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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

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## This Week's Lesson – June 30, 2021

### Nehemiah: The Courage to Face Opposition

#### Lesson 9:

#### Confession and Commitment

#### Nehemiah 9 – 10



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### 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

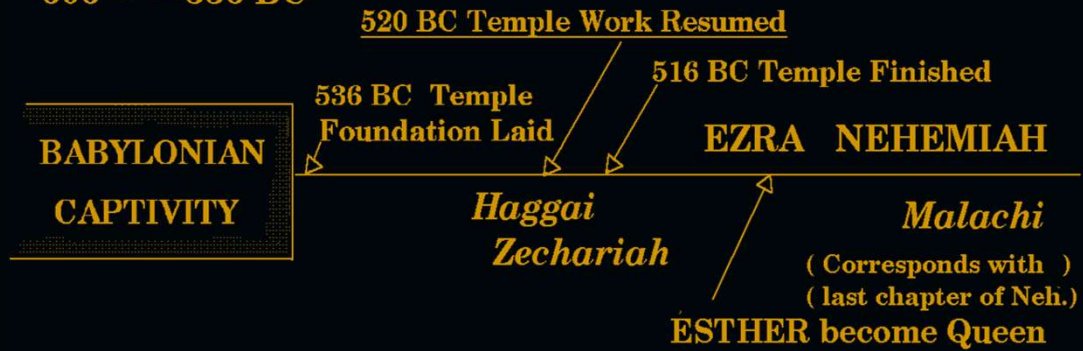


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## Overview Of Nehemiah

### RETURN FROM CAPTIVITY

606 - - 536 BC



5

## Overview Of Nehemiah 9 – 10



The Jews Confess And Repent Of Their Sins To God



Nehemiah, The Leaders And The People Recommit To God And The Temple



6

# Read Nehemiah 9

7

## Nehemiah 9: 1 – 3 (NIV)

**1** On the twenty-fourth day of the same month, the Israelites gathered together, fasting and wearing sackcloth and putting dust on their heads.

**2** Those of Israelite descent had separated themselves from all foreigners. They stood in their places and confessed their sins and the sins of their ancestors.

**3** They stood where they were and read from the Book of the Law of the Lord their God for a quarter of the day, and spent another quarter in confession and in worshiping the Lord their God.



8

**Nehemiah 9: 4 – 6 (NIV)**

**4** Standing on the stairs of the Levites were Jeshua, Bani, Kadmiel, Shebaniah, Bunni, Sherebiah, Bani and Kenani. They cried out with loud voices to the Lord their God.

**5** And the Levites—Jeshua, Kadmiel, Bani, Hashabneiah, Sherebiah, Hodiah, Shebaniah and Pethahiah—said: “Stand up and praise the Lord your God, who is from everlasting to everlasting.” “Blessed be your glorious name, and may it be exalted above all blessing and praise.

**6** You alone are the Lord. You made the heavens, even the highest heavens, and all their starry host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them. You give life to everything, and the multitudes of heaven worship you.



9

**Nehemiah 9:7 – 10 (NIV)**

**7** “You are the Lord God, who chose Abram and brought him out of Ur of the Chaldeans and named him Abraham.

**8** You found his heart faithful to you, and you made a covenant with him to give to his descendants the land of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Jebusites and Girgashites. You have kept your promise because you are righteous.

**9** “You saw the suffering of our ancestors in Egypt; you heard their cry at the Red Sea.

**10** You sent signs and wonders against Pharaoh, against all his officials and all the people of his land, for you knew how arrogantly the Egyptians treated them. You made a name for yourself, which remains to this day.



10

**Nehemiah 9:11 – 14 (NIV)**

**11** You divided the sea before them, so that they passed through it on dry ground, but you hurled their pursuers into the depths, like a stone into mighty waters.

**12** By day you led them with a pillar of cloud, and by night with a pillar of fire to give them light on the way they were to take.

**13** “You came down on Mount Sinai; you spoke to them from heaven. You gave them regulations and laws that are just and right, and decrees and commands that are good.



**14** You made known to them your holy Sabbath and gave them commands, decrees and laws through your servant Moses.

11

**Nehemiah 9:15 – 17 (NIV)**

**15** In their hunger you gave them bread from heaven and in their thirst you brought them water from the rock; you told them to go in and take possession of the land you had sworn with uplifted hand to give them.

