

## ~NEHEMIAH, BOOK OF (1987)

- Time Covered And Time Of Writing
- Agreement With Other Bible Books
- Highlights Of Nehemiah

• A book of the Hebrew Scriptures that primarily relates events occurring shortly before and during Nehemiah's governorship in Judah.

• Another thing. From the day that he commissioned me to become their governor in the land of Judah, from the twentieth year to the thirty-second year of Artaxerxes the king, twelve years, I myself and my brothers did not eat the bread due the governor. (**Nehemiah 5:14**)

• And during all this time I did not happen to be in Jerusalem, for in the thirty-second year of Artaxerxes the king of Babylon I came to the king, and sometime later I asked leave of absence from the king. (**Nehemiah 13:6**)

• Then I came to Jerusalem and got to notice the badness that Eliashib had committed for Tobiah by making for him a hall in the courtyard of the house of the true God. (**Nehemiah 13:7**)

• The opening words of this inspired account identify the writer as **Nehemiah** the son of Hacaliah.

• The words of Nehemiah the son of Hacaliah. Now it came about in the month Chislev, in the twentieth year, that I myself happened to be in Shushan the castle. (**Nehemiah 1:1**)

• And much of it is written in the first person.

### • Time Covered And Time Of Writing

• The month of Chislev, **November-December**, of a certain 20th year is the reference point with which the historical narrative begins.

• The words of **Nehemiah** the son of Hacaliah. Now it came about in the month Chislev, in the twentieth year, that I myself happened to be in Shushan the castle. (**Nehemiah 1:1**)

• As is evident from;

- And it came about in the month Nisan, in the twentieth year of Artaxerxes the king, that wine was before him, and I as usual took up the wine and gave it to the king. But never had I happened to be gloomy before him. (**Nehemiah 2:1**)
- This 20th year must be that of Artaxerxes reign. Obviously, the 20th year in this case is not reckoned as starting in Nisan, **March-April**, for Chislev of the 20th year could not then precede Nisan mentioned at,
- And it came about in the month Nisan, in the twentieth year of Artaxerxes the king, that wine was before him, and I as usual took up the wine and gave it to the king. But never had I happened to be gloomy before him. (**Nehemiah 2:1**)
- Of the same 20th year. So it may be that Nehemiah used his own count of time, reckoning the lunar year as beginning with Tishri, **September-October**, which month Jews today recognize as the beginning of their civil year.
- Another possibility is that the reign of the king was reckoned from the actual date that the monarch ascended the throne. This could be so even though the Babylonian scribes continued to reckon the years of the Persian kings reign on their customary basis of a Nisan-to-Nisan count, as their cuneiform tablets show they did.
- Reliable historical evidence and the fulfillment of Bible prophecy point to **455 B.C.E.** as the year in which Nisan of the 20th year of Artaxerxes reign fell.
- Accordingly, the Chislev preceding Nisan of that 20th year would fall in **456 B.C.E.**, and the 32nd year of Artaxerxes reign the last date mentioned in;
- And during all this time I did not happen to be in Jerusalem, for in the thirty-second year of Artaxerxes the king of Babylon I came to the king, and sometime later I asked leave of absence from the king. (**Nehemiah 13:6**)
- Would include part of **443 B.C.E.** Therefore, the book of Nehemiah covers a period from **Chislev of 456 B.C.E.**, until sometime after **443 B.C.E.**

**See Also PERSIA, PERSIANS (The Reigns of Xerxes and of Artaxerxes)**

- It was in the 32nd year of Artaxerxes reign that Nehemiah left Jerusalem. Upon his return, he found that the Jews were not supporting the priests and Levites, the Sabbath Law was being violated, many had married foreign women, and the offspring of the mixed marriages did not even know how to speak the language of the Jews.
- And I got to find out that the very portions of the Levites had not been given them, so that the Levites and the singers doing the work went running off, each one to his own field. (**Nehemiah 13:10**)
- And I began to find fault with the deputy rulers and say; Why has the house of the true God been neglected? Consequently I collected them together and stationed them at their standing place. (**Nehemiah 13:11**)
- And all Judah, for their part, brought in the tenth of the grain and of the new wine and of the oil to the stores. (**Nehemiah 13:12**)
- Then I put Shelemiah the priest and Zadok the copyist and Pedaiah of the Levites in charge of the stores, and under their control there was Hanan the son of Zaccur the son of Mattaniah, for they were considered faithful, and upon them it devolved to do the distributing to their brothers. (**Nehemiah 13:13**)
- Do remember me, O my God, concerning this, and do not wipe out my acts of loving-kindness that I have performed in connection with the house of my God and the guardianship of it. (**Nehemiah 13:14**)
- In those days I saw in Judah people treading winepresses on the Sabbath and bringing in grain heaps and loading them upon asses, and also wine, grapes and figs and every sort of burden, and bringing them into Jerusalem on the Sabbath day, and I proceeded to bear witness against them on the day of their selling provisions. (**Nehemiah 13:15**)
- And the Tyrians themselves dwelt in the city, bringing in fish and every sort of merchandise and making sales on the Sabbath to the sons of Judah and in Jerusalem. (**Nehemiah 13:16**)
- So I began to find fault with the nobles of Judah and say to

- them; What is this bad thing that you are doing, even profaning the Sabbath day? (**Nehemiah 13:17**)
- Was it not this way that your forefathers did, so that our God brought upon us all this calamity, and also upon this city? Yet you are adding to the burning anger against Israel by profaning the Sabbath. (**Nehemiah 13:18**)
  - And it came about that, as soon as the gates of Jerusalem had grown shadowy before the Sabbath, I immediately said the word and the doors began to be closed. I said further that they should not open them until after the Sabbath, and some of my own attendants I stationed at the gates that no burden might come in on the Sabbath day. (**Nehemiah 13:19**)
  - Consequently the traders and the sellers of every sort of merchandise spent the night outside Jerusalem once and a second time. (**Nehemiah 13:20**)
  - For conditions to have deteriorated to this point indicates that Nehemiah's absence entailed a considerable period. But there is no way to determine just how long after **443 B.C.E.** Nehemiah completed the book bearing his name.

### •• Agreement With Other Bible Books

- The book of **Nehemiah** exalts Yehowah God. It reveals him to be the Creator
- You are Yehowah alone. You yourself have made the heavens, even the heaven of the heavens, and all their army, the earth and all that is upon it, the seas and all that is in them, and you are preserving all of them alive, and the army of the heavens are bowing down to you. (**Nehemiah 9:6**)
- In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. (**Genesis 1:1**)
- The Maker of heaven and earth, of the sea, and of all that is in them, the One keeping trueness to time indefinite. (**Psalms 146:6**)
- You are worthy, Yehowah, even our God, to receive the glory and the honor and the power, because you created all things, and

because of your will they existed and were created. (**Revelation 4:11**)

- **A God who answers the sincere prayers of his servants.**
- **Ah, Yehowah, please, let your ear become attentive to the prayer of your servant and to the prayer of your servants who take delight in fearing your name, and, please, do grant success to your servant today and make him an object of pity before this man. Now I myself happened to be cupbearer to the king. (**Nehemiah 1:11**)**
- **Also a letter to Asaph the keeper of the park that belongs to the king, that he may give me trees to build with timber the gates of the Castle that belongs to the house, and for the wall of the city and for the house into which I am to enter. So the king gave them to me, according to the good hand of my God upon me. (**Nehemiah 2:8**)**
- **Hear, O our God, for we have become an object of contempt, and make their reproach return upon their own head, and give them to the plunder in the land of captivity. (**Nehemiah 4:4**)**
- **And do not cover over their error and their sin from before you. Let it not be wiped out, for they have committed offense against the builders. (**Nehemiah 4:5**)**
- **Now it came about that as soon as our enemies heard that it had become known to us, so that the true God had frustrated their counsel and we had all of us gone back to the wall, each one to his work. (**Nehemiah 4:15**)**
- **Yes, it came about that from that day forward half of my young men were active in the work and half of them were holding the lances, the shields and the bows and the coats of mail, and the princes were behind the whole house of Judah. (**Nehemiah 4:16**)**
- **And it came about that, as soon as all our enemies heard of it and all the nations that were around us got to see it, they at once fell very much in their own eyes, and they got to know that it was from our God that this work had been done. (**Nehemiah 6:16**)**
- **Give ear, O Yehowah, to my prayer, and do pay attention to the voice of my entreaties. (**Psalms 86:6**)**

