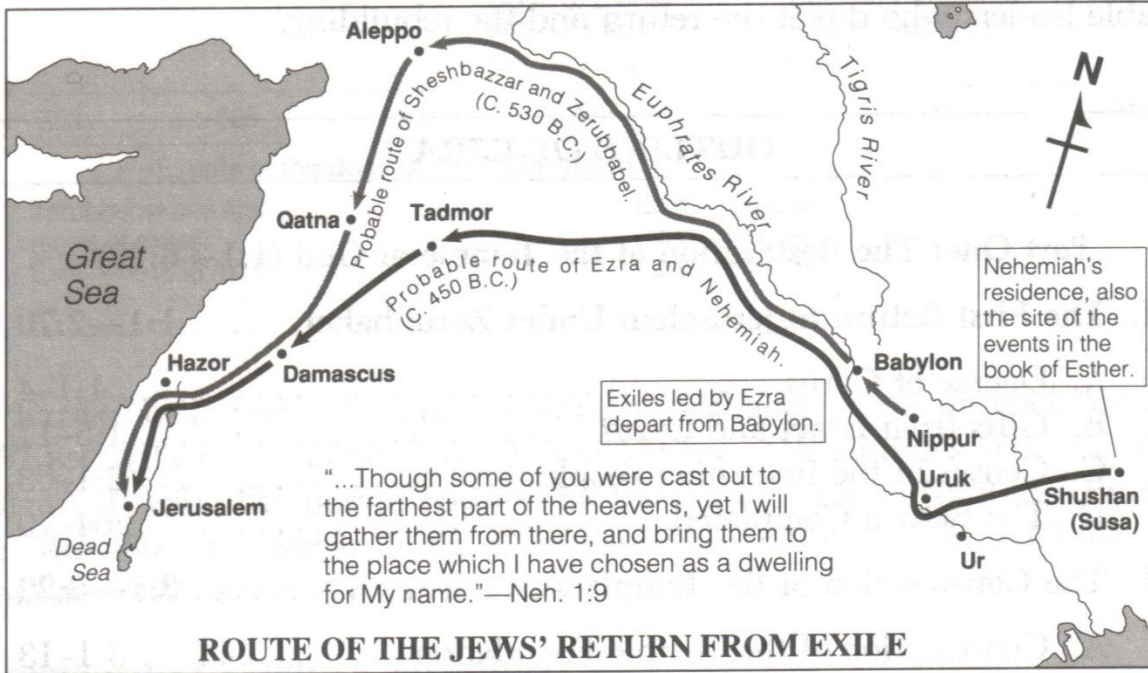
13:28-31 And one of the sons of Joiada, the son of Eliashib the high priest, was son in law to Sanballat the Horonite: therefore I chased him from me. Remember them, O my God, because they have defiled the priesthood, and the covenant of the priesthood, and of the Levites. Thus cleansed I them from all strangers, and appointed the wards of the priests and the Levites, every one in his business; And for the wood offering, at times appointed, and for the firstfruits. Remember me. O my God, for good.

☺ 13. What did Nehemiah do in this case to show his displeasure? (v.28)

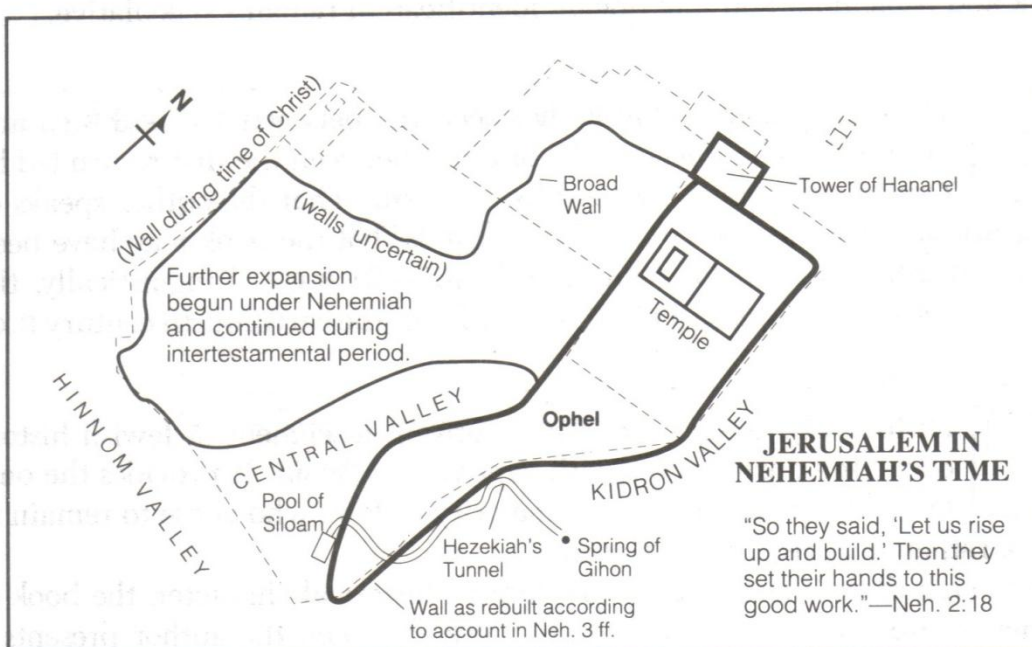
☼ 14. Would you feel confident to say "Remember me, O my God, for good."? Why or Why Not?

✍ DIARY ENTRY: Pretend you are Nehemiah. Write a diary entry based on the events of chapter 13.

Appendix 1











Jerusalem in Nehemiah's Time



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Dates: for Nehemiah



-  539 B.C. Capture of Babylon
-  537 B.C. Cyrus' 1st Year
-  536 B.C. Work on Temple begun
-  530-520 B.C. Work ceased
-  516 B.C. Temple completed
-  458 B.C. Ezra in Jerusalem
-  445 B.C. Nehemiah arrives
-  432 B.C. Nehemiah's recall

Nehemiah under Trial

- * Derision - (2:19)
- * Half-hearted brethren - (3:5)
- * Contempt - (4:1-3)
- * Open Opposition - (4:8)
- * Discouragement - (4:10)
- * Sabotage - (4:11)
- * Internecine Strife - (5:7)
- * False Friendship - (6:2)
- * Scandal - (6:5)
- * Fear - (6:13)
- * Treason - (6:18-19; 13:23-29)