

PETE BUMGARNER MINISTRIES

**A NON-PROFIT CORPORATION
FOUNDED OCTOBER, 1984**

NEHEMIAH

STUDY GUIDE



NEHEMIAH

SCRIPTURE READING

Book of Nehemiah

I. INTRODUCTION

- A. Nehemiah is a historical book of the Old Testament that describes the rebuilding of the city walls around Jerusalem.
- B. Nehemiah is generally recognized as the author of the Book Nehemiah.
- C. Although Nehemiah and Ezra were contemporaries, Nehemiah did not go to Jerusalem until thirteen years after Ezra was sent by King Artaxerxes. (Ezra 7:7-8; Nehemiah 2:1)
- D. Nehemiah was the cupbearer for King Artaxerxes, but he left his comfortable position for the sake of God's people.
- E. With permission and support from the king, Nehemiah led the third and last group of exiles back to Jerusalem.
- F. Through the excellent leadership of Nehemiah, and the willingness of the people to work, the walls of Jerusalem, which may have enclosed approximately one hundred eighty acres, were rebuilt in fifty-two days. (Nehemiah 6:15)
- G. Nehemiah served as governor in Jerusalem for twelve years, before returning to King Artaxerxes. (Nehemiah 5:14)

II. CHAPTER ONE

- A. Nehemiah the son of Hachaliah tells about the message that came to him in the month Chisleu (ninth month of the Jewish calendar) during the twentieth year of the reign of Artaxerxes while he was in the palace at Shushan. (Nehemiah 1:1)
- B. Nehemiah questioned Hanani, a Jewish brother who had come from Judah, about the welfare of the those who had returned to Jerusalem from Babylon and about the city of Jerusalem. (Nehemiah 1:2)

- C. He was told that those who remained were in great distress and disgrace. (Nehemiah 1:3)
- D. He was also told that the walls of Jerusalem had been broken down and that its gates had been burned. (Nehemiah 1:3)
- E. When Nehemiah heard the report, he sat down and cried. He mourned many days, fasting and praying to the God of heaven. (Nehemiah 1:4)
- F. Verses five through eleven record Nehemiah's prayer of intercession. (Nehemiah 1:5-11)
 - 1. "O Lord, God of heaven, the great and awesome God Who keeps His covenant of unending love with those who love Him and obey His commands, listen to my prayer!" (Nehemiah 1:5-6 NLT)
 - 2. "Look down and see me praying night and day for Your people Israel." (Nehemiah 1:6 NLT)
 - 3. "I confess that we have sinned against You. Yes, even my own family and I have sinned!" (Nehemiah 1:6 NLT)
 - 4. "We have sinned terribly by not obeying the commands, laws, and regulations that You gave us through Your servant Moses." (Nehemiah 1:7 NLT)
 - 5. "Please remember what You told Your servant Moses: 'If you sin, I will scatter you among the nations. But if you return to Me and obey My commands, even if you are exiled to the ends of the earth, I will bring you back to the place I have chosen for My name to be honored.' " (Nehemiah 1:8-9 NLT)
 - 6. "We are Your servants, the people You rescued by Your great power and might." (Nehemiah 1:10 NLT)
 - 7. "O Lord, please hear my prayer! Listen to the prayers of those of us who delight in honoring You." (Nehemiah 1:11 NLT)
 - 8. "Please grant me success now as I go to ask the king for a great favor. Put it into his heart to be kind to me." (Nehemiah 1:11 NLT)

G. Nehemiah was King Artaxerxes' cupbearer. (Nehemiah 1:11)

III. CHAPTER TWO

- A. During the month of Nisan, in the twentieth year of King Artaxerxes' reign, Nehemiah served wine to the king. (Nehemiah 2:1)
- B. Prior to this time, Nehemiah had never appeared sad in the presence of the king. (Nehemiah 2:1)
- C. The king asked Nehemiah why he was sad. He recognized that Nehemiah was not sick, but that his heart was sorrowful. (Nehemiah 2:2)
- D. Nehemiah was afraid. He replied to the king, "May the king live forever! Why should my face not look sad when the city where my fathers are buried lies in ruins, and its gates have been destroyed by fire?" (Nehemiah 2:2-3 NIV)
- E. The king asked Nehemiah what he wanted. Nehemiah prayed to God, then responded by asking the king to send him to Judah that he might rebuild the city of his ancestors. (Nehemiah 2:4-5)
- F. The king questioned Nehemiah in the presence of the queen. He asked how long he would be gone and when he would return. (Nehemiah 2:6)
- G. Nehemiah gave the king a definite time, and the king sent him to Judah. (Nehemiah 2:6)
- H. Nehemiah requested that the king give him letters for the governors of the provinces on the other side of the Euphrates River, ensuring safe passage to Judah. (Nehemiah 2:7)
- I. He also requested a letter for Asaph, the keeper of the King's forest, so he would give Nehemiah the timber needed to make beams for the gates of the palace by the temple, for the city wall, and for the house which he would occupy. (Nehemiah 2:8)
- J. Because the good hand of God was upon Nehemiah, the king granted his request. (Nehemiah 2:8)

- K. Accompanied by military officers and horsemen, Nehemiah went to the governors beyond the Euphrates River and presented the King's letters to them. (Nehemiah 2:9)
- L. Sanballat the Horonite and Tobiah the Ammonite were very displeased that someone had come to seek the welfare of the children of Israel. (Nehemiah 2:10)
- M. Three days after Nehemiah arrived in Jerusalem, he and a few men went out at night and surveyed the damage done to the city. At this time he had not disclosed his mission. (Nehemiah 2:11-16)
- N. After surveying the damage, Nehemiah met with the leading men of the city and encouraged them to rebuild the wall of Jerusalem. (Nehemiah 2:17)
- O. He told them how God's hand had been upon him to give him favor with the king. (Nehemiah 2:18)
- P. Upon hearing Nehemiah's words, the men took courage and said, "Let us arise and build." (Nehemiah 2:18 NAS)
- Q. When Sanballat the Horonite, Tobiah the Ammonite, and Geshem the Arabian heard that the wall was being built, they demonstrating their disapproval by mocking and accusing Nehemiah and his associates of rebellion against the king. (Nehemiah 2:19)
- R. Nehemiah responded to them by saying, "The God of heaven will give us success; therefore we His servants will arise and build, but you have no portion, right, or memorial in Jerusalem." (Nehemiah 2:20 NAS)