- **In the day of my distress I will call upon you, for you will answer me. (Psalms 86:7)**
- **And the Defender of his people.**
- **When I saw their fear I immediately rose and said to the nobles and the deputy rulers and the rest of the people; Do not be afraid on their account. Yehowah the great and the fear-inspiring One keep in your mind, and fight for your brothers, your sons and your daughters, your wives and your homes. (Nehemiah 4:14)**
- **In the place where you hear the sound of the horn, there is where you will collect yourselves together to us. Our God himself will fight for us. (Nehemiah 4:20)**
- **Yehowah will himself fight for you, and you yourselves will be silent. (Exodus 14:14)**
- **And he kept taking wheels off their chariots so that they were driving them with difficulty, and the Egyptians began to say; Let us flee from any contact with Israel, because Yehowah certainly fights for them against the Egyptians. (Exodus 14:25)**
- **He is a God of acts of forgiveness, gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abundant in loving-kindness.**
- **So they refused to listen, and they did not remember your wonderful acts that you performed with them, but they hardened their neck and appointed a head to return to their servitude in Egypt. But you are a God of acts of forgiveness, gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abundant in loving-kindness, and you did not leave them. (Nehemiah 9:17)**
- **Yehowah, slow to anger and abundant in loving-kindness, pardoning error and transgression, but by no means will he give exemption from punishment, bringing punishment for the error of the fathers upon sons, upon the third generation and upon the fourth generation. (Numbers 14:18)**
- **He is the God of the heavens, the God great and fear-inspiring, keeping the covenant and loving-kindness toward those loving him and keeping his commandments.**

- **And I went on to say; Ah, Yehowah the God of the heavens, the God great and fear-inspiring, keeping the covenant and loving-kindness toward those loving him and keeping his commandments. (Nehemiah 1:5)**
- **And you well know that Yehowah your God is the true God, the faithful God, keeping covenant and loving-kindness in the case of those who love him and those who keep his commandments to a thousand generations. (Deuteronomy 7:9)**
- **But repaying to his face the one who hates him by destroying him. He will not hesitate toward the one who hates him, he will repay him to his face. (Deuteronomy 7:10)**
- **You must not suffer a shock because of them, for Yehowah your God is in your midst, a great and fear-inspiring God. (Deuteronomy 7:21)**
- **Numerous allusions to the Law are found in the book of Nehemiah. These involve the calamities to result from disobedience and the blessings to come from repentance.**
- **And you I shall scatter among the nations, and I will unsheathe a sword after you, and your land must become a desolation, and your cities will become a desolate ruin. (Leviticus 26:33)**
- **If your dispersed people should be at the end of the heavens, from there Yehowah your God will collect you and from there he will take you. (Deuteronomy 30:4)**
- **We have unquestionably acted corruptly against you and have not kept the commandments and the regulations and the judicial decisions that you gave in command to Moses your servant. (Nehemiah 1:7)**
- **Remember, please, the word that you commanded Moses your servant, saying; Should you, for your part, act unfaithfully, I, for my part, shall scatter you among the peoples. (Nehemiah 1:8)**
- **When you will have returned to me and kept my commandments and done them, though your dispersed people should happen to be at the end of the heavens, from there I shall collect them and certainly bring them to the place that I have chosen to have my**

name reside there. (**Nehemiah 1:9**)

- **Loans**

- **And in case your brother grows poor and so he is financially weak alongside you, you must also sustain him. As an alien resident and a settler, he must keep alive with you. (**Leviticus 25:35**)**

- **Do not take interest and usury from him, but you must be in fear of your God, and your brother must keep alive with you. (**Leviticus 25:36**)**

- **You must not give him your money on interest, and you must not give your food out on usury. (**Leviticus 25:37**)**

- **I am Yehowah your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt to give you the land of Canaan, to prove myself your God. (**Leviticus 25:38**)**

- **In case some one of your brothers becomes poor among you in one of your cities, in your land that Yehowah your God is giving you, you must not harden your heart or be closefisted toward your poor brother. (**Deuteronomy 15:7**)**

- **For you should generously open your hand to him and by all means lend him on pledge as much as he needs, which he is in want of. (**Deuteronomy 15:8**)**

- **Watch out for yourself for fear a base word should come to be in your heart, saying; The seventh year, the year of the release, has come close, and your eye should indeed become ungenerous toward your poor brother, and you should give him nothing, and he has to call out to Yehowah against you, and it has become a sin on your part. (**Deuteronomy 15:9**)**

- **You should by all means give to him, and your heart should not be stingy in your giving to him, because on this account Yehowah your God will bless you in every deed of yours and in every undertaking of yours. (**Deuteronomy 15:10**)**

- **For someone poor will never cease to be in the midst of the land. That is why I am commanding you, saying; You should generously open up your hand to your afflicted and poor brother in your land. (**Deuteronomy 15:11**)**



- **And there were those who were saying; Our sons and our daughters we are giving as security that we may get grain and eat and keep alive. (Nehemiah 5:2)**
- **And there were those who were saying; Our fields and our vineyards and our houses we are giving as security that we may get grain during the food shortage. (Nehemiah 5:3)**
- **And there were those who were saying; We have borrowed money for the kings tribute on our fields and our vineyards. (Nehemiah 5:4)**
- **And now our flesh is the same as the flesh of our brothers, our sons are the same as their sons, but here we are reducing our sons and our daughters to slaves, and there are some of our daughters already reduced, and there is no power in our hands while our fields and our vineyards belong to others. (Nehemiah 5:5)**
- **Now I became very angry as soon as I heard their outcry and these words. (Nehemiah 5:6)**
- **So my heart took consideration within me, and I began finding fault with the nobles and the deputy rulers, and went on to say to them; Usury is what you are exacting, each one from his own brother. Further, I arranged a great assembly on their account. (Nehemiah 5:7)**
- **And I proceeded to say to them; We ourselves have bought back our own Jewish brothers who were sold to the nations, as far as it was in our power, and at the same time will you yourselves sell your own brothers, and must they be sold to us? At this they became speechless, and they did not find a word. (Nehemiah 5:8)**
- **And I went on to say; The thing that you are doing is not good. Is it not in the fear of our God that you should walk because of the reproach of the nations, our enemies? (Nehemiah 5:9)**
- **And also I, my brothers and my attendants are giving money and grain on loan among them. Let us, please, leave off this lending on interest. (Nehemiah 5:10)**
- **Please, restore to them on this day their fields, their vineyards,**

- their olive groves and their houses, and the hundredth of the money and the grain, the new wine and the oil that you are exacting as interest from them. (**Nehemiah 5:11**)
- **Marriage alliances with foreigners.**
  - **And you must form no marriage alliance with them. Your daughter you must not give to his son, and his daughter you must not take for your son. (**Deuteronomy 7:3**)**
  - **And that we should not give our daughters to the peoples of the land, and their daughters we should not take for our sons. (**Nehemiah 10:30**)**
  - **Sabbaths, the release from debts.**
  - **Remembering the Sabbath day to hold it sacred. (**Exodus 20:8**)**
  - **But in the seventh year there should occur a Sabbath of complete rest for the land, a Sabbath to Yehowah. Your field you must not sow with seed, and your vineyard you must not prune. (**Leviticus 25:4**)**
  - **At the end of every seven years you should make a release. (**Deuteronomy 15:1**)**
  - **And this is the manner of the release, there will be a releasing by every creditor of the debt that he may let his fellow incur. He should not press his fellow or his brother for payment, because a release to Yehowah must be called. (**Deuteronomy 15:2**)**
  - **As for the peoples of the land who were bringing in wares and every kind of cereal on the Sabbath day to sell, we should take nothing from them on the Sabbath or on a holy day, and we should forego the seventh year and the debt of every hand. (**Nehemiah 10:31**)**
  - **The altar fire.**
  - **Fire will be kept constantly burning on the altar. It must not go out. (**Leviticus 6:13**)**
  - **Also, the lots we cast concerning the supply of the wood that the priests, the Levites and the people should bring to the house of**

our God, by the house of our forefathers, at the appointed times, year by year, to burn upon the altar of Yehowah our God, according to what is written in the Law. (**Nehemiah 10:34**)

- **The Festival of Booths.**
- **And Moses went on to command them, saying; At the end of every seven years, in the appointed time of the year of the release, in the festival of booths. (**Deuteronomy 31:10**)**
- **When all Israel comes to see the face of Yehowah your God in the place that he will choose, you will read this Law in front of all Israel in their hearing. (**Deuteronomy 31:11**)**
- **Congregate the people, the men and the women and the little ones and your alien resident who is within your gates, in order, that they may listen and in order, that they may learn, as they must fear Yehowah your God and take care to carry out all the words of this Law. (**Deuteronomy 31:12**)**
- **And their sons who have not known should listen, and they must learn to fear Yehowah your God all the days that you are living upon the soil to which you are crossing the Jordan to take possession of it. (**Deuteronomy 31:13**)**
- **Then they found written in the Law that Yehowah had commanded by means of Moses that the sons of Israel should dwell in booths during the festival in the seventh month. (**Nehemiah 8:14**)**
- **And that they should make proclamation and cause a call to pass throughout all their cities and throughout Jerusalem, saying; Go out to the mountainous region and bring in olive leaves and the leaves of oil trees and myrtle leaves and palm leaves and the leaves of branchy trees to make booths, according to what is written. (**Nehemiah 8:15**)**
- **And the people proceeded to go out and bring them in and make booths for themselves, each one upon his own roof and in their courtyards and in the courtyards of the house of the true God and in the public square of the Water Gate and in the public square of the Gate of Ephraim. (**Nehemiah 8:16**)**
- **Thus all the congregation of those who had come back from the**

