

1

<b>Bible Study Schedule May – Jul 2021</b>		
<b>Date</b>	<b>Study Title</b>	<b>Scriptures</b>
5/5/2021	Depending on God	Nehemiah 1
5/12/2021	The Planning Process	Nehemiah 2
5/19/2021	Working Together	Nehemiah 3
5/26/2021	Opposition from the Outside	Nehemiah 4
6/2/2021	Opposition from Within	Nehemiah 5
6/9/2021	Facing Intimidation	Nehemiah 6
6/16/2021	Family History	Nehemiah 7
6/23/2021	Revival	Nehemiah 8
6/30/2021	Confession & Commitment	Nehemiah 9 – 10
7/7/2021	Break	No Study
7/14/2021	Big Decisions	Nehemiah 11
7/21/2021	Service & Integrity	Nehemiah 12
7/28/2021	Love That Challenges	Nehemiah 13

2

## This Week's Lesson – May 19, 2021

### Nehemiah: The Courage to Face Opposition

#### Lesson 3:

#### **Working Together**

#### Nehemiah 3



3

Group Discussion: What motivates you to commit yourself to a group task that will take a lot of work?

- **Clear Mission:** Seeing the importance of what we do and why/who it is for – Enthusiasm
- **Clear Direction:** Seeing exactly what needs to be done to get the work done and what time-frame
- **Clear Objectives:** Doable steps and manageable assignments to get the project done
- **Clear Cooperation:** Passion, Unity, and joy from the leadership and workers about the project.



4

## Introduction to Nehemiah

**Author:** Traditionally, Nehemiah. The book may have been the sequel to the Book of Ezra.

**Date of Writing:** 445 - 420 B.C.

**Purpose of Writing:** Chronicles Israel's return from Babylonian captivity and the rebuilding of the temple in Jerusalem.

### Practical Application:

- To experience the spiritual revival of the Israelites (Neh. 8:1-8), we must begin with God's Word.
- Believers should have genuine compassion for others.
- Oftentimes, prayer must also be followed up with action in order to see God's will come to pass.



Nehemiah - Governor Of Jerusalem

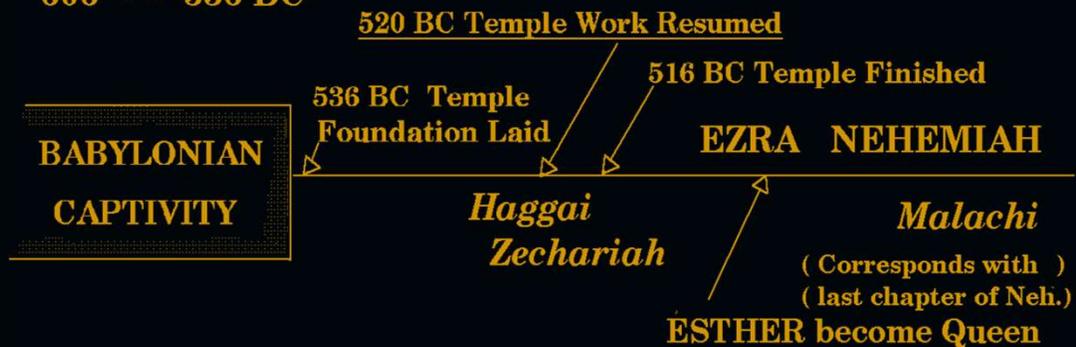


5

## Overview Of Nehemiah

### RETURN FROM CAPTIVITY

606 - - 536 BC



6

# Read Nehemiah 3

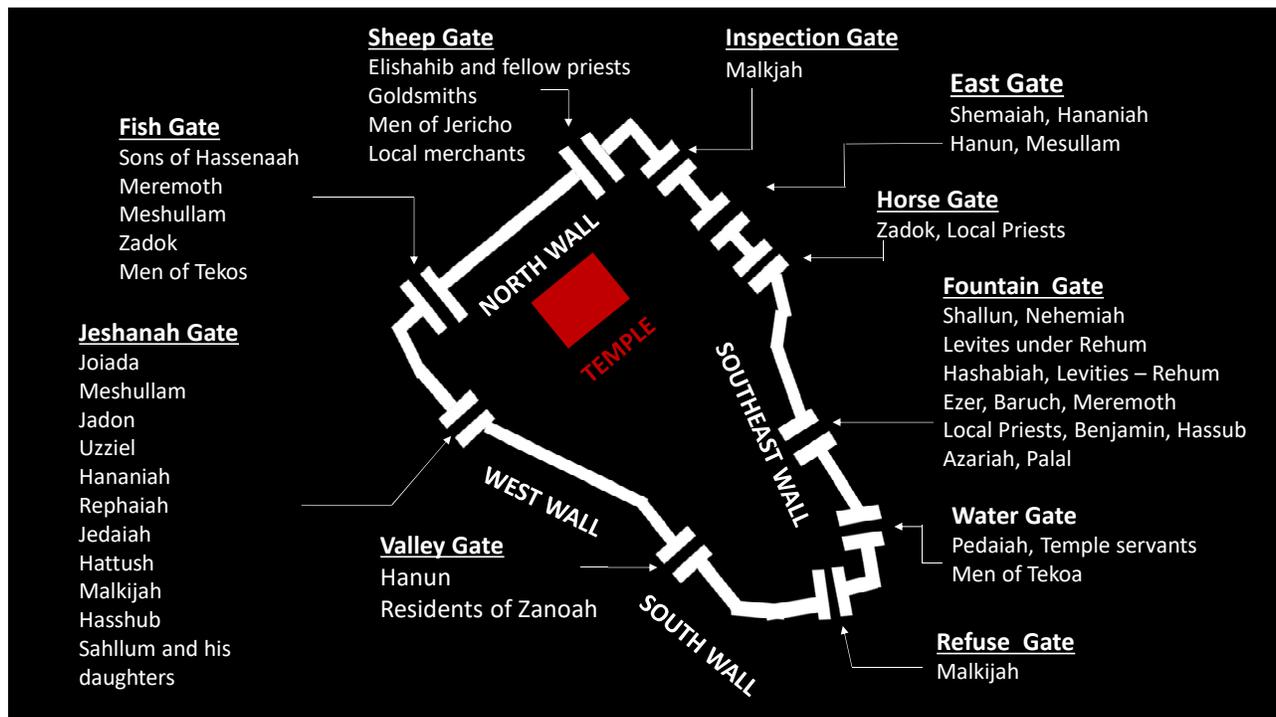
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1. Who are the major groups or individuals in this chapter who give themselves to the rebuilding work?