IV. CHAPTER THREE

- A. "Eliashib the high priest and his fellow priests went to work and rebuilt the Sheep Gate. They dedicated it and set its doors in place, building as far as the Tower of the Hundred, which they dedicated, and as far as the Tower of Hananel." (Nehemiah 3:1 NIV)
- B. "The men of Jericho built the adjoining section, and Zaccur son of Imri built next to them." (Nehemiah 3:2 NIV)

- C. “The Fish Gate was rebuilt by the sons of Hassenaah. They laid its beams and put its doors and bolts and bars in place.” (Nehemiah 3:3 NIV)
- D. “Meremoth son of Uriah, the son of Hakkoz, repaired the next section.” (Nehemiah 3:4 NIV)
- E. “Next to him Meshullam son of Berekiah, the son of Meshezebel, made repairs, and next to him Zadok son of Baana also made repairs.” (Nehemiah 3:4 NIV)
- F. “The next section was repaired by the men of Tekoa, but their nobles would not put their shoulders to the work under their supervisors.” (Nehemiah 3:5 NIV)
- G. “The Jeshanah Gate was repaired by Joiada son of Paseah and Meshullam son of Besodeiah. They laid its beams and put its doors and bolts and bars in place.” Nehemiah 3:6 NIV)
- H. “Next to them, repairs were made by men from Gibeon and Mizpah-Melatiah of Gibeon and Jadon of Meronoth--places under the authority of the governor of Trans-Euphrates.” (Nehemiah 3:7 NIV)
- I. “Uzziel son of Harhaiah, one of the goldsmiths, repaired the next section; and Hananiah, one of the perfume-makers, made repairs next to that. They restored Jerusalem as far as the Broad Wall.” (Nehemiah 3:8 NIV)
- J. “Rephaiah son of Hur, ruler of a half-district of Jerusalem, repaired the next section. Adjoining this, Jedaiah son of Harumaph made repairs opposite his house, and Hattush son of Hashabneiah made repairs next to him.” (Nehemiah 3:9-10 NIV)
- K. “Malkijah son of Harim and Hasshub son of Pahath-Moab repaired another section and the Tower of the Ovens.” (Nehemiah 3:11 NIV)
- L. “Shallum son of Hallohesh, ruler of a half-district of Jerusalem, repaired the next section with the help of his daughters.” (Nehemiah 3:12)

- M. “The Valley Gate was repaired by Hanun and the residents of Zanoah. They rebuilt it and put its doors and bolts and bars in place. They also repaired five hundred yards of the wall as far as the Dung Gate.” (Nehemiah 3:13 NIV)
- N. “The Dung Gate was repaired by Malkijah son of Recab, ruler of the district of Beth Hakkerem. He rebuilt it and put its doors and bolts and bars in place.” (Nehemiah 3:14 NIV)
- O. “The Fountain Gate was repaired by Shallun son of Col-Hozeh, ruler of the district of Mizpah. He rebuilt it, roofing it over and putting its doors and bolts and bars in place. He also repaired the wall of the Pool of Siloam, by the King’s Garden, as far as the steps going down from the City of David.” (Nehemiah 3:15)
- P. “Beyond him, Nehemiah son of Azbuk, ruler of a half-district of Beth Zur, made repairs up to a point opposite the tombs of David, as far as the artificial pool and the House of the Heroes.” (Nehemiah 3:16 NIV)
- Q. “Next to him, the repairs were made by the Levites under Rehum son of Bani. Beside him, Hashabiah, ruler of half the district of Keilah, carried out repairs for his district.” (Nehemiah 3:17 NIV)
- R. “Next to him, the repairs were made by their countrymen under Binnui son of Henadad, ruler of the other half-district of Keilah.” (Nehemiah 3:18 NIV)
- S. “Next to him, Ezer son of Jeshua, ruler of Mizpah, repaired another section, from a point facing the ascent to the armory as far as the angle.” (Nehemiah 3:19 NIV)
- T. “Next to him, Baruch son of Zabbai zealously repaired another section, from the angle to the entrance of the house of Eliashib the high priest.” (Nehemiah 3:20 NIV)
- U. “Next to him, Meremoth son of Uriah, the son of Hakkoz, repaired another section, from the entrance of Eliashib’s house to the end of it.” (Nehemiah 3:21 NIV)
- V. “The repairs next to him were made by the priests from the surrounding region.” (Nehemiah 3:22 NIV)

- W. “Beyond them, Benjamin and Hasshub made repairs in front of their house; and next to them, Azariah son of Maaseiah, the son of Ananiah, made repairs beside his house.” (Nehemiah 3:23 NIV)
- X. “Next to him, Binnui son of Henadad repaired another section, from Azariah’s house to the angle and the corner, and Palal son of Uzai worked opposite the angle and the tower projecting from the upper palace near the court of the guard.” (Nehemiah 3:24-25 NIV)
- Y. “Next to him, Pedaiiah son of Parosh and the temple servants living on the hill of Ophel made repairs up to a point opposite the Water Gate toward the east and the projecting tower.” (Nehemiah 3:25-26 NIV)
- Z. “Next to them, the men of Tekoa repaired another section, from the great projecting tower to the wall of Ophel.” (Nehemiah 3:27 NIV)
- AA. “Above the Horse Gate, the priests made repairs, each in front of his own house.” (Nehemiah 3:28 NIV)
- BB. “Next to them, Zadok son of Immer made repairs opposite his house.” (Nehemiah 3:29 NIV)
- CC. “Next to him, Shemaiah son of Shecaniah, the guard at the East Gate, made repairs.” (Nehemiah 3:29 NIV)
- DD. “Next to him, Hananiah son of Shelemiah, and Hanun, the sixth son of Zalaph, repaired another section.” (Nehemiah 3:30 NIV)
- EE. “Next to them, Meshullam son of Berekiah made repairs opposite his living quarters.” (Nehemiah 3:30 NIV)
- FF. “Next to him, Malkijah, one of the goldsmiths, made repairs as far as the house of the temple servants and the merchants, opposite the Inspection Gate, and as far as the room above the corner; and between the room above the corner and the Sheep Gate the goldsmiths and merchants made repairs.” (Nehemiah 3:31-32 NIV)