- captivity made booths and took up dwelling in the booths, for the sons of Israel had not done that way from the days of Joshua the son of Nun until that day, so that there came to be very great rejoicing. (Nehemiah 8:17)**
- **And there was a reading aloud of the book of the Law of the true God day by day, from the first day until the last day, and they went on holding the festival seven days, and on the eighth day there was a solemn assembly, according to the rule. (Nehemiah 8:18)**
  - **And the entry of Moabites and Ammonites into the congregation of Israel.**
  - **No Ammonite or Moabite may come into the congregation of Yehowah. Even to the tenth generation none of theirs may come into the congregation of Yehowah to time indefinite. (Deuteronomy 23:3)**
  - **For the reason that they did not come to your aid with bread and water in the way when you were going out of Egypt, and because they hired against you Balaam the son of Beor from Pethor of Mesopotamia to call down evil upon you. (Deuteronomy 23:4)**
  - **And Yehowah your God did not want to listen to Balaam, but Yehowah your God in your behalf changed the malediction into a blessing, because Yehowah your God loved you. (Deuteronomy 23:5)**
  - **You must not work for their peace and their prosperity all your days to time indefinite. (Deuteronomy 23:6)**
  - **On that day there was a reading from the book of Moses in the ears of the people, and there was found written in it that the Ammonite and the Moabite should not come into the congregation of the true God to time indefinite. (Nehemiah 13:1)**
  - **For they had not met the sons of Israel with bread and with water, but went hiring against them Balaam to call down evil upon them. However, our God changed the malediction into a benediction. (Nehemiah 13:2)**
  - **So it came about that, as soon as they heard the law, they began to separate all the mixed company from Israel. (Nehemiah 13:3)**

- **As well as tithes, firstfruits, and contributions.**
- **And you must take the silver money of the atonement from the sons of Israel and give it in behalf of the service of the tent of meeting, that it may indeed serve as a memorial before Yehowah for the sons of Israel, to make atonement for your souls. (Exodus 30:16)**
- **All the best of the oil and all the best of the new wine and the grain, their firstfruits, which they will give to Yehowah, I have given them to you. (Numbers 18:12)**
- **The first ripe fruits of all that is on their land, which they will bring to Yehowah, yours it should become. Everyone clean in your house may eat it. (Numbers 18:13)**
- **Every devoted thing in Israel should become yours. (Numbers 18:14)**
- **Everything opening the womb, of every sort of flesh, which they will present to Yehowah, among man and among beast, should become yours. However, you should without fail redeem the firstborn of mankind, and the firstborn of the unclean beast you should redeem. (Numbers 18:15)**
- **And with a redemption price for it from a month old onward you should redeem it, by the estimated value, five silver shekels by the shekel of the holy place. It is twenty gerahs. (Numbers 18:16)**
- **Only the firstborn bull or firstborn male lamb or firstborn goat you should not redeem. They are something holy. Their blood you should sprinkle upon the altar, and their fat you should make smoke as an offering made by fire for a restful odor to Yehowah. (Numbers 18:17)**
- **And their flesh should become yours. Like the breast of the wave offering and like the right leg, it should become yours. (Numbers 18:18)**
- **All the holy contributions, which the sons of Israel will contribute to Yehowah, I have given to you and your sons and your daughters with you, as an allowance to time indefinite. It is a**

covenant of salt to time indefinite before Yehowah for you and your offspring with you. (**Numbers 18:19**)

- **And Yehowah went on to say to Aaron; In their land you will not have an inheritance, and no share will become yours in their midst. I am your share and your inheritance in the midst of the sons of Israel. (**Numbers 18:20**)**
- **And to the sons of Levi, look! I have given every tenth part in Israel as an inheritance in return for their service that they are carrying on, the service of the tent of meeting. (**Numbers 18:21**)**
- **And the sons of Israel should no more come near to the tent of meeting to incur sin so as to die. (**Numbers 18:22**)**
- **And the Levites themselves must carry on the service of the tent of meeting, and they are the ones who should answer for their error. It is a statute to time indefinite during your generations that in the midst of the sons of Israel they should not get possession of an inheritance. (**Numbers 18:23**)**
- **For the tenth part of the sons of Israel, which they will contribute to Yehowah as a contribution, I have given to the Levites as an inheritance. That is why I have said to them, In the midst of the sons of Israel they should not get possession of an inheritance. (**Numbers 18:24**)**
- **Then Yehowah spoke to Moses, saying; (**Numbers 18:25**)**
- **And you should speak to the Levites, and you must say to them, you will receive from the sons of Israel the tenth part that I have given to you from them for your inheritance, and you must contribute from it as a contribution to Yehowah a tenth part of the tenth part. (**Numbers 18:26**)**
- **And it must be reckoned to you as your contribution, like the grain of the threshing floor and like the full produce of the wine or oil press. (**Numbers 18:27**)**
- **In this way you yourselves also will contribute a contribution to Yehowah from all your tenth parts that you will receive from the sons of Israel, and from them you must give the contribution to Yehowah to Aaron the priest. (**Numbers 18:28**)**

- From all the gifts to you, you will contribute every sort of contribution to Yehowah, of the very best of it, as some holy thing from them. (**Numbers 18:29**)
- And you must say to them; When you contribute the best of them, then it will certainly be reckoned to the Levites as the produce of the threshing floor and as the produce of the wine or oil press. (**Numbers 18:30**)
- Also, we imposed upon ourselves commandments to give, each of us, a third of a shekel yearly for the service of the house of our God. (**Nehemiah 10:32**)
- For the layer bread and the constant grain offering and the constant burnt offering of the Sabbaths, the new moons, for the appointed feasts and for the holy things and for the sin offerings to make atonement for Israel and all the work of the house of our God. (**Nehemiah 10:33**)
- Also, the lots we cast concerning the supply of the wood that the priests, the Levites and the people should bring to the house of our God, by the house of our forefathers, at the appointed times, year by year, to burn upon the altar of Yehowah our God, according to what is written in the Law. (**Nehemiah 10:34**)
- And to bring the first ripe fruits of our ground and the first ripe fruits of all the fruitage of every sort of tree, year by year, to the house of Yehowah. (**Nehemiah 10:35**)
- And the firstborn of our sons and of our domestic animals, according to what is written in the Law, and the firstborn of our herds and of our flocks, to bring them to the house of our God, to the priests that were ministering in the house of our God. (**Nehemiah 10:36**)
- Also, the firstfruits of our coarse meal and our contributions and the fruitage of every sort of tree, new wine and oil we should bring to the priests to the dining halls of the house of our God, also the tenth from our soil to the Levites, as they, the Levites, are the ones receiving a tenth in all our agricultural cities. (**Nehemiah 10:37**)
- And the priest, the son of Aaron, must prove to be with the Levites when the Levites receive a tenth, and the Levites

themselves should offer up a tenth of the tenth to the house of our God to the dining halls of the supply house. (**Nehemiah 10:38**)

- For it is to the dining halls that the sons of Israel and the sons of the Levites should bring the contribution of the grain, the new wine and the oil, and there is where the utensils of the sanctuary and the priests that were ministering, and the gatekeepers and the singers are, and we should not neglect the house of our God. (**Nehemiah 10:39**)
- There is also historical information in this book that is found elsewhere in the Hebrew Scriptures.
- You are Yehowah the true God, who chose Abram and brought him out of Ur of the Chaldeans and constituted his name Abraham. (**Nehemiah 9:7**)
- And you found his heart faithful before you, so there was a contracting of the covenant with him to give him the land of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites and the Perizzites and the Jebusites and the Girgashites, to give it to his seed, and you proceeded to carry out your words, because you are righteous. (**Nehemiah 9:8**)
- So you saw the affliction of our forefathers in Egypt, and their outcry at the Red Sea you heard. (**Nehemiah 9:9**)
- Then you gave signs and miracles against Pharaoh and all his servants and all the people of his land, for you knew that they acted presumptuously against them, and you proceeded to make a name for yourself as at this day. (**Nehemiah 9:10**)
- And the sea you split before them, so that they crossed over through the midst of the sea on the dry land, and their pursuers you hurled into the depths like a stone in the strong waters. (**Nehemiah 9:11**)
- And by a pillar of cloud you led them by day, and by a pillar of fire by night, to light up for them the way in which they should go. (**Nehemiah 9:12**)
- And upon Mount Sinai you came down and spoke with them out of heaven and went on to give them upright judicial decisions



and laws of truth, good regulations and commandments.  
([Nehemiah 9:13](#))

- And your holy Sabbath you made known to them, and commandments and regulations and a Law you commanded them by means of Moses your servant. ([Nehemiah 9:14](#))
- And bread from heaven you gave them for their hunger, and waters out of the crag you brought forth to them for their thirst, and you went on to say to them to enter and possess the land that you had lifted your hand in an oath to give to them. ([Nehemiah 9:15](#))
- And they themselves, even our forefathers, acted presumptuously and proceeded to harden their neck, and they did not listen to your commandments. ([Nehemiah 9:16](#))
- So they refused to listen, and they did not remember your wonderful acts that you performed with them, but they hardened their neck and appointed a head to return to their servitude in Egypt. But you are a God of acts of forgiveness, gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abundant in loving-kindness, and you did not leave them. ([Nehemiah 9:17](#))
- Yes, when they had made for themselves a molten statue of a calf and began to say; This is your God who led you up out of Egypt, and they went on to commit great acts of disrespect. ([Nehemiah 9:18](#))
- You, even you, in your abundant mercy did not leave them in the wilderness. The pillar of cloud itself did not depart from over them by day to lead them in the way, nor the pillar of fire by night to light up for them the way in which they should go. ([Nehemiah 9:19](#))
- And your good spirit you gave to make them prudent, and your manna you did not hold back from their mouth, and water you gave them for their thirst. ([Nehemiah 9:20](#))
- And for forty years you provided them with food in the wilderness. They lacked nothing. Their very garments did not wear out, and their feet themselves did not become swollen. ([Nehemiah 9:21](#))