**16** “But they, our ancestors, became arrogant and stiff-necked, and they did not obey your commands.

**17** They refused to listen and failed to remember the miracles you performed among them. They became stiff-necked and in their rebellion appointed a leader in order to return to their slavery. But you are a forgiving God, gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love. Therefore you did not desert them,



12



### **Nehemiah 9: 15 – 16 (NIV)**

**18** even when they cast for themselves an image of a calf and said, ‘This is your god, who brought you up out of Egypt,’ or when they committed awful blasphemies.

**19** “Because of your great compassion you did not abandon them in the wilderness. By day the pillar of cloud did not fail to guide them on their path, nor the pillar of fire by night to shine on the way they were to take.

**20** You gave your good Spirit to instruct them. You did not withhold your manna from their mouths, and you gave them water for their thirst.



13

### **Nehemiah 9: 21 – 23 (NIV)**

**21** For forty years you sustained them in the wilderness; they lacked nothing, their clothes did not wear out nor did their feet become swollen.

**22** “You gave them kingdoms and nations, allotting to them even the remotest frontiers. They took over the country of Sihon king of Heshbon and the country of Og king of Bashan.

**23** You made their children as numerous as the stars in the sky, and you brought them into the land that you told their parents to enter and possess.



14

**Nehemiah 9: 24 – 26 (NIV)**

**24** Their children went in and took possession of the land. You subdued before them the Canaanites, who lived in the land; you gave the Canaanites into their hands, along with their kings and the peoples of the land, to deal with them as they pleased.

**25** They captured fortified cities and fertile land; they took possession of houses filled with all kinds of good things, wells already dug, vineyards, olive groves and fruit trees in abundance. They ate to the full and were well-nourished; they reveled in your great goodness.

**26** “But they were disobedient and rebelled against you; they turned their backs on your law. They killed your prophets, who had warned them in order to turn them back to you; they committed awful blasphemies.



15

**Nehemiah 9: 27 – 28 (NIV)**

**27** So you delivered them into the hands of their enemies, who oppressed them. But when they were oppressed they cried out to you. From heaven you heard them, and in your great compassion you gave them deliverers, who rescued them from the hand of their enemies.

**28** “But as soon as they were at rest, they again did what was evil in your sight. Then you abandoned them to the hand of their enemies so that they ruled over them. And when they cried out to you again, you heard from heaven, and in your compassion you delivered them time after time.



16



### **Nehemiah 9: 29 – 31 (NIV)**

**29 “You warned them in order to turn them back to your law, but they became arrogant and disobeyed your commands. They sinned against your ordinances, of which you said, ‘The person who obeys them will live by them.’ Stubbornly they turned their backs on you, became stiff-necked and refused to listen.**

**30 For many years you were patient with them. By your Spirit you warned them through your prophets. Yet they paid no attention, so you gave them into the hands of the neighboring peoples.**



**31 But in your great mercy you did not put an end to them or abandon them, for you are a gracious and merciful God.**

17

### **Nehemiah 9: 32 – 34 (NIV)**

**32 “Now therefore, our God, the great God, mighty and awesome, who keeps his covenant of love, do not let all this hardship seem trifling in your eyes—the hardship that has come on us, on our kings and leaders, on our priests and prophets, on our ancestors and all your people, from the days of the kings of Assyria until today.**

**33 In all that has happened to us, you have remained righteous; you have acted faithfully, while we acted wickedly.**

**34 Our kings, our leaders, our priests and our ancestors did not follow your law; they did not pay attention to your commands or the statutes you warned them to keep.**



18

### Nehemiah 9: 35 – 38 (NIV)

35 Even while they were in their kingdom, enjoying your great goodness to them in the spacious and fertile land you gave them, they did not serve you or turn from their evil ways.

36 “But see, we are slaves today, slaves in the land you gave our ancestors so they could eat its fruit and the other good things it produces.

37 Because of our sins, its abundant harvest goes to the kings you have placed over us. They rule over our bodies and our cattle as they please. We are in great distress.

38 “In view of all this, we are making a binding agreement, putting it in writing, and our leaders, our Levites and our priests are affixing their seals to it.”



19

1. Why do you think they e fasting, wearing sackcloth/dust (9:1), after they'd earlier been encouraged toward joy in 8:10?

Note: Sackcloth, fasting, dirt or dust, rending of clothes, and ashes vividly demonstrated the person's emotional sorrow for sin.