V. CHAPTER FOUR

- A. When Sanballat heard that the Jews were rebuilding the wall of Jerusalem, he became very angry. In a rage, he began mocking the Jews. (Nehemiah 4:1)
- B. In the presence of his brethren and the army of Samaria, he asked, "What are these feeble Jews doing? Will they fortify themselves? Will they offer sacrifices? Will they complete it in a day? Will they revive the stones from the heaps of rubbish--stones that are burned?" (Nehemiah 4:2 NKJV)
- C. Tobiah the Ammonite was with him and replied, "Whatever they build, if even a fox goes up on it, he will break down their stone wall." (Nehemiah 4:3 NKJV)
- D. Nehemiah cried out to God, "Hear us, O our God, for we are being mocked. May their scoffing fall back on their own heads, and may they themselves become captives in a foreign land! Do not ignore their guilt. Do not blot out their sins, for they have provoked you to anger here in the presence of the builders." (Nehemiah 4:4-5 NLT)
- E. Because the people had a heart to work, the wall was completed and joined in the middle. (Nehemiah 4:6)
- F. When Sanballat, Tobiah, the Arabs, the Ammonites, and the Ashdodites heard that the work was going ahead and that the gaps in the wall were being repaired, they became furious. (Nehemiah 4:7)
- G. All these men conspired against Jerusalem, intending to fight against the city for the purpose of preventing its reconstruction, but Nehemiah and those with him prayed to God and guarded the city day and night. (Nehemiah 4:8-9)
- H. The people of Judah began to complain that the workers were becoming tired and that there was so much rubble to be moved that they could never get it done by themselves. (Nehemiah 4:10)
- I. The enemies of Judah tried to scare them by threatening a sudden attack that would kill the people and stop the work. (Nehemiah 4:11)

- J. Ten times the Jews who lived near the enemy came and reported that the enemy would attack from all directions. (Nehemiah 4:12)
- K. Nehemiah placed armed guards behind the lowest parts of the wall in the exposed areas. He assigned the people guard duty by families. They were armed with swords, spears, and bows. (Nehemiah 4:13)
- L. After evaluating the situation, Nehemiah assembled the leaders and the people. He exhorted them not to be afraid, but to remember the Lord and to fight for their countrymen, families, and houses. (Nehemiah 4:14)
- M. When the enemy learned that their plan was exposed and that God had frustrated their intent, the people were able to return to their work on the wall. (Nehemiah 4:15)
- N. From that time forward, half of Nehemiah's servants worked while the other half stood guard, armed with spears, shields, bows, and breastplates. (Nehemiah 4:16)
- O. The officials stood behind the house of Judah. (Nehemiah 4:16)
- P. Those who were laboring worked with one hand and held their weapon with the other. (Nehemiah 4:17)
- Q. Each of the builders had his sword strapped to his side, and the trumpeter responsible for sounding the alarm stood near Nehemiah. (Nehemiah 4:18)
- R. Nehemiah spoke to the leaders, reminding them that the work covered a large area, and they were separated from one another while they were working on the wall. If and when they heard the trumpet blow, they were to rush to that spot, with the realization that God would fight for them. (Nehemiah 4:19-20)
- S. The work continued from dawn until the stars appeared. Half of the company was armed with spears. (Nehemiah 4:21)
- T. Nehemiah instructed the workers to remain in Jerusalem. At night they would serve as guards, and during the day they would serve as laborers. (Nehemiah 4:22)

- U. Nehemiah and all those who had joined with him in the work were clothed and armed at all times, both day and night. (Nehemiah 4:23)

VI. CHAPTER FIVE

- A. Some of the men and their wives protested against their fellow Jews because they were taking advantage of them. (Nehemiah 5:1)
 - 1. Some of the Jews had large families and needed more money just to buy the food needed to survive. (Nehemiah 5:2)
 - 2. Some had mortgaged their fields, vineyards, and homes to get food during the famine. (Nehemiah 5:3)
 - 3. Others had already borrowed to the limit on their fields and vineyards to pay their taxes. (Nehemiah 5:4)
 - 4. Although they were all Jews, some were being forced to sell their children into slavery just to get enough money to live. Some had already sold their daughters because they had no alternative; their fields and vineyards had already been mortgaged to others. (Nehemiah 5:5)
- B. When Nehemiah heard what was taking place, he became furious. After thinking about the situation, he went to the officials to get this problem rectified. (Nehemiah 5:6-7)
 - 1. He informed them that they were oppressing their own relatives by charging them interest when they borrowed money. (Nehemiah 5:7)
 - 2. Nehemiah called a public meeting to deal with the problem. (Nehemiah 5:7)
 - 3. At the meeting, Nehemiah told his Jewish countrymen that he and others were doing all they could to redeem their fellow Jews who had sold themselves to heathen foreigners, while their brethren were putting them back into slavery. (Nehemiah 5:8)
 - 4. He asked them, "How often must we redeem them?" The leaders did not reply. (Nehemiah 5:8 NLT)

5. Nehemiah told them what they were doing was not right, and that they should walk in the fear of God in order to avoid being mocked by enemy nations. (Nehemiah 5:9)
 6. Nehemiah and others had been lending the people money and grain, but he refused to allow these leaders to charge interest to their own countrymen. (Nehemiah 5:10)
 7. Nehemiah instructed these leaders to restore immediately the fields, vineyards, olive groves, and homes to those of whom they had taken advantage and to repay the interest they had charged on their money, grain, wine, and olive oil. (Nehemiah 5:11)
 8. The leaders agreed to do as Nehemiah had instructed. (Nehemiah 5:12)
 9. Nehemiah called the priests and made the leaders formally vow to do what they had promised. (Nehemiah 5:12)
 10. Nehemiah shook out the fold of his robe and said, "If you fail to keep your promise, may God shake you from your homes and from your property!" (Nehemiah 5:13 NLT)
 11. The whole assembly responded by saying, "Amen." They praised the Lord and did as they had promised. (Nehemiah 5:13)
- C. From the twentieth year to the thirty-second year of King Artaxerxes' reign, Nehemiah served as governor of his people. During the entire twelve years that Nehemiah was governor, neither he nor his officials took money from the people to buy food for themselves. (Nehemiah 5:14)
- D. The governors who preceded Nehemiah burdened the people by taking forty shekels of silver from them, in addition to food and wine. Even their servants dominated the people. (Nehemiah 5:15)
- E. Out of reverence for God, Nehemiah did not take advantage of the people; instead, he devoted himself to building the wall around Jerusalem. He and his men had come to work, not to acquire land. (Nehemiah 5:15-16)