- **And you proceeded to give them kingdoms and peoples, and to apportion them piece by piece, so that they took possession of the land of Sihon, even the land of the king of Heshbon, and the land of Og the king of Bashan. (Nehemiah 9:22)**
- **And their sons you made as many as the stars of the heavens. Then you brought them into the land that you had promised to their forefathers that they should enter to take possession. (Nehemiah 9:23)**
- **So their sons came in and took the land in possession, and you proceeded to subdue before them the inhabitants of the land, the Canaanites, and to give them into their hand, even their kings and the peoples of the land, to do with them according to their liking. (Nehemiah 9:24)**
- **And they went capturing fortified cities and a fat soil and taking in possession houses full of all good things, cisterns hewn out, vineyards and olive groves and trees for food in abundance, and they began to eat and to be satisfied and to grow fat and to luxuriate in your great goodness. (Nehemiah 9:25)**
- **However, they became disobedient and rebelled against you and kept casting your Law behind their back, and your own prophets they killed, who bore witness against them to bring them back to you, and they went on committing acts of great disrespect. (Nehemiah 9:26)**
- **For this you gave them into the hand of their adversaries, who kept causing them distress, but in the time of their distress they would cry out to you, and you yourself would hear from the very heavens, and in accord with your abundant mercy you would give them saviors who would save them out of the hand of their adversaries. (Nehemiah 9:27)**
- **But as soon as they were at rest, they would again do what is bad before you, and you would leave them to the hand of their enemies, who would tread them down. Then they would return and call to you for aid, and you yourself would hear from the very heavens and deliver them in accord with your abundant mercy, time and again. (Nehemiah 9:28)**
- **Although you would bear witness against them to bring them back to your law, they themselves even acted presumptuously**

- and did not listen to your commandments, and against your own judicial decisions they sinned, which, if a man will do, he must also live by means of them. And they kept giving a stubborn shoulder, and their neck they hardened, and they did not listen. (Nehemiah 9:29)**
- **But you were indulgent with them for many years and kept bearing witness against them by your spirit by means of your prophets, and they did not give ear. Finally you gave them into the hand of the peoples of the lands. (Nehemiah 9:30)**
  - **And in your abundant mercy you did not make an extermination of them or leave them, for you are a God gracious and merciful. (Nehemiah 9:31)**
  - **And now, O our God, the God great, mighty and fear-inspiring, keeping the covenant and loving-kindness, do not let all the hardship that has found us, our kings, our princes and our priests and our prophets and our forefathers and all your people from the days of the kings of Assyria down to this day, seem little before you. (Nehemiah 9:32)**
  - **And you are righteous as regards all that has come upon us, for faithfully is how you have acted, but we are the ones that have done wickedly. (Nehemiah 9:33)**
  - **As for our kings, our princes, our priests and our forefathers, they have not performed your Law, nor paid attention to your commandments or to your testimonies with which you bore witness against them. (Nehemiah 9:34)**
  - **And they themselves, during their kingdom and amid your abundant good things that you gave to them and in the broad and fat land that you made available for them, they did not serve you and did not turn back from their bad practices. (Nehemiah 9:35)**
  - **Was it not because of these that Solomon the king of Israel sinned? And among the many nations there proved to be no king like him, and loved of his God he happened to be, so that God constituted him king over all Israel. Even him the foreign wives caused to sin. (Nehemiah 13:26)**
  - **Was it not because of these that Solomon the king of Israel**

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- Was it not because of these that Solomon the king of Israel sinned? And among the many nations there proved to be no king like him, and loved of his God he happened to be, so that God constituted him king over all Israel. Even him the foreign wives caused to sin. (**Nehemiah 13:26**)
  - This is what Yehowah has said; Watch out for your souls, and do not carry on the Sabbath day any load that you must bring in through the gates of Jerusalem. (**Jeremiah 17:21**)
  - And you must bring no load out of your homes on the Sabbath day, and no work at all must you do. And you must sanctify the Sabbath day, just as I commanded your forefathers. (**Jeremiah 17:22**)
  - But they did not listen or incline their ear, and they proceeded to harden their neck in order not to hear and in order to receive no discipline. (**Jeremiah 17:23**)
  - And it must occur that, if you strictly obey me, is the utterance of Yehowah, to bring in no load through the gates of this city on the Sabbath day and to sanctify the Sabbath day by not doing on it any work. (**Jeremiah 17:24**)
  - There will also certainly enter in by the gates of this city kings with princes, sitting on the throne of David, riding in the chariot and upon horses, they and their princes, the men of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and this city will certainly be inhabited to time indefinite. (**Jeremiah 17:25**)
  - And people will actually come from the cities of Judah and from round about Jerusalem and from the land of Benjamin and from the lowland and from the mountainous region and from the Negeb, bringing whole burnt offering and sacrifice and grain offering and frankincense and bringing thanksgiving sacrifice into the house of Yehowah. (**Jeremiah 17:26**)
  - But if you will not obey me by sanctifying the Sabbath day and not carrying a load, but there is a coming in with it through the

gates of Jerusalem on the Sabbath day, I will also set a fire ablaze in her gates, and it will certainly devour the dwelling towers of Jerusalem and will not be extinguished. (**Jeremiah 17:27**)

- **And contemporary history in the account illustrates other Biblical passages. (**Psalms Chapters 123, 129**), find a historical parallel in what was experienced by **Nehemiah** and the other Jews in connection with their rebuilding of the wall of Jerusalem.**
- **Now it came about that, as soon as Sanballat heard that we were rebuilding the wall, he became angry and highly offended, and he kept deriding the Jews. (**Nehemiah 4:1**)**
- **And he began to say before his brothers and the military force of Samaria, yes, he began to say; What are the feeble Jews doing? Will they depend upon themselves? Will they sacrifice? Will they finish up in a day? Will they bring the stones to life out of the heaps of dusty rubbish when they are burned? (**Nehemiah 4:2**)**
- **Now Tobiah the Ammonite was alongside him, and he went on to say; Even what they are building, if a fox went up against it, he would certainly break down their wall of stones. (**Nehemiah 4:3**)**
- **Hear, O our God, for we have become an object of contempt, and make their reproach return upon their own head, and give them to the plunder in the land of captivity. (**Nehemiah 4:4**)**
- **And do not cover over their error and their sin from before you. Let it not be wiped out, for they have committed offense against the builders. (**Nehemiah 4:5**)**
- **But we prayed to our God and kept a guard posted against them day and night on account of them. (**Nehemiah 4:9**)**
- **Now it came about that, as soon as it was told to Sanballat and Tobiah and to Geshem the Arabian and to the rest of our enemies that I had rebuilt the wall and there had not been left in it a gap, although up to that time the doors themselves I had not set up in the gates. (**Nehemiah 6:1**)**
- **Sanballat and Geshem immediately sent to me, saying; Do come, and let us meet together by appointment in the villages of the valley plain of Ono. But they were scheming to do me harm.**

**(Nehemiah 6:2)**

- **So I sent messengers to them, saying; It is a great work that I am doing, and I am not able to go down. Why should the work cease while I take off from it and have to go down to you? (Nehemiah 6:3)**
- **However, they sent me the same word four times, and I kept replying to them with the same word. (Nehemiah 6:4)**
- **Finally Sanballat sent his attendant to me with the same word a fifth time, with an open letter in his hand. (Nehemiah 6:5)**
- **There was written in it; Among the nations it has been heard, and Geshem is saying it, that you and the Jews are scheming to rebel. That is why you are building the wall, and you are becoming a king to them, according to these words. (Nehemiah 6:6)**
- **And there are even prophets that you have appointed to call out concerning you throughout Jerusalem, saying; There is a king in Judah! And now things like these will be told to the king. So now do come, and let us consult together. (Nehemiah 6:7)**
- **However, I sent to him, saying; Things such as you are saying have not been brought about, but it is out of your own heart that you are inventing them. (Nehemiah 6:8)**
- **For all of them were trying to make us afraid, saying; Their hands will drop down from the work so that it will not be done. But now strengthen my hands. (Nehemiah 6:9)**
- **And I myself entered the house of Shemaiah the son of Delaiah the son of Mehetabel while he was shut up. And he proceeded to say; Let us meet by appointment at the house of the true God, within the temple, and let us close the doors of the temple, for they are coming in to kill you, even by night they are coming in to kill you. (Nehemiah 6:10)**
- **But I said; Should a man like me run away? And who is there like me that could enter into the temple and live? I shall not enter! (Nehemiah 6:11)**
- **So I investigated, and here it was not God that had sent him, but**

he had spoken this prophecy against me as Tobiah and Sanballat themselves had hired him. (**Nehemiah 6:12**)