- **Recognizing Their Supernatural Dependency:** They could not do anything apart from God – and suffered because of their pride.
- **Repenting Of Their Sinful Tendency:** Their ancestors sins were passed down to them – and they wanted to come clean.
- **Renewing Their Scriptural Responsibility:** In order to not go back into sin, they wanted to renew their commitment to obey God's Word.



20

2. What two things did the Jews do on this day for three hours each (see verses 2-3)?

- **Confession:** The acknowledged their own disobedience and those of their ancestors.
- **Edification:** They spent time in the Word of God, to know His will and His ways.

*Who may ascend into the hill of the Lord? Or who may stand in His holy place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart, Who has not lifted up his soul to an idol, Nor sworn deceitfully. He shall receive blessing from the Lord, And righteousness from the God of his salvation.*



21

3. How would you explain the basic relationship between worship and confession and between praise and sorrow?

**Worship And Confession:**

*If I regard iniquity in my heart, The Lord will not hear. Psalm 66:18 (NKJV)*

*God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth. John 4:24 (NKJV)*

**Note: Without the confession of sins, there will not be any true worship of a Holy God.**



22

3. How would you explain the basic relationship between worship and confession and between praise and sorrow?

**Praise And Sorrow:**

*Oh come, let us sing to the Lord! Let us shout joyfully to the Rock of our salvation. Psalm 95:1 (NKJV)*

*Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation and leaves no regret ... II Cor 7:10 (NIV)*

**Note: As we rejoice over the Lord's salvation – the pain of sin and its results causes us sorrow.**



23

4. In the prayer in 9:5-37, what principles can you find for how God's people should confess their sins?

- **Acknowledge God's Power/Authority:** God is Sovereign and has authority over everything and everyone (vv. 5 – 6)
- **Acknowledge God's Provision And Blessing:** Recognize God's care for us – even after we've disobeyed (vv. 7 – 16)
- **Acknowledge Our Rejection Of God's Principles:** We need to admit that we heard but ignored God's warnings from His Word (vv. 17 – 25)
- **Acknowledge Our Fault In Our Predicament:** Often we are suffering – not because of God or the Devil, but because of us (vv. 26 – 33)



24


5. How did God respond to Israel's disobedience in 9:18-21 & 9:26-27—and how does this response reflect His compassion?

**Compassionate Presence:** Even after their Idolatry, God did not leave or forsake His people.

**Compassionate Abundance:** God provided for their physical needs – even they rejected Him.

**Compassionate Chastisement & Deliverance:** God corrected His people yet delivered them when they cried out to Him in repentance.

*Through the Lord's mercies we are not consumed, Because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; Lam. 3:22 - 23 (NKJV)*



25

# Read Nehemiah 10

26

**Nehemiah 10: 1 – 10 (NIV)**

**1** Those who sealed it were: Nehemiah the governor, the son of Hakaliah Zedekiah,

**2** Seraiah, Azariah, Jeremiah,

**3** Pashhur, Amariah, Malkijah,

**4** Hattush, Shebaniah, Malluk,

**5** Harim, Meremoth, Obadiah,

**6** Daniel, Ginnethon, Baruch,

**7** Meshullam, Abijah, Mijamin,

**8** Maaziah, Bilgai and Shemaiah. These were the priests.



**9** The Levites: Jeshua son of Azaniah, Binnui of the sons of Henadad, Kadmiel,

27

**Nehemiah 10: 10 – 18 (NIV)**

**10** and their associates: Shebaniah, Hodiah, Kelita, Pelaiah, Hanan,

**11** Mika, Rehob, Hashabiah,

**12** Zakkur, Sherebiah, Shebaniah,

**13** Hodiah, Bani and Beninu.

**14** The leaders of the people: Parosh, Pahath-Moab, Elam, Zattu, Bani,

**15** Bunni, Azgad, Bebai,

**16** Adonijah, Bigvai, Adin,



**17** Ater, Hezekiah, Azzur,

**18** Hodiah, Hashum, Bezai,

28



**Nehemiah 10: 19 – 27 (NIV)**

19 Hariph, Anathoth, Nebai,  
 20 Magpiash, Meshullam, Hezir,  
 21 Meshezabel, Zadok, Jaddua,  
 22 Pelatiah, Hanan, Anaiah,  
 23 Hoshea, Hananiah, Hasshub,  
 24 Hallohesh, Pilha, Shobek,  
 25 Rehum, Hashabnah, Maaseiah,  
 26 Ahiah, Hanan, Anan,  
 27 Malluk, Harim and Baanah.