- F. Nehemiah did not ask for anything, even though he regularly fed one hundred fifty Jewish officials and all the visitors who came from other lands. (Nehemiah 5:17)
- G. Nehemiah was responsible for supplying one ox, six fat sheep, and a large number of domestic fowl daily. Every ten days he had to supply all kinds of wine, yet he refused to claim the governor's food allowance because the people were already having a difficult time. (Nehemiah 5:18)
- H. Nehemiah asked God to remember the good that he had done for the people. (Nehemiah 5:19)

VII. CHAPTER SIX

- A. Sanballat, Tobiah, Geshem the Arabian, and the rest of the enemies of the Jews were told that the wall around Jerusalem had been built and no gaps remained; however, the gates had not yet been hung. (Nehemiah 6:1)
- B. Sanballat and Geshem sent Nehemiah a message requesting that he meet them at one of the villages in the plain of Ono; they had devised a plan to hurt him. (Nehemiah 6:2)
- C. Aware of their intent to harm him, Nehemiah sent this message to them: "I am doing a great work and I cannot come down. Why should the work stop while I leave it and come down to you?" (Nehemiah 6:3 RSV)
- D. Four different times they sent similar messages to Nehemiah; each time, he replied as he had the first time. (Nehemiah 6:4)
- E. The fifth message sent by Sanballat was a written letter stating that reports had come from other people and Geshem that the wall was being built around Jerusalem because Nehemiah and the Jewish people were planning to rebel, and that Nehemiah was going to become their king. (Nehemiah 6:5-6)
- F. The letter accused Nehemiah of setting up prophets to proclaim that he was going to reign over Judah from Jerusalem. (Nehemiah 6:7)
- G. In an attempt to scare Nehemiah, Sanballat told him that King Artaxerxes would be notified of his intent. He requested that Nehemiah come to them and get the matter resolved. (Nehemiah 6:7)

- H. Nehemiah sent back to him a message declaring that these accusations were fabricated. (Nehemiah 6:8)
- I. Their intent was to frighten the Jews into discontinuing their work, but Nehemiah asked God to strengthen his hands. (Nehemiah 6:9)
- J. After receiving Sanballat's threatening letter, Nehemiah went to the house of Shemaiah the son of Delaiah and grandson of Mehetabel. (Nehemiah 6:10)
- K. It appears that Shemaiah was a secret informer who had been sent to Nehemiah with a fear tactic, intending to persuade him to hide inside the temple. (Nehemiah 6:10)
- L. Nehemiah refused to hide in the temple to save his life. (Nehemiah 6:11)
- M. He perceived that God had not sent Shemaiah to him, but he had been hired by Tobiah and Sanballat. (Nehemiah 6:12)
- N. Sanballat and Tobiah were hoping to intimidate Nehemiah and to make him sin by following their suggestion. They hoped to accuse and discredit him. (Nehemiah 6:13)
- O. Nehemiah prayed, asking God to remember the evil intents of Tobiah, Sanballat, Noadiah the prophetess, and all the prophets like her who tried to intimidate him. (Nehemiah 6:14)
- P. The wall surrounding Jerusalem was completed on the twenty-fifth day of Elul. It took fifty-two days to build the wall. (Nehemiah 6:15)
- Q. When the enemies of the Jews and the nations around them heard that the wall had been built, they were disheartened, perceiving that the work had been accomplished through the help of God. (Nehemiah 6:16)
- R. During the time the wall was being built, letters from the officials of Judah were sent to Tobiah, and his replies were brought to the officials of Judah. (Nehemiah 6:17)
- S. Many in Judah had sworn allegiance to Tobiah because his father-in-law was Shecaniah the son of Arah, and because his son Jehohanan was married to the daughter of Meshullam the son of Berechiah. (Nehemiah 6:18)

- T. The officials of Judah tried to convince Nehemiah that Tobiah was a wonderful man. (Nehemiah 6:19)
- U. They told Tobiah everything that Nehemiah said. (Nehemiah 6:19)
- V. Tobiah sent letters to Nehemiah, trying to intimidate him. (Nehemiah 6:19)

VIII. CHAPTER SEVEN

- A. After the wall was completed, the doors hung, and the gatekeepers, singers, and Levites appointed, Nehemiah delegated the authority over Jerusalem to Hanani, his brother, and Haniah the chief of the palace, a man who was faithful and greatly feared God. (Nehemiah 7:1-2)
- B. Nehemiah instructed them not to open the gates of Jerusalem until well after sunrise and to close and lock them while the guards were still on duty. (Nehemiah 7:3)
- C. He also mandated that the guards be residents of Jerusalem and that they stand regular watches. Each homeowner who lived near the wall was responsible for guarding the section of wall next to his own home. (Nehemiah 7:3)
- D. Although the city was large, the population was small, and the houses had not yet been rebuilt. (Nehemiah 7:4)
- E. God put it into the heart of Nehemiah to register the inhabitants of Judah by genealogy. He found a register of those who had first come to Jerusalem. (Nehemiah 7:5)
- F. The genealogy documented in Nehemiah 7:6-67, although it is not exactly the same, corresponds to the genealogy listed in Ezra 2:2-65. (Nehemiah 7:6-67)
- G. The list of animals in Nehemiah 7:68-69 corresponds to Ezra 2:66-67.
- H. Although chapter seven of Nehemiah seems to be giving the same account as that of Ezra chapter two, the gifts and quantity listed in Nehemiah differ from those listed in Ezra. (Nehemiah 7:70-72)

- I. Nehemiah 7:73 corresponds to Ezra 2:70 and Ezra 3:1. (Nehemiah 7:73)