- For this reason he had been hired in order, that I might be afraid and do that way, and I should certainly sin and it should certainly become in their possession a bad reputation, in order, that they might reproach me. (**Nehemiah 6:13**)
- Do remember, O my God, Tobiah and Sanballat, according to these deeds of each one, and also Noadiah the prophetess and the rest of the prophets that were continually trying to make me afraid. (**Nehemiah 6:14**)
- **Yehowah's causing Artaxerxes to do His will by granting Nehemiah's request to rebuild the wall of Jerusalem historically illustrates**
- **A king's heart is as streams of water in the hand of Yehowah. Everywhere that he delights to, he turns it. (**Proverbs 21:1**)**
- **A king's heart is as streams of water in the hand of Yehowah. Everywhere that he delights to, he turns it.**
- In turn the king said to me; What is this that you are seeking to secure? At once I prayed to the God of the heavens. (**Nehemiah 2:4**)
- After that I said to the king; If to the king it does seem good, and if your servant seems good before you, that you would send me to Judah, to the city of the burial places of my forefathers, that I may rebuild it. (**Nehemiah 2:5**)
- At this the king said to me, as his queenly consort was sitting beside him; How long will your journey come to be and when will you return? So it seemed good before the king that he should send me, when I gave him the appointed time. (**Nehemiah 2:6**)
- And I went on to say to the king; If to the king it does seem good, let letters be given me to the governor's beyond the River, that they may let me pass until I come to Judah. (**Nehemiah 2:7**)
- Also a letter to Asaph the keeper of the park that belongs to the king, that he may give me trees to build with timber the gates of

the Castle that belongs to the house, and for the wall of the city and for the house into which I am to enter. So the king gave them to me, according to the good hand of my God upon me. (**Nehemiah 2:8**)

- **Both the book of Ezra and the book of Nehemiah,**
- **These are the sons of the jurisdictional district who came up out of the captivity of the exiled people whom Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon had taken into exile and who later returned to Jerusalem and to Judah, each to his own city. (**Nehemiah 7:6**)**
- **Those who came in with Zerubbabel, Jeshua, **Nehemiah**, Azariah, Raamiah, Nahamani, Mordecai, Bilshan, Mispereth, Bigvai, Nehum, Baanah. The number of the men of the people of Israel. (**Nehemiah 7:7**)**
- **The sons of Parosh, two thousand one hundred and seventy-two. (**Nehemiah 7:8**)**
- **The sons of Shephatiah, three hundred and seventy-two. (**Nehemiah 7:9**)**
- **The sons of Arah, six hundred and fifty-two. (**Nehemiah 7:10**)**
- **The sons of Pahath-moab, of the sons of Jeshua and Joab, two thousand eight hundred and eighteen. (**Nehemiah 7:11**)**
- **The sons of Elam, a thousand two hundred and fifty-four. (**Nehemiah 7:12**)**
- **The sons of Zattu, eight hundred and forty-five. (**Nehemiah 7:13**)**
- **The sons of Zaccai, seven hundred and sixty. (**Nehemiah 7:14**)**
- **The sons of Binnui, six hundred and forty-eight. (**Nehemiah 7:15**)**
- **The sons of Bebai, six hundred and twenty-eight. (**Nehemiah 7:16**)**
- **The sons of Azgad, two thousand three hundred and twenty-two. (**Nehemiah 7:17**)**
- **The sons of Adonikam, six hundred and sixty-seven. (**Nehemiah****



**7:18)**

- The sons of Bigvai, two thousand and sixty-seven. (**Nehemiah 7:19**)
- The sons of Adin, six hundred and fifty-five. (**Nehemiah 7:20**)
- The sons of Ater, of Hezekiah, ninety-eight. (**Nehemiah 7:21**)
- The sons of Hashum, three hundred and twenty-eight. (**Nehemiah 7:22**)
- The sons of Bezai, three hundred and twenty-four. (**Nehemiah 7:23**)
- The sons of Hariph, a hundred and twelve. (**Nehemiah 7:24**)
- The sons of Gibeon, ninety-five. (**Nehemiah 7:25**)
- The men of Bethlehem and Netophah, a hundred and eighty-eight. (**Nehemiah 7:26**)
- The men of Anathoth, a hundred and twenty-eight. (**Nehemiah 7:27**)
- The men of Beth-azmaveth, forty-two. (**Nehemiah 7:28**)
- The men of Kiriath-jearim, Chephirah and Beeroth, seven hundred and forty-three. (**Nehemiah 7:29**)
- The men of Ramah and Geba, six hundred and twenty-one. (**Nehemiah 7:30**)
- The men of Michmas, a hundred and twenty-two. (**Nehemiah 7:31**)
- The men of Bethel and Ai, a hundred and twenty-three. (**Nehemiah 7:32**)
- The men of the other Nebo, fifty-two. (**Nehemiah 7:33**)
- The sons of the other Elam, a thousand two hundred and fifty-four. (**Nehemiah 7:34**)

- The sons of Harim, three hundred and twenty. (**Nehemiah 7:35**)
- The sons of Jericho, three hundred and forty-five. (**Nehemiah 7:36**)
- The sons of Lod, Hadid and Ono, seven hundred and twenty-one. (**Nehemiah 7:37**)
- The sons of Senaah, three thousand nine hundred and thirty. (**Nehemiah 7:38**)
- The priests: The sons of Jedaiah of the house of Jeshua, nine hundred and seventy-three. (**Nehemiah 7:39**)
- The sons of Immer, a thousand and fifty-two. (**Nehemiah 7:40**)
- The sons of Pashhur, a thousand two hundred and forty-seven. (**Nehemiah 7:41**)
- The sons of Harim, a thousand and seventeen. (**Nehemiah 7:42**)
- The Levites: The sons of Jeshua, of Kadmiel, of the sons of Hodevah, seventy-four. (**Nehemiah 7:43**)
- The singers, the sons of Asaph, a hundred and forty-eight. (**Nehemiah 7:44**)
- The gatekeepers, the sons of Shallum, the sons of Ater, the sons of Talmon, the sons of Akkub, the sons of Hatita, the sons of Shobai, a hundred and thirty-eight. (**Nehemiah 7:45**)
- The Nethinim; The sons of Ziha, the sons of Hasupha, the sons of Tabbaoth. (**Nehemiah 7:46**)
- The sons of Keros, the sons of Sia, the sons of Padon. (**Nehemiah 7:47**)
- The sons of Lebanah, the sons of Hagabah, the sons of Salmi. (**Nehemiah 7:48**)
- The sons of Hanan, the sons of Giddel, the sons of Gahar. (**Nehemiah 7:49**)
- The sons of Reaiah, the sons of Rezin, the sons of Nekoda.

**(Nehemiah 7:50)**

- **The sons of Gazzam, the sons of Uzza, the sons of Paseah. (Nehemiah 7:51)**
- **The sons of Besai, the sons of Meunim, the sons of Nephushesim. (Nehemiah 7:52)**
- **The sons of Bakbuk, the sons of Hakupha, the sons of Harhur. (Nehemiah 7:53)**
- **The sons of Bazlith, the sons of Mehida, the sons of Harsha. (Nehemiah 7:54)**
- **The sons of Barkos, the sons of Sisera, the sons of Temah. (Nehemiah 7:55)**
- **The sons of Neziah, the sons of Hatipha. (Nehemiah 7:56)**
- **The sons of the servants of Solomon: The sons of Sotai, the sons of Sophereth, the sons of Perida. (Nehemiah 7:57)**
- **The sons of Jaala, the sons of Darkon, the sons of Giddel. (Nehemiah 7:58)**
- **The sons of Shephatiah, the sons of Hattil, the sons of Pochereth-hazzebaim, the sons of Amon. (Nehemiah 7:59)**
- **All the Nethinim and the sons of the servants of Solomon were three hundred and ninety-two. (Nehemiah 7:60)**
- **And these were the ones going up from Tel-melah, Tel-harsha, Cherub, Addon and Immer, and they were not able to tell the house of their fathers and their origin, whether they were of Israel: (Nehemiah 7:61)**
- **The sons of Delaiah, the sons of Tobiah, the sons of Nekoda, six hundred and forty-two. (Nehemiah 7:62)**
- **And of the priests: the sons of Habaiah, the sons of Hakkoz, the sons of Barzillai, who took a wife from the daughters of Barzillai the Gileadite and came to be called by their name. (Nehemiah 7:63)**