- **Priests**: Elishab, Local and Regional Priests, Levites & Temple Servants
- **Regular/Skilled folks**: Goldsmiths, Local merchants, Individuals (ex. Malkijah)
- **Leaders**: Rephaiah, Malkijah, Shallum, Azbuk, Jeshua
- **Women**: Daughters of Shallum (note that both men and women take part in the re-building)
- **Families**: Sons of Hassenaah, Men of Tekoa, Men of Jericho, Residents of Zanoah



8



9

## 2. What are some of the occupations of the repairers?

- **Sacred Occupations:** Priests, Levites, Temple Servants (Clergy, Choir, & Servants)
- **Secular Occupations:** Goldsmith, Store Owners, Merchants
- **Unspecified Occupations:** Daughters Shallum, Men and Residents of the towns

*...the whole body, being fitted and held together by what every joint supplies, ... causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love. Eph. 4:16*



10

3. From the chapter, what seems to be the motivation for people to work on their part of the wall?

- **Spiritual**: They were encouraged and convinced that it is God's will for them to re-build the walls.
- **Community**: They were encouraged by faith in God to rebuild their Community as God's people (cf. Neh. 2:17 – 18).
- **Individual/Natural**: Having people work close to home, motivated them to make their part well built and secure.



*“Let everyone sweep in front of his own door, and the whole world will be clean” - Johann Wolfgang von Goethe*

11

4. What does verse 5 tell us about the attitudes of some of the people in Jerusalem?

**Neh. 3:5** - *The next section was repaired by the men of Tekoa, but their nobles would not put their shoulders to the work under their supervisors.*

- **Unspiritual**: Some people could not or refused to see God's greater plan & purpose.
- **Uncooperative**: Although everyone else was working, the “nobles” would not help.
- **Un-submissive**: The reason the nobles would not help because they would not submit to the supervisors.



12

4. What does verse 5 tell us about the attitudes of some of the people in Jerusalem?

### Principle To Ponder

**We need to anticipate opposition, lest we get blown away when it occurs. A project is never accomplished because 100% of people are committed to it.**

*“Dear friends, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that has come on you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you.” 1 Pet. 4:12 (NIV)*



13

5. What was the place of women in this work (v. 12)?

### Points To Ponder

- The reference to the daughters implies that it was natural for women to work alongside men.
- In an OT agricultural society, women often worked with the men.
- In the NT Church, God’s design is for the men and women working together to build His kingdom.

*“There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.” Gal. 3:28*



14

6. How have you seen this principle applied in Christian circles?

### At Solid Rock

- Every Sunday – Trustees, Deacons, Deaconess, AV Ushers, Music Ministry setting up Services
- VBS – Everyone in our fellowship helping to teach and serve our young people.
- 8000 Derry Street: Moving in: (Contributions all things provided) – Moving out: moving and storing our equip.
- Unity: Everyone working to “flip” the church for funerals and events.



15

7. Discuss the importance of prayer, vision, strategy, unity and working to complete a ministry project/mission.

- Prayer And Vision – Neh. 1: Before anything else, Nehemiah sought God in prayer
- Strategy – Neh. 2:13-16: Reviewing the task to seed the need and count the cost.
- Unity – Neh. 2:17-18: Together seeking to rebuild God’s community “Let us rise up...”
- Work – Neh. 3: The people believe in the vision and take a personal stake in the work.



16

8. How can we be as motivated to work in our church as much as this group of people is?

- **Pray:** Ask God to energize your motivation. It's about God's grace working in you (II Cor. 12:10).
- **Meditate On The Gospel:** The Gospel of Jesus Christ and salvation is the cornerstone to everything that we do.
- **Talk With A Trusted Ministry Friend:** If you don't have a friend, pray for one. If you have a friend, talk to that friend



17

8. How can we be as motivated to work in our church as much as this group of people is?

- **Study Bible Characters:** In the Word, seeing how God used ordinary, flawed people provides motivation.
- **Worship:** On Sunday with others and in personal time - adoring, praising, and glorifying your God. (Rom. 12:1).
- **Meditate On God's Character.** Ministry is about service to God. In His Word God's reveals Himself and encourages you.



18

### Keys For Living

- When we recognize the privilege of being part of God's mission/project we should be filled with passion to do all we can to help.
- God is pleased and so much more gets done for the kingdom when all His people work together in unity.
- When everyone in the church, fellowship, family, or community does their part – no one person never has to do it all.



19

LET US RISE UP  
AND BUILD

NEHEMIAH

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. Nehemiah 2:18

20