IX. CHAPTER EIGHT

- A. All the people assembled as one body in the street that was in front of the Water Gate. Ezra the scribe was instructed to bring with him the book that contained the law of Moses. (Nehemiah 8:1)
- B. On the first day of the seventh month, Ezra the priest read the law of Moses before the assembly, which was made up of men and women who were able to understand. (Nehemiah 8:2)
- C. He read it aloud from daybreak until noon. As he faced the street in front of the Water Gate, Ezra read in the presence of the men, women, and others who could understand. All the people listened attentively to the book of the Law. (Nehemiah 8:3)
- D. Ezra the scribe stood on a wooden platform that had been made for the occasion. Mattithiah, Shema, Anaiah, Uriah, Hilkiah, and Maaseiah stood on his right side; Pedaiiah, Mishael, Malkijah, Hashum, Hashbaddanah, Zechariah, and Meshullam stood on his left side. (Nehemiah 8:4)
- E. Ezra stood on the platform in full view of the people. When they saw him open the book, all the people stood to their feet. (Nehemiah 8:5)
- F. When Ezra blessed the Lord, the people said, "Amen! Amen!" They raised their hands, bowed with their faces to the ground, and worshipped God. (Nehemiah 8:6)
- G. The Levites, Jeshua, Bani, Sherebiah, Jamin, Akkub, Shabbethai, Hodiah, Maaseiah, Kelita, Azariah, Jozabad, Hanan, and Pelaiah, explained the law to the people while they stood in their places. (Nehemiah 8:7)
- H. The Levites read from the book of the law of God and translated what they read so the people could understand. (Nehemiah 8:8)

- I. Nehemiah the governor, Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who were instructing the people spoke to the assembly, saying, “This day is sacred to the Lord your God. Do not mourn or weep.” (All the people had been weeping as they listened to the words of the Law.) (Nehemiah 8:9 NIV)
- J. The people were instructed to “Go and enjoy choice food and sweet drinks, and send some to those who have nothing prepared. This day is sacred to our Lord. Do not grieve, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.” The literal rendering of the last phrase should be “rejoicing in the Lord is our defense.” (Nehemiah 8:10 NIV)
- K. When the Levites told the people to be still and not grieve because it was a sacred day, the people were calmed. (Nehemiah 8:11)
- L. Afterwards, all the people went away to eat and drink, to send portions of food, and to celebrate with great joy, because they now understood the words that had been declared to them. (Nehemiah 8:12)
- M. On the second day, the heads of all the families of the people, the priests, and the Levites met with Ezra the scribe to gain insight into the words of the law. (Nehemiah 8:13)
- N. As they studied the law, they discovered that the Lord had commanded through Moses that the Israelites should live in booths during the feast of the seventh month, which is the Feast of Tabernacles. (Nehemiah 8:14)
- O. The law of Moses required a proclamation to go forth throughout the cities of Israel and in Jerusalem, exhorting the people to go to the mountains to get branches from olive, pine, myrtle, palm, and fig trees. They were to use these branches to make booths in which to live during the Feast of Tabernacles. (Nehemiah 8:15)
- P. The people obeyed the law, going out to gather the material needed to build booths for themselves. They built booths on the roofs of houses, in courtyards, in the temple court, in the street at the Water Gate, and in the street at the Ephraim Gate. (Nehemiah 8:16)

- Q. The whole assembly who had returned from captivity made booths and occupied them during the Feast of Tabernacles. They were joyful during this celebration. (Nehemiah 8:17)
- R. The Feast of Tabernacles had not been properly celebrated since the days of Joshua the son of Nun. (Nehemiah 8:17)
- S. The Feast of Tabernacles was celebrated for seven days. Each day the law of Moses was read to the people. (Nehemiah 8:18; Deuteronomy 31:9-13)
- T. The day following the Feast of Tabernacles was observed as a national holiday, as recorded in the law of Moses. (Nehemiah 8:18)

X. CHAPTER NINE

- A. On the twenty-fourth day of the seventh month, the Israelites assembled. They fasted, wore sackcloth, and put dirt on their heads. (Nehemiah 9:1)
- B. The descendants of Israel separated themselves from all foreigners. They stood and confessed their sins and the perversity of their fathers. (Nehemiah 9:2)
- C. While they stood in their place, the book of the law was read to them a fourth of the day. Another fourth of the day was dedicated to confessing before God and worshipping Him. (Nehemiah 9:3)
- D. While standing on the platform, the Levites, Jeshua, Bani, Kadmiel, Shebaniah, Bunni, Sherebiah, Bani, and Chenani, cried out with a loud voice to the Lord God. (Nehemiah 9:4)
- E. The Levites, Jeshua, Kadmiel, Bani, Hashabneiah, Sherebiah, Hodiah, Shebaniah, and Pethahiah, told the people to stand up and praise the Lord their God, Who is from everlasting to everlasting. (Nehemiah (9:5)
- F. The Levites set the example by giving praise to God.
 - 1. "Blessed be Your glorious name, and may it be exalted above all blessing and praise." (Nehemiah 9:5 NIV)
 - 2. "You alone are the Lord." (Nehemiah 9:6 NIV)

3. "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." (Nehemiah 9:6 NIV)
4. "You give life to everything, and the multitudes of heaven worship You." (Nehemiah 9:6 NIV)
5. "You are the Lord God, Who chose Abram and brought him out of Ur of the Chaldeans and named him Abraham." (Nehemiah 9:7 NIV)
6. "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." (Nehemiah 9:8)
7. "You have kept Your promise because You are righteous." (Nehemiah 9:8 NIV)
8. "You saw the suffering of our forefathers in Egypt; You heard their cry at the Red Sea." (Nehemiah 9:9 NIV)
9. "You sent miraculous 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." (Nehemiah 9:10 NIV)
10. "You made a name for Yourself, which remains to this day." (Nehemiah 9:10 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." (Nehemiah 9:11 NIV)
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." (Nehemiah 9:12 NIV)
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." (Nehemiah 9:13 NIV)

14. “You made known to them Your holy Sabbath and gave them commands, decrees and laws through Your servant Moses.” (Nehemiah 9:14 NIV)
15. “In their hunger You gave them bread from heaven and in their thirst You brought them water from the rock.” (Nehemiah 9:15 NIV)
16. “You told them to go in and take possession of the land You had sworn with uplifted hand to give them.” (Nehemiah 9:15 NIV)
17. “But they, our forefathers, became arrogant and stiff-necked, and did not obey Your commands.” (Nehemiah 9:17 NIV)
18. “They refused to listen and failed to remember the miracles You performed among them.” (Nehemiah 9:17 NIV)
19. “They became stiff-necked and, in their rebellion, appointed a leader in order to return to their slavery.” (Nehemiah 9:17 NIV)
20. “But You are a forgiving God, gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love. Therefore You did not desert them, 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.” (Nehemiah 9:17-18 NIV)
21. “Because of Your great compassion You did not abandon them in the desert. By day the pillar of cloud did not cease to guide them on their path, nor the pillar of fire by night to shine on the way they were to take.” (Nehemiah 9:19 NIV)
22. “You gave Your good Spirit to instruct them.” (Nehemiah 9:20 NIV)
23. “You did not withhold Your manna from their mouths, and You gave them water for their thirst.” (Nehemiah 9:20 NIV)
24. “For forty years You sustained them in the desert; they lacked nothing, their clothes did not wear out nor did their feet become swollen.” (Nehemiah 9:21 NIV)