- These were the ones that looked for their register, to establish their genealogy publicly, and it was not found, so that they were barred as polluted from the priesthood. (**Nehemiah 7:64**)
- Consequently the Tirshatha said to them that they should not eat from the most holy things until the priest with Urim and Thummim stood up. (**Nehemiah 7:65**)
- The entire congregation as one group was forty-two thousand three hundred and sixty. (**Nehemiah 7:66**)
- Apart from their men slaves and their slave girls, these being seven thousand three hundred and thirty-seven, and they had two hundred and forty-five male singers and female singers. (**Nehemiah 7:67**)
- Their horses were seven hundred and thirty-six, their mules two hundred and forty-five. (**Nehemiah 7:68**)
- The camels were four hundred and thirty-five. The asses were six thousand seven hundred and twenty. (**Nehemiah 7:69**)
- List the number of men from various families or houses who returned from Babylonian exile with Zerubbabel. The accounts harmonize in giving 42,360 as the total number of males among the returned exiles, apart from slaves and singers.
- The entire congregation as one group was forty-two thousand three hundred and sixty. (**Ezra 2:64**)
- The entire congregation as one group was forty-two thousand three hundred and sixty. (**Nehemiah 7:66**)
- However, there are differences in the numbers given for each family or house, and the individual figures in both listings yield a total of far less than 42,360. Many scholars would attribute these variations to scribal errors. While this aspect cannot be completely ignored, there are other possible explanations for the differences.
- It may be that Ezra and **Nehemiah** based their listings on different sources. For example, Ezra could have used a document listing those who enrolled to return to their homeland, whereas Nehemiah might have copied from a record listing those who actually

**did return. Since there were priests who were unable to establish their genealogy**

- **And of the sons of the priests, the sons of Habaiah, the sons of Hakkoz, the sons of Barzillai, who took a wife from the daughters of Barzillai the Gileadite and came to be called by their name. (Ezra 2:61)**
- **These were the ones that looked for their register to establish their genealogy publicly, and they did not find themselves, so that they were barred as polluted from the priesthood. (Ezra 2:62)**
- **Consequently the Tirshatha said to them that they could not eat from the most holy things until a priest stood up with Urim and Thummim. (Ezra 2:63)**
- **And of the priests, the sons of Habaiah, the sons of Hakkoz, the sons of Barzillai, who took a wife from the daughters of Barzillai the Gileadite and came to be called by their name. (Nehemiah 7:63)**
- **These were the ones that looked for their register, to establish their genealogy publicly, and it was not found, so that they were barred as polluted from the priesthood. (Nehemiah 7:64)**
- **Consequently the Tirshatha said to them that they should not eat from the most holy things until the priest with Urim and Thummim stood up. (Nehemiah 7:65)**
- **It is not unreasonable to conclude that many of the other Israelites faced the same problem. Consequently, the 42,360 men could be the combined total of the number from each family plus many others who were unable to establish their ancestry.**
- **Later, however, some may have been able to establish their correct genealogy. This could explain how a fluctuation in numbers might still give the same total.**

### **.. Highlights Of Nehemiah**

- **Events surrounding the rebuilding of the walls of Jerusalem and the subsequent clearing out of wrong practices from among the Jews.**

- Covers a period that begins more than 80 years after the Jews returned from exile in Babylon.
- Jerusalem's walls are rebuilt in the face of opposition.
- In Shushan, **Nehemiah** learns about the ruined state of Jerusalem's wall, he prays for Yehowah's support, then asks the Persian monarch Artaxerxes for permission to go and rebuild the city and its wall, Artaxerxes consents.
- The words of **Nehemiah** the son of Hacaliah. Now it came about in the month Chislev, in the twentieth year, that I myself happened to be in Shushan the castle. (**Nehemiah 1:1**)
- Eventually I came to the governor's beyond the River and gave them the letters of the king. Moreover, the king sent with me chiefs of the military force and horsemen. (**Nehemiah 2:9**)
- Arriving in Jerusalem, **Nehemiah** inspects the ruined walls by night, afterward he reveals to the Jews his purpose to rebuild.
- At length I came to Jerusalem, and I continued there for three days. (**Nehemiah 2:11**)
- Then I rose up by night, I and a few men with me, and I did not tell a man what my God was putting into my heart to do for Jerusalem, and there was no domestic animal with me except the domestic animal on which I was riding. (**Nehemiah 2:12**)
- And I proceeded to go out by the Valley Gate by night and in front of the Fountain of the Big Snake and to the Gate of the Ash-heaps, and I was constantly examining the walls of Jerusalem, how they were broken down and the gates of it had been eaten up by fire. (**Nehemiah 2:13**)
- And I went passing along to the Fountain Gate and to the Kings Pool, and there was no place for the domestic animal under me to pass along. (**Nehemiah 2:14**)
- But I kept on ascending in the torrent valley by night, and I kept on examining the wall, after which I came back and entered by the Valley Gate, and so got back. (**Nehemiah 2:15**)
- And the deputy rulers themselves did not know where I had gone

- and what I was doing, and to the Jews and the priests and the nobles and the deputy rulers and the rest of the doers of the work I had not yet told anything. (**Nehemiah 2:16**)
- Finally I said to them; You are seeing the bad plight in which we are, how Jerusalem is devastated and its gates have been burned with fire. Come and let us rebuild the wall of Jerusalem, that we may no longer continue to be a reproach. (**Nehemiah 2:17**)
  - And I went on to tell them of the hand of my God, how it was good upon me, and also of the kings words that he had said to me. At this they said; Let us get up, and we must build. So they strengthened their hands for the good work. (**Nehemiah 2:18**)
  - **Sanballat, Tobiah, and Geshem** foreigners all oppose the rebuilding, first they try ridicule, then they conspire to fight against Jerusalem, **Nehemiah** arms the workers, and they continue building.
  - Now when Sanballat the Horonite and Tobiah the servant, the Ammonite, and Geshem the Arabian heard of it, they began to deride us and look on us despisingly and say; What is this thing that you are doing? Is it against the king that you are rebelling? (**Nehemiah 2:19**)
  - As for me and my brothers and my attendants and the men of the guard who were behind me, we were not taking off our garments, each one having his missile in his right hand. (**Nehemiah 4:23**)
  - Plots against **Nehemiah** himself fail, and the wall is completed in 52 days.
  - Now it came about that, as soon as it was told to Sanballat and Tobiah and to Geshem the Arabian and to the rest of our enemies that I had rebuilt the wall and there had not been left in it a gap, although up to that time the doors themselves I had not set up in the gates. (**Nehemiah 6:1**)
  - Sanballat and Geshem immediately sent to me, saying; Do come, and let us meet together by appointment in the villages of the valley plain of Ono. But they were scheming to do me harm. (**Nehemiah 6:2**)
  - So I sent messengers to them, saying; It is a great work that I

am doing, and I am not able to go down. Why should the work cease while I take off from it and have to go down to you? **(Nehemiah 6:3)**

- However, they sent me the same word four times, and I kept replying to them with the same word. **(Nehemiah 6:4)**
- Finally Sanballat sent his attendant to me with the same word a fifth time, with an open letter in his hand. **(Nehemiah 6:5)**
- There was written in it; Among the nations it has been heard, and Geshem is saying it, that you and the Jews are scheming to rebel. That is why you are building the wall, and you are becoming a king to them, according to these words. **(Nehemiah 6:6)**
- And there are even prophets that you have appointed to call out concerning you throughout Jerusalem, saying; There is a king in Judah! And now things like these will be told to the king. So now do come, and let us consult together. **(Nehemiah 6:7)**
- However, I sent to him, saying; Things such as you are saying have not been brought about, but it is out of your own heart that you are inventing them. **(Nehemiah 6:8)**
- For all of them were trying to make us afraid, saying; Their hands will drop down from the work so that it will not be done. But now strengthen my hands. **(Nehemiah 6:9)**
- And I myself entered the house of Shemaiah the son of Delaiah the son of Mehetabel while he was shut up. And he proceeded to say; Let us meet by appointment at the house of the true God, within the temple, and let us close the doors of the temple, for they are coming in to kill you, even by night they are coming in to kill you. **(Nehemiah 6:10)**
- But I said; Should a man like me run away? And who is there like me that could enter into the temple and live? I shall not enter! **(Nehemiah 6:11)**
- So I investigated, and here it was not God that had sent him, but he had spoken this prophecy against me as Tobiah and Sanballat themselves had hired him. **(Nehemiah 6:12)**



- **For this reason he had been hired in order, that I might be afraid and do that way, and I should certainly sin and it should certainly become in their possession a bad reputation, in order, that they might reproach me. (Nehemiah 6:13)**
- **Do remember, O my God, Tobiah and Sanballat, according to these deeds of each one, and also Noadiah the prophetess and the rest of the prophets that were continually trying to make me afraid. (Nehemiah 6:14)**
- **At length the wall came to completion on the twenty-fifth day of Elul, in fifty-two days. (Nehemiah 6:15)**
- **And it came about that, as soon as all our enemies heard of it and all the nations that were around us got to see it, they at once fell very much in their own eyes, and they got to know that it was from our God that this work had been done. (Nehemiah 6:16)**
- **In those days also the nobles of Judah were making numerous their letters that were going to Tobiah and those of Tobiah that were coming in to them. (Nehemiah 6:17)**
- **For many in Judah were sworn to him, for a son-in-law he was to Shecaniah the son of Arah, and Jehohanan his son had himself taken the daughter of Meshullam the son of Berechiah. (Nehemiah 6:18)**
- **Also, good things about him they were continually saying before me. And my own words they were continually taking out to him. There were letters that Tobiah sent to make me afraid. (Nehemiah 6:19)**
- **The wall is inaugurated, at the ceremony two thanksgiving choirs and processions march in opposite directions on top of the wall and meet at the temple, there is great rejoicing**
- **And at the inauguration of the wall of Jerusalem they looked for the Levites, to bring them out of all their places to Jerusalem to carry on an inauguration and a rejoicing even with thanksgivings and with song, cymbals and stringed instruments and with harps. (Nehemiah 12:27)**
- **And the sons of the singers proceeded to gather themselves even from the District, from all around Jerusalem and from the**