29

**Nehemiah 10: 28 – 30 (NIV)**

28 “The rest of the people—priests, Levites, gatekeepers, musicians, temple servants and all who separated themselves from the neighboring peoples for the sake of the Law of God, together with their wives and all their sons and daughters who are able to understand—

29 all these now join their fellow Israelites the nobles, and bind themselves with a curse and an oath to follow the Law of God given through Moses the servant of God and to obey carefully all the commands, regulations and decrees of the Lord our Lord.

30 “We promise not to give our daughters in marriage to the peoples around us or take their daughters for our sons.



30

**Nehemiah 10: 31 – 33 (NIV)**

**31 “When the neighboring peoples bring merchandise or grain to sell on the Sabbath, we will not buy from them on the Sabbath or on any holy day. Every seventh year we will forgo working the land and will cancel all debts.**

**32 “We assume the responsibility for carrying out the commands to give a third of a shekel each year for the service of the house of our God:**

**33 for the bread set out on the table; for the regular grain offerings and burnt offerings; for the offerings on the Sabbaths, at the New Moon feasts and at the appointed festivals; for the holy offerings; for sin offerings to make atonement for Israel; and for all the duties of the house of our God.**



31

**Nehemiah 10: 34 – 36 (NIV)**

**34 “We—the priests, the Levites and the people—have cast lots to determine when each of our families is to bring to the house of our God at set times each year a contribution of wood to burn on the altar of the Lord our God, as it is written in the Law.**

**35 “We also assume responsibility for bringing to the house of the Lord each year the firstfruits of our crops and of every fruit tree.**

**36 “As it is also written in the Law, we will bring the firstborn of our sons and of our cattle, of our herds and of our flocks to the house of our God, to the priests ministering there.**



32

### Nehemiah 10: 37 – 38 (NIV)

**37** “Moreover, we will bring to the storerooms of the house of our God, to the priests, the first of our ground meal, of our grain offerings, of the fruit of all our trees and of our new wine and olive oil. And we will bring a tithe of our crops to the Levites, for it is the Levites who collect the tithes in all the towns where we work.

**38** A priest descended from Aaron is to accompany the Levites when they receive the tithes, and the Levites are to bring a tenth of the tithes up to the house of our God, to the storerooms of the treasury.



33

### Nehemiah 10: 39 (NIV)

**39** The people of Israel, including the Levites, are to bring their contributions of grain, new wine and olive oil to the storerooms, where the articles for the sanctuary and for the ministering priests, the gatekeepers and the musicians are also kept. **“We will not neglect the house of our God.”**



34

6. In chapter 10, what groups of people are mentioned as covenant signers (vv. 1, 9, 14, 28, 34)?

- **Governmental Leaders:** Nehemiah, the installed Governor who rules over the on the behalf of God (v.1).
- **Spiritual Leaders:** The Priest, Levites and the rest of leaders of worship in God's Holy Temple (v. ,28, 34).
- **Community Leaders:** Those who have influence among the common people in their communities.
- **"Common" People:** The wives and children (men, women, boy & girls) are just as important.



*Behold, how good and how pleasant it is For brethren to dwell together in unity! Psalm 133:1 (NKJV)*

35

7. In 10:29, what do we learn about the seriousness of this commitment they are making?

- **Serious Unity:** "all" and "join" – show their seriousness about doing this commitment together.
- **Serious Penalty:** Accountability – enacting a curse against not living up to the commitment.
- **Serious Loyalty:** An oath for everyone to carefully and fully obey all of Word of God.



*Note: Are we this serious about our covenants with the Lord, (Bible study, prayer, fellowship and witnessing?)*

36

8. What attitudes toward worship are reflected in the details of the agreement given in 10:32-39?

- **Personal Membership/Discipleship:** Everyone makes the personal commitment to make the House of God the priority
- **Communal Fellowship:** Shared responsibility for the gathering and sustaining the worship of God.
- **Sacrificial Stewardship:** The attitude of gratitude the results in sacrificial giving for the House of our God.

*Note: It is hard to do great things for God when not doing the ordinary things (Bible study, prayer, fellowship, witnessing, tithing etc.)*



37

### *Keys For Living*

- Personal confession and repentance of any known sin is as much a part of worship as our expressions of joy and praise.
- While God's correction when we sin can be painful, it reminds us of His love and mercy that we can always be thankful for.
- No matter how far we've fallen, when we confess and recommit our lives to the Lord He will graciously forgive and restore.



38