25. “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 Bas-han.” (Nehemiah 9:22 NIV)
26. “You made their sons as numerous as the stars in the sky, and You brought them into the land that You told their fathers to enter and possess.” (Nehemiah 9:23 NIV)
27. “Their sons went in and took possession of the land. You subdued before them the Canaanites, who lived in the land; You handed the Canaanites over to them, along with their kings and the peoples of the land, to deal with them as they pleased.” (Nehemiah 9:24 NIV)
28. “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.” (Nehemiah 9:25 NIV)
29. “They ate to the full and were well-nourished; they reveled in Your great goodness.” (Nehemiah 9:25 NIV)
30. “But they were disobedient and rebelled against You; they put Your law behind their backs. They killed Your prophets, who had admonished them in order to turn them back to You; they committed awful blasphemies. So You handed them over to their enemies, who oppressed them.” (Nehemiah 9:26-27 NIV)
31. “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.” (Nehemiah 9:27 NIV)
32. “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.” (Nehemiah 9:28 NIV)

33. “You warned them to return to Your law, but they became arrogant and disobeyed Your commands. They sinned against Your ordinances, by which a man will live if he obeys them. Stubbornly they turned their backs on You, became stiff-necked and refused to listen.” (Nehemiah 9:29 NIV)
34. “For many years You were patient with them. By Your Spirit You admonished them through Your prophets. Yet they paid no attention, so You handed them over to the neighboring peoples.” (Nehemiah 9:30 NIV)
35. “But in Your great mercy You did not put an end to them or abandon them, for You are a gracious and merciful God.” (Nehemiah 9:31 NIV)
36. “Now therefore, O our God, the great, mighty and awesome God, Who keeps His covenant of love, do not let all this hardship seem trifling in Your eyes--the hardship that has come upon us, upon our kings and leaders, upon our priests and prophets, upon our fathers and all Your people, from the days of the kings of Assyria until today.” (Nehemiah 9:32 NIV)
37. “In all that has happened to us, You have been just; You have acted faithfully, while we did wrong.” (Nehemiah 9:33 NIV)
38. “Our kings, our leaders, our priests and our fathers did not follow Your law; they did not pay attention to Your commands or the warnings You gave them.” (Nehemiah 9:34 NIV)
39. “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.” (Nehemiah 9:35 NIV)
40. “But see, we are slaves today, slaves in the land You gave our forefathers so they could eat its fruit and the other good things it produces.” (Nehemiah 9:36 NIV)
41. “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.” (Nehemiah 9:37 NIV)

42. “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.” (Nehemiah 9:38 NIV)

XI. CHAPTER TEN

- A. Verses one through twenty-seven record the names of those who placed their seal on the agreement. (Nehemiah 10:1)
- B. The rest of the people, the priests, the Levites, the porters, the singers, the Nethinim, and all those who had separated themselves from the peoples of the lands to follow the law of God, along with their wives and sons and daughters who had knowledge and understanding, joined with the leaders and Levites and took on themselves a curse and an oath to walk in God’s law, which was given through Moses. (Nehemiah 10:28-29)
- C. They also agreed to keep and to observe all the commandments of the Lord God and to keep His ordinances and statutes. (Nehemiah 10:29)
- D. They promised not give their daughters to the peoples of the land or take their daughters for their sons. (Nehemiah 10:30)
- E. They promised not to buy from the heathen wares or any grain on the Sabbath day, or to sell anything to them on the Sabbath. (Nehemiah 10:31)
- F. They promised to observe the seventh year by relinquishing the crops and canceling every debt. (Nehemiah 10:31)
- G. The people agreed to pay an annual levy of a third of a shekel, which would be used for the work of the temple of God. (Nehemiah 10:32)
- H. The proceeds from the levy would be used for the showbread, the daily grain offering, the daily burnt offering of the Sabbaths, the offerings for the New Moons, and the offerings for the set feasts, for the holy things, for the sin offerings to make atonement for Israel, and any other work of the house of God. (Nehemiah 10:33)
- I. Lots were cast to determine when the families of the priests, the Levites, and the people would furnish the wood for the temple offerings required by the law of Moses. (Nehemiah 10:34)

- J. The people obligated themselves to bring annually the first fruits of the ground and the first fruits of every type of fruit tree to the house of the Lord. (Nehemiah 10:35)
- K. They also obligated themselves to bring the following things to the house of God and present them to the priests who minister in the temple: (Nehemiah 10:36)
 - 1. They pledged to bring their firstborn sons, their cattle, and the firstlings of their herds and flocks to the priests at the temple. (Nehemiah 10:36)
 - 2. They also pledged to bring the first of their meal, their contributions, the fruit of every tree, the wine and the oil to the priests, to place in the chambers of the temple. (Nehemiah 10:37)
 - 3. They pledged to bring to the Levites, who were to collect the tithes in the rural areas, the tithes from the ground. (Nehemiah 10:37)
 - 4. The priest, the son of Aaron, was to be with the Levites when they received the tithes. The Levites were responsible for taking the tithe of the tithes to the house of our God. (Nehemiah 10:38)
 - 5. The people of Israel and the sons of Levi were responsible for bringing contributions of grain, wine, and oil to the chambers, where the vessels of the sanctuary, the ministering priests, the porters, and the singers resided. They promised not to neglect the house of God. (Nehemiah 10:39)

XII. CHAPTER ELEVEN

- A. The leaders of Judah settled in Jerusalem, but lots were cast to determine the other people who would live there. One of every ten was selected to move to Jerusalem. Those who were not selected were allowed to stay in their own towns. (Nehemiah 11:1)
- B. The people blessed those who volunteered to live in Jerusalem. (Nehemiah 11:2)
- C. The district officials who resided in Jerusalem are listed by name. (Nehemiah 11:3)