- settlements of the Netophathites. (**Nehemiah 12:28**)
- And from Beth-gilgal and from the fields of Geba and Azmaveth, for there were settlements that the singers had built for themselves all around Jerusalem. (**Nehemiah 12:29**)
  - And the priests and the Levites proceeded to cleanse themselves and cleanse the people and the gates and the wall. (**Nehemiah 12:30**)
  - Then I brought up the princes of Judah upon the wall. Further, I appointed two large thanksgiving choirs and processions, and the one was walking to the right upon the wall to the Gate of the Ash-heaps. (**Nehemiah 12:31**)
  - And Hoshai and half of the princes of Judah began to walk behind them. (**Nehemiah 12:32**)
  - Also Azariah, Ezra and Meshullam. (**Nehemiah 12:33**)
  - Judah and Benjamin and Shemaiah and Jeremiah. (**Nehemiah 12:34**)
  - Also of the sons of the priests with the trumpets Zechariah the son of Jonathan the son of Shemaiah the son of Mattaniah the son of Micaiah the son of Zaccur the son of Asaph. (**Nehemiah 12:35**)
  - And his brothers Shemaiah and Azarel, Milalai, Gilalai, Maai, Nethanel and Judah, Hanani, with the instruments of song of David the man of the true God, and Ezra the copyist before them. (**Nehemiah 12:36**)
  - And at the Fountain Gate and straight ahead of them they went up on the Stairway of the City of David by the ascent of the wall above the House of David and clear to the Water Gate to the east. (**Nehemiah 12:37**)
  - And the other thanksgiving choir was walking in front, and I after it, also half of the people, upon the wall up over the Tower of the Bake Ovens and on to the Broad Wall. (**Nehemiah 12:38**)
  - And up over the Gate of Ephraim and on to the Gate of the Old City and clear to the Fish Gate and the Tower of Hananel and the

- Tower of Meah and on to the Sheep Gate, and they came to a stand at the Gate of the Guard. (**Nehemiah 12:39**)
- At length the two thanksgiving choirs came to a stand at the house of the true God, also I and half of the deputy rulers with me. (**Nehemiah 12:40**)
  - And the priests Eliakim, Maaseiah, Miniamin, Micaiah, Elioenai, Zechariah, Hananiah with the trumpets. (**Nehemiah 12:41**)
  - And Maaseiah and Shemaiah, and Eleazar and Uzzi and Jehohanan and Malchijah and Elam and Ezer. And the singers with Izrahiah the overseer kept making themselves heard. (**Nehemiah 12:42**)
  - And they proceeded to sacrifice on that day great sacrifices and to rejoice, for the true God himself caused them to rejoice with great joy. And also the women and the children themselves rejoiced, so that the rejoicing of Jerusalem could be heard far away. (**Nehemiah 12:43**)
  - The affairs of Jerusalem are put in order.
  - After the wall is completed, **Nehemiah** secures Jerusalem with gates and assigns duties to gatekeepers, singers, and Levites, he appoints Hanani and Hananiah to be in charge of the city.
  - And it came about that, as soon as the wall had been rebuilt, I at once set up the doors. Then there were appointed the gatekeepers and the singers and the Levites. (**Nehemiah 7:1**)
  - And I went on to put in command of Jerusalem Hanani my brother and Hananiah the prince of the Castle, for he was such a trustworthy man and feared the true God more than many others. (**Nehemiah 7:2**)
  - So I said to them; The gates of Jerusalem should not be opened until the sun gets hot, and while they are standing by they should shut the doors and bolt them. And station guards of the inhabitants of Jerusalem, each one at his own guardpost and each one in front of his own house. (**Nehemiah 7:3**)
  - **Nehemiah** sets out to make a genealogical record of the people, he finds the book of genealogical enrollment of those returning from

**Babylon with Zerubbabel, priests that cannot establish their genealogy are barred until the priest with Urim and Thummim stands up.**

- **Jerusalem is underpopulated, so one out of every ten of the people is designated by lot to reside in the city.**
- **Now the city was wide and great, and there were few people inside it, and there were no houses built. (Nehemiah 7:4)**
- **Picked by lot to reside in the city**
- **Now the princes of the people had their dwelling in Jerusalem, but as for the rest of the people, they cast lots to bring in one out of every ten to dwell in Jerusalem the holy city, and the nine other parts in the other cities. (Nehemiah 11:1)**
- **Moreover, the people blessed all the men who volunteered to dwell in Jerusalem. (Nehemiah 11:2)**
- **Efforts are made to improve the spiritual condition of the Jews.**
- **Wealthy Jews agree to make restoration to their poor brothers, whom they have wrongly charged interest on loans.**
- **However, there came to be a great outcry of the people and their wives against their Jewish brothers. (Nehemiah 5:1)**
- **And there were those who were saying; Our sons and our daughters we are giving as security that we may get grain and eat and keep alive. (Nehemiah 5:2)**
- **And there were those who were saying; Our fields and our vineyards and our houses we are giving as security that we may get grain during the food shortage. (Nehemiah 5:3)**
- **And there were those who were saying; We have borrowed money for the kings tribute on our fields and our vineyards. (Nehemiah 5:4)**
- **And now our flesh is the same as the flesh of our brothers, our sons are the same as their sons, but here we are reducing our sons and our daughters to slaves, and there are some of our daughters already reduced, and there is no power in our hands while our fields and our vineyards belong to others. (Nehemiah**

## 5:5)

- **Now I became very angry as soon as I heard their outcry and these words. (Nehemiah 5:6)**
- **So my heart took consideration within me, and I began finding fault with the nobles and the deputy rulers, and went on to say to them; Usury is what you are exacting, each one from his own brother. Further, I arranged a great assembly on their account. (Nehemiah 5:7)**
- **And I proceeded to say to them; We ourselves have bought back our own Jewish brothers who were sold to the nations, as far as it was in our power, and at the same time will you yourselves sell your own brothers, and must they be sold to us? At this they became speechless, and they did not find a word. (Nehemiah 5:8)**
- **And I went on to say; The thing that you are doing is not good. Is it not in the fear of our God that you should walk because of the reproach of the nations, our enemies? (Nehemiah 5:9)**
- **And also I, my brothers and my attendants are giving money and grain on loan among them. Let us, please, leave off this lending on interest. (Nehemiah 5:10)**
- **Please, restore to them on this day their fields, their vineyards, their olive groves and their houses, and the hundredth of the money and the grain, the new wine and the oil that you are exacting as interest from them. (Nehemiah 5:11)**
- **To this they said; We shall make restoration, and from them we shall ask nothing back. We shall do precisely as you are saying. So I called the priests and made them swear to do according to this word. (Nehemiah 5:12)**
- **Also, my bosom I shook out and then said; In this manner may the true God shake out from his house and from his acquired property every man that does not carry out this word, and in this manner may he become shaken out and empty. To this all the congregation said; Amen! And they began to praise Yehowah. And the people proceeded to do according to this word. (Nehemiah 5:13)**

- **At a public assembly, Ezra reads the Law and certain Levites share in explaining it, the people weep but are encouraged to rejoice because the day is holy, they rejoice, too, because they understand what has been read to them**
- **And all the people proceeded to gather themselves as one man at the public square that was before the Water Gate. Then they said to Ezra the copyist to bring the book of the Law of Moses, which Yehowah had commanded Israel. (Nehemiah 8:1)**
- **Accordingly Ezra the priest brought the Law before the congregation of men as well as of women and of all intelligent enough to listen, on the first day of the seventh month. (Nehemiah 8:2)**
- **And he continued to read aloud from it before the public square that is before the Water Gate, from daybreak till midday, in front of the men and the women and the other intelligent ones, and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the Law. (Nehemiah 8:3)**
- **And Ezra the copyist kept standing upon a wooden podium, which they had made for the occasion, and there were standing alongside him Mattithiah and Shema and Anaiah and Uriah and Hilkiah and Maaseiah to his right hand, and at his left Pedaiah and Mishael and Malchijah and Hashum and Hash-baddanah, Zechariah and Meshullam. (Nehemiah 8:4)**
- **And Ezra proceeded to open the book before the eyes of all the people, for he happened to be above all the people, and as he opened it all the people stood up. (Nehemiah 8:5)**
- **Then Ezra blessed Yehowah the true God, the great One, at which all the people answered, Amen! Amen! With the lifting up of their hands. They then bowed low and prostrated themselves to Yehowah with their faces to the earth. (Nehemiah 8:6)**
- **And Jeshua and Bani and Sherebiah, Jamin, Akkub, Shabbethai, Hodiah, Maaseiah, Kelita, Azariah, Jozabad, Hanan, Pelaiah, even the Levites, were explaining the Law to the people, while the people were in a standing position. (Nehemiah 8:7)**
- **And they continued reading aloud from the book, from the Law of the true God, it being expounded, and there being a putting of**

meaning into it, and they continued giving understanding in the reading. (**Nehemiah 8:8**)

