

1

Bible Study Schedule May – Jul 2021		
Date	Study Title	Scriptures
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 – June 23, 2021

Nehemiah: The Courage to Face Opposition

Lesson 8:

Revival

Nehemiah 8



3

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

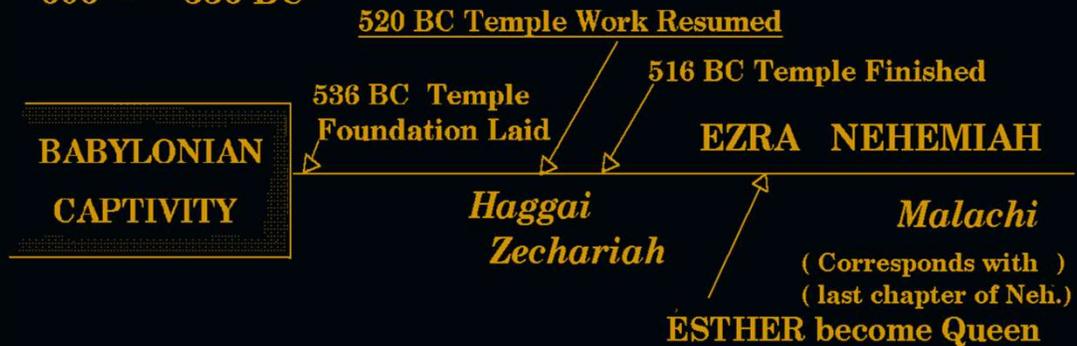


4

Overview Of Nehemiah

RETURN FROM CAPTIVITY

606 - - 536 BC



5

Overview Of Nehemiah 8



Ezra reads the Book of the Law
to the People for Morning until
Noon



The religious leaders teach the
people and explain the Word to
them.



6

Read Nehemiah 8

7

1. What would prompt a meeting with all the other people who had built the wall?

- **Success In Building:** The people had successfully rebuilt the Walls of Jerusalem.
- **Security From The Enemies:** The gates, the guards and the procedures are in place to protect God's people from the enemies.
- **Strengthening Their Spiritual Walk:** The "natural" things are repaired, it is time to repair/restore our spiritual relationship with the Lord.



8

2. What were the qualifications of those who attended (vv. 2-3)?

- **Inclusiveness:** Both men and women who are part of the family of God by Grace through faith in Him.
- **Seriousness:** They demanded to hear the Word (v.1) and stayed in place from daybreak to noon.
- **Attentiveness:** Not only were they in place, but the people were also listening with their ears, hearts, and minds.
- **Willingness/faithfulness:** They had a mind to listen to the Word and also a willingness to carry it out.



9

3. What statements show the reverence and seriousness of the people as they receive the Word of God (vv. 3-12)?

Statements that show the seriousness and reverence are:

- They Placed The Word/Book Of The Law At The Highest Place (V.3)
- They Stood At The Reading Of The Word (V. 5).
- They Lifted Their Hands And Said Amen (V. 6).
- They Bowed Down And Worshiped The Lord With Their Faces Toward The Ground (V.7)



10

3. What statements show the reverence and seriousness of the people as they receive the Word of God (vv. 3-12)?

- They Wept When They Understood The Word (V. 9)
- They Celebrated With Joy at the knowledge of the Word (V.10, 12)

Note: It is obvious that their hearts were prepared by repentance and contrition so that the Word was having its effect on their lives.

“I will praise You with my whole heart; Before the gods I will sing praises to You. ... For You have magnified Your word above all Your name” Psalm 138:1 – 2 (NKJV)



11

4. How did the religious leaders help the people understand what the law was saying to them?

- **Translation:** Since the language of the captivity is Aramaic, they might need translation in Hebrew.
- **Illumination:** Few people of the captivity would have read the law time the adults have heard it for the 1st time.
- **Explanation:** The people did not know the law of God because they haven't heard or lived it – so they needed God's truth explained.



12

5. Why do you think the people are weeping, and why do the religious leaders want them to celebrate (verses 9-12)?

Realization/Repentance: The Word of God shows us our sins and shortcomings before a holy God – the correct response is weeping and Godly sorrow:

“For I will declare mine iniquity; I will be sorry for my sin.” Psalm 38:18 (KJV)

“For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation”
II Cor. 7:10 (KJV)



13

5. Why do you think the people are weeping, and why do the religious leaders want them to celebrate (verses 9-12)?

Receiving/Rejoicing: Repentance and contrition are important, but the Day of Atonement also shows the hope they have in God, and it is time to celebrate!

“This is the day the Lord has made; We will rejoice and be glad in it.” Psalm 118:24 (NKJV)



14

6. Who assembles on the second day (v. 13), and why do you think they assemble?

- **Community/Family Leaders:** As the heads of households leads their families in the ways of God, the community will be blessed by God.
- **Church/Spiritual Leaders:**The religious leaders of Israel are responsible to God to lead them in seeking and obeying God.

Note: People need leaders. When leaders don't lead according to God's ways, it is downhill for everybody.



15

7. In verses 12 and 17 it says that all the people had great joy. What was the reason for this?

- **Released Guilt:** After the people confessed their sin received the joy of forgiveness We confess; God forgives.
- **Resolute Obedience:** They kept the Feast of the Booths according to God's Word. There is connection between joy and obedience.
- **Repaired Relationship:** Just as the walls of Jerusalem were repaired – the people are experiencing the joy of right relationship with God.



16

7. In verses 12 and 17 it says that all the people had great joy. What was the reason for this?

Note: The point of this chapter is that when we obey God's Word, it will produce great joy in our hearts.

But that Joy is not known apart from repentance and confession.

"Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me... Restore to me the joy of Your salvation..." Psalm 51:10, 12 (NKJV)



17

8. How will you guard against lack of seriousness of the Word in your life?

To benefit from the Word, we must be diligent in three responsibilities:

- **We Must Learn God's Word.** We must apply ourselves with diligence and discipline in order to learn the Word.
- **We Must Obey God's Word.** Knowledge without obedience leads to spiritual pride and deception.
- **We Must Love God's Word.** Love is the motive for obedience.



18

8. How will you guard against lack of seriousness of the Word in your life?

To benefit from the Word, we must be diligent in three responsibilities:

- **We Must Learn God's Word.** We must apply ourselves with diligence and discipline in order to learn the Word.
- **We Must Obey God's Word.** Knowledge without obedience leads to spiritual pride and deception.
- **We Must Love God's Word.** Love is the motive for obedience.



19

Keys For Living

- The only way to truly know the God of the Word is by spending time in and understanding the Word of God.
- Personal confession and repentance of any known sin is the key to receiving and maintaining the joy of the Lord.
- There is no greater joy than walking in obedience and in right relationship to God through faith in Jesus Christ.



20