- D. Most of the people, including the priests, the Levites, and the Nethinim continued to live on their own property in the various towns of Judah, but some of the people from Judah and Benjamin resettled in Jerusalem. (Nehemiah 11:3-4)
- E. Athaiah the son of Uzziyah, who was a descendant of the family of Perez, and Maaseiah the son of Baruch, who was a descendant of the family of Shelah, were leaders from the tribe of Judah who lived in Jerusalem. (Nehemiah 11:4-5)
- F. There were also four hundred sixty-eight descendants of Perez who lived in Jerusalem. All were valiant men. (Nehemiah 11:6)
- G. Nine hundred twenty-eight Israelites from the tribe of Benjamin lived in Jerusalem, including Sallu the son of Meshullam, Gabbai, and Sallai. (Nehemiah 11:7-8)
- H. Joel, the son of Zicri, was their overseer. Judah the son of Hassenuah was next in command over the city. (Nehemiah 11:9)
- I. The priests who lived in Jerusalem were Jedaiah the son of Joiarib, Jakin, and Seraiah the son of Hilkiah, who was a descendant of Ahitub. He was also the chief priest of the temple. (Nehemiah 11:10-11)
- J. There were eight hundred twenty-two of their brethren who ministered at the temple. (Nehemiah 11:12)
- K. Other priests who lived in Jerusalem included Adaiah the son of Jeroham and two hundred forty-two family heads and Amashsai the son of Azarel and one hundred twenty-eight mighty men of valor. Their chief officer was Zabdiel the son of Haggedolim. (Nehemiah 11:13-14)
- L. The Levites who lived in Jerusalem were Shemaiah the son of Hasshub, Shabbethai and Jozabad, who were in charge of the work outside the temple, Mattaniah the son of Mica, who was a descendant of Asaph and opened the thanksgiving services with prayer, Bakbukiah, who was Mattaniah's assistant, and Abda the son of Shammua. (Nehemiah 11:15-17)
- M. There were two hundred eighty-four Levites who lived in the holy city of Jerusalem. (Nehemiah 11:18)

- N. The porters who lived in Jerusalem were Akkub, Talmon, and one hundred seventy-two of their brethren, who guarded the gates. (Nehemiah 11:19)
- O. The other priests, Levites, and Israelis lived throughout the cities of Judah, wherever their family inheritance was located. (Nehemiah 11:20)
- P. The Nethinim lived in Ophel. Ziha and Gishpa were their leaders. (Nehemiah 11:21)
- Q. The chief officer of the Levites in Jerusalem was Uzzi son of Bani, who was a descendant of Asaph. These descendants were appointed singers for the temple of God. (Nehemiah 11:22)
- R. The king had commanded that the singers receive a certain provision everyday. (Nehemiah 11:23)
- S. Pethahiah, the son of Meshezabel and descendant of Zerah son of Judah, was the King's representative in all matters concerning the people. (Nehemiah 11:24)
- T. Concerning the villages with their fields, some of the children of Judah dwelt in Kirjath Arba and its villages, Dibon and its villages, and Jekabzeel and its villages. (Nehemiah 11:25)
- U. Some dwelt in Jeshua, Moladah, Beth Pelet, Hazar Shual, and Beersheba and their villages. Others dwelt in Ziklag, Meconah and their villages, En Rimmon, Zorah, Jarmuth, Zanoah, Adullam, and their villages, Lachish and its fields, and Azekah and its villages. They lived from Beersheba to the Valley of Hinnom. (Nehemiah 11:26-30)
- V. The children of Benjamin lived in Geba, Michmash, Aija, Bethel, and their villages, Anathoth, Nob, Ananiah, Hazor, Ramah, Gittaim, Hadid, Zeboim, Neballat, Lod, Ono, and the Valley of Craftsmen. (Nehemiah 11:31-36)
- W. Some of the Judean divisions of Levites were in Benjamin. (Nehemiah 11:36)

XIII. CHAPTER TWELVE

- A. The priests and Levites who went up with Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel and Jeshua to Jerusalem are recorded by name. (Nehemiah 12:1)

1. Seraiah, Jeremiah, Ezra, Amariah, Malluch, Hattush, Shechaniah, Rehum, Meremoth, Iddo, Ginnetho, Abijah, Miamin, Maadiah, Bilgah, Shemaiah, and Joiarib, Jediah, Sallu, Amok, Hilkiyah, and Jedaiah were the chiefs of the priests and their brethren in the days of Jeshua. (Nehemiah 12:1-7)
 2. The Levites who went to Jerusalem with Zerubbabel were Jeshua, Binnui, Kadmiel, Sherebiah, Judah, and Mattaniah who was over the singers, and his brethren. (Nehemiah 12:8)
 3. Bakbukiah and Unni, brethren of these Levites, were counterparts in their service divisions. (Nehemiah 12:9)
 4. Verses ten and eleven record the lineage of Jeshua. (Nehemiah 12:10-11)
- B. In the days of Joiakim, the heads of the priestly families were Meraiah of Seraiah's family, Hananiah of Jeremiah's family, Meshullam of Ezra's family, Jehohanan of Amariah's family, Jonathan of Malluch's family, Joseph of Shechaniah's family, Adna of Harim's family, Helkai of Meremoth's family, Zechariah of Iddo's family, Meshullam of Ginnethon's family, Zicri of Abijah's family, Piltai of the families of Shemaiah and Moadiah, Shammua of Bilgah's family, Jehonathan of Shemaiah's family, Mattenai of Joiarib's family, Uzzi of Jedaiah's family, Kallai of Sallu's family, Eber of Amok's family, Hashabiah of Hilkiyah's family, and Nethanel of Jedaiah's family. (Nehemiah 12:12-21)
- C. The family heads of the Levites in the days of Eliashib, Joiada, Johanan, and Jaddua, as well as those of the priests, were recorded up to the reign of Darius the Persian. (Nehemiah 12:22)
- D. The family heads among the descendants of Levi up to the time of Johanan the son of Eliashib were recorded in the chronicles. (Nehemiah 12:23)
- E. The leaders of the Levites were Hashabiah, Sherebiah, and Jeshua the son of Kadmiel. Their brethren stood before them to give praise and thanksgiving. One division would respond to the other division, just as David the man of God had commanded. (Nehemiah 12:24; I Chronicles 16:4; II Chronicles 8:14)

- F. Mattaniah, Bakbukiah, Obadiah, Meshullam, Talmon and Akkub were the porters who guarded the storerooms at the gates. (Nehemiah 12:25)
- G. These porters served in the days of Joiakim, the son of Jeshua and grandson of Jozadak, in the days of Nehemiah the governor and in the days of Ezra the priest and scribe. (Nehemiah 12:26)
- H. When the wall of Jerusalem was dedicated, they searched for the Levites in every place of Judah and brought them to Jerusalem to celebrate with songs of thanksgiving, and with the music of cymbals, harps and lyres. (Nehemiah 12:27)
- I. The singers were also assembled from the region around Jerusalem, where they had built villages for themselves. They came from the villages of the Netophathites, Beth Gilgal, and from the area of Geba and Azmaveth. (Nehemiah 12:28-29)
- J. After ceremonially purifying themselves, the priests and Levites purified the people, the gates, and the wall. (Nehemiah 12:30)
- K. Nehemiah brought the princes of Judah upon the wall. He appointed two great companies to give thanks. One company went to the right on the wall toward the Dung Gate. (Nehemiah 12:31)
- L. Hoshaiiah and half the leaders of Judah, Azariah, Ezra, Meshullam, Judah, Benjamin, Shemaiah, Jeremiah, some priests with trumpets, Zechariah son of Jonathan, who was a descendant of Asaph, and his brethren followed the company that went to the right. (Nehemiah 12:32-35)
- M. Shemaiah, Azarel, Milalai, Gilalai, Maai, Nethanel, Judah, and Hanani played musical instruments, as ordained by King David. (Nehemiah 12:36)
- N. Ezra the scribe led the procession. (Nehemiah 12:36)
- O. At the Fountain Gate, they went up the stairs of the wall that surrounded the City of David, passed by the house of David, and went to the Water Gate which was on the east side. (Nehemiah 12:37)

- P. The second company went in the opposite direction. Nehemiah and the other half of the people followed them on top of the wall. (Nehemiah 12:38)
- Q. They went past the Tower of the Firepots to the Broad Wall. They went over the Gate of Ephraim, the Jeshanah Gate, the Fish Gate, the Tower of Hananel, the Tower of the Hundred, all the way to the Sheep Gate. They stopped at the Prison Gate. The Gate of Ephraim and the Prison Gate were not mentioned in chapter three, which probably means they were not destroyed. (Nehemiah 12:38-39)
- R. Both companies of those who gave thanks took their place in the temple. Nehemiah and the officials with him were also in the temple. (Nehemiah 12:40)
- S. The priests, Eliakim, Maaseiah, Miniamin, Micaiah, Elioenai, Zechariah, and Hananiah, took their place with their trumpets. (Nehemiah 12:41)
- T. Maaseiah, Shemaiah, Eleazar, Uzzi, Jehohanan, Malchijah, Elam, and Ezer sang. Jezrahiah was their leader. (Nehemiah 12:42)
- U. On that day, great sacrifices were offered, and the people rejoiced because God had filled them with great joy. (Nehemiah 12:43)
- V. The women and children also rejoiced. The rejoicing that took place in Jerusalem could be heard at a great distance. (Nehemiah 12:43)
- W. The same day men were appointed to be in charge of the store-rooms for the offerings, the firstfruits of the harvest, and the tithes. These men were responsible for collecting from the fields and cities the offerings specified by the law. (Nehemiah 12:44)
- X. According to the law of Moses, these offerings were provisions for the priests and Levites. All the people of Judah were pleased with the priests and Levites who ministered for the Lord. (Nehemiah 12:44)
- Y. Both the singers and the porters attended to the duties of their God and the duty of purification, as commanded by David and his son, Solomon. (Nehemiah 12:45)

- Z. In the days of David and Asaph, leaders were appointed to direct the singers as they sang songs of praise and thanksgiving to God. (Nehemiah 12:46; I Chronicles 15:19-22)
- AA. In the days of Zerubbabel and Nehemiah, all Israel gave the daily allotted portion for the singers and the porters. (Nehemiah 12:47)
- BB. During this time period, the Levites and priests were set apart for the service of God. (Nehemiah 12:47)

XIV. CHAPTER THIRTEEN

- A. On the day the wall was dedicated, the people listened as scripture was read from the Book of Moses. (Nehemiah 13:1)
- B. According to the law of Moses, no Ammonite or Moabite was to be allowed into the assembly of God because they had not met the children of Israel with bread and water. (Nehemiah 13:1-2; Deuteronomy 23:3-4)
- C. They hired Balaam to curse Israel, but God turned the curse into a blessing. (Nehemiah 13:2; Deuteronomy 23:4)
- D. After hearing the Law of Moses, they separated all the mixed multitude from Israel. (Nehemiah 13:3)
- E. Before this event occurred, Eliashib the priest had authority over the temple storerooms. He befriended Tobiah and prepared him a dwelling where the grain offerings, the frankincense, the articles, the tithe of the grain, and the new wine and oil had previously been stored. (Nehemiah 13:4-5)
- F. These supplies were to be given to the Levites, singers, gatekeepers, and priests. (Nehemiah 13:5)
- G. During the time Eliashib had removed the supplies to make room for Tobiah, Nehemiah was not in Jerusalem. In the thirty-second year of King Artaxerxes' reign, Nehemiah had returned to the king. (Nehemiah 13:6)
- H. After spending a certain amount of time with the king, Nehemiah returned to Jerusalem. (Nehemiah 13:6-7)

- I. When Nehemiah returned to Jerusalem and saw what Eliashib had done for Tobiah, he was grieved and threw Tobiah's things out of the room. (Nehemiah 13:7-8)
- J. Nehemiah commanded that the rooms be cleansed and that the articles and offerings be returned to their rightful place. (Nehemiah 13:9)
- K. Nehemiah recognized that the portions allotted to the Levites had not been given to them, so the Levites and singers had gone to work in their fields. (Nehemiah 13:10)
- L. Nehemiah disputed with the rulers and asked them why the house of the Lord had been forsaken. (Nehemiah 13:11)
- M. After his confrontation with the rulers, Nehemiah brought in the Levites and singers and set them in their assigned places. (Nehemiah 13:11)
- N. When the storerooms were cleansed and the Levites reinstated in their positions, the people of Judah brought the tithe of the grain, the new wine, and the oil to the storehouse. (