- **And Nehemiah, that is, the Tirshatha, and Ezra the priest, the copyist, and the Levites who were instructing the people proceeded to say to all the people; This very day is holy to Yehowah your God. Do not mourn or weep. For all the people were weeping as they were hearing the words of the Law. (**Nehemiah 8:9**)**
- **And he went on to say to them; Go, eat the fatty things and drink the sweet things, and send portions to the one for whom nothing has been prepared, for this day is holy to our Lord, and do not feel hurt, for the joy of Yehowah is your stronghold. (**Nehemiah 8:10**)**
- **And the Levites were ordering all the people to be silent, saying; Keep quiet! for this day is holy, and do not feel hurt. (**Nehemiah 8:11**)**
- **So all the people went away to eat and drink and to send out portions and to carry on a great rejoicing, for they had understood the words that had been made known to them. (**Nehemiah 8:12**)**
- **The next day, from their reading of the Law, the people learn about celebrating the Festival of Booths, they follow through by observing the feast with great rejoicing**
- **And on the second day the heads of the fathers of all the people, the priests and the Levites, gathered themselves together to Ezra the copyist, even to gain insight into the words of the Law. (**Nehemiah 8:13**)**
- **Then they found written in the Law that Yehowah had commanded by means of Moses that the sons of Israel should dwell in booths during the festival in the seventh month. (**Nehemiah 8:14**)**
- **And that they should make proclamation and cause a call to pass throughout all their cities and throughout Jerusalem, saying; Go out to the mountainous region and bring in olive leaves and the leaves of oil trees and myrtle leaves and palm leaves and the leaves of branchy trees to make booths, according to what is**

- written. (**Nehemiah 8:15**)
- **And the people proceeded to go out and bring them in and make booths for themselves, each one upon his own roof and in their courtyards and in the courtyards of the house of the true God and in the public square of the Water Gate and in the public square of the Gate of Ephraim. (**Nehemiah 8:16**)**
  - **Thus all the congregation of those who had come back from the captivity made booths and took up dwelling in the booths, for the sons of Israel had not done that way from the days of Joshua the son of Nun until that day, so that there came to be very great rejoicing. (**Nehemiah 8:17**)**
  - **And there was a reading aloud of the book of the Law of the true God day by day, from the first day until the last day, and they went on holding the festival seven days, and on the eighth day there was a solemn assembly, according to the rule. (**Nehemiah 8:18**)**
  - **Next, there is a gathering during which the people confess their national sins and review Yehowah's dealings with Israel, they also make an oath to keep the Law, to refrain from intermarriage with foreigners, and to accept obligations for maintaining the temple and its services**
  - **And on the twenty-fourth day of this month the sons of Israel gathered themselves together with fasting and with sackcloth and dirt upon themselves. (**Nehemiah 9:1**)**
  - **For it is to the dining halls that the sons of Israel and the sons of the Levites should bring the contribution of the grain, the new wine and the oil, and there is where the utensils of the sanctuary and the priests that were ministering, and the gatekeepers and the singers are, and we should not neglect the house of our God. (**Nehemiah 10:39**)**
  - **Following the inauguration of the wall, there is another public reading from the Law, when they discern that Ammonites and Moabites should not be allowed into the congregation, they begin to separate all the mixed company from Israel**
  - **On that day there was a reading from the book of Moses in the ears of the people, and there was found written in it that the**



Ammonite and the Moabite should not come into the congregation of the true God to time indefinite. (**Nehemiah 13:1**)

- For they had not met the sons of Israel with bread and with water, but went hiring against them Balaam to call down evil upon them. However, our God changed the malediction into a benediction. (**Nehemiah 13:2**)
- So it came about that, as soon as they heard the Law, they began to separate all the mixed company from Israel. (**Nehemiah 13:3**)
- After a prolonged absence, **Nehemiah** returns to Jerusalem and finds that things have deteriorated, he cleanses the dining halls, directs that tithes be contributed for the support of the Levites and singers, enforces Sabbath keeping, and reproves those who have married foreign women.
- Now before this, Eliashib the priest in charge of a dining hall of the house of our God was a relative of Tobiah. (**Nehemiah 13:4**)
- And he proceeded to make for him a large dining hall, where previously they were regularly putting the grain offering, the frankincense and the utensils and the tenth of the grain, the new wine and the oil, to which the Levites and the singers and the gatekeepers are entitled, and the contribution for the priests. (**Nehemiah 13:5**)
- And during all this time I did not happen to be in Jerusalem, for in the thirty-second year of Artaxerxes the king of Babylon I came to the king, and sometime later I asked leave of absence from the king. (**Nehemiah 13:6**)
- Then I came to Jerusalem and got to notice the badness that Eliashib had committed for Tobiah by making for him a hall in the courtyard of the house of the true God. (**Nehemiah 13:7**)
- And it seemed very bad to me. So I threw all the furniture of Tobiah's house outside the dining hall. (**Nehemiah 13:8**)
- After that I said the word and they cleansed the dining halls, and I proceeded to put back there the utensils of the house of the true God, with the grain offering and the frankincense. (**Nehemiah 13:9**)

- **And I got to find out that the very portions of the Levites had not been given them, so that the Levites and the singers doing the work went running off, each one to his own field. (Nehemiah 13:10)**
- **And I began to find fault with the deputy rulers and say; Why has the house of the true God been neglected? Consequently I collected them together and stationed them at their standing place. (Nehemiah 13:11)**
- **And all Judah, for their part, brought in the tenth of the grain and of the new wine and of the oil to the stores. (Nehemiah 13:12)**
- **Then I put Shelemiah the priest and Zadok the copyist and Pedaiah of the Levites in charge of the stores, and under their control there was Hanan the son of Zaccur the son of Mattaniah, for they were considered faithful, and upon them it devolved to do the distributing to their brothers. (Nehemiah 13:13)**
- **Do remember me, O my God, concerning this, and do not wipe out my acts of loving-kindness that I have performed in connection with the house of my God and the guardianship of it. (Nehemiah 13:14)**
- **In those days I saw in Judah people treading winepresses on the Sabbath and bringing in grain heaps and loading them upon asses, and also wine, grapes and figs and every sort of burden, and bringing them into Jerusalem on the Sabbath day, and I proceeded to bear witness against them on the day of their selling provisions. (Nehemiah 13:15)**
- **And the Tyrians themselves dwelt in the city, bringing in fish and every sort of merchandise and making sales on the Sabbath to the sons of Judah and in Jerusalem. (Nehemiah 13:16)**
- **So I began to find fault with the nobles of Judah and say to them; What is this bad thing that you are doing, even profaning the Sabbath day? (Nehemiah 13:17)**
- **Was it not this way that your forefathers did, so that our God brought upon us all this calamity, and also upon this city? Yet you are adding to the burning anger against Israel by profaning the Sabbath. (Nehemiah 13:18)**

- **And it came about that, as soon as the gates of Jerusalem had grown shadowy before the Sabbath, I immediately said the word and the doors began to be closed. I said further that they should not open them until after the Sabbath, and some of my own attendants I stationed at the gates that no burden might come in on the Sabbath day. (Nehemiah 13:19)**
- **Consequently the traders and the sellers of every sort of merchandise spent the night outside Jerusalem once and a second time. (Nehemiah 13:20)**
- **Then I proceeded to bear witness against them and say to them; Why are you spending the night in front of the wall? If you do it again, a hand I shall lay on you. From that time on they did not come on the Sabbath. (Nehemiah 13:21)**
- **And I went on to say to the Levites that they should be regularly purifying themselves and coming in, keeping guard of the gates to sanctify the Sabbath day. This, also, do remember to my account, O my God, and do feel sorry for me according to the abundance of your loving-kindness. (Nehemiah 13:22)**
- **Also, in those days I saw the Jews that had given a dwelling to Ashdodite, Ammonite and Moabite wives. (Nehemiah 13:23)**
- **And as for their sons, half were speaking Ashdodite, and there were none of them knowing how to speak Jewish, but in the tongue of the different peoples. (Nehemiah 13:24)**
- **And I began to find fault with them and call down evil upon them and strike some men of them and pull out their hair and make them swear by God; You should not give your daughters to their sons, and you should not accept any of their daughters for your sons or yourselves. (Nehemiah 13:25)**
- **Was it not because of these that Solomon the king of Israel sinned? And among the many nations there proved to be no king like him, and loved of his God he happened to be, so that God constituted him king over all Israel. Even him the foreign wives caused to sin. (Nehemiah 13:26)**
- **And is it not something unheard of for you to commit all this great badness in acting unfaithfully against our God by giving a dwelling to foreign wives? (Nehemiah 13:27)**

- **And one of the sons of Joiada the son of Eliashib the High Priest was a son-in-law of Sanballat the Horonite. So I chased him away from me. (Nehemiah 13:28)**
- **Do remember them, O my God, on account of the defilement of the priesthood and the covenant of the priesthood and of the Levites. (Nehemiah 13:29)**
- **And I purified them from everything foreign and proceeded to assign duties to the priests and to the Levites, each one in his own work. (Nehemiah 13:30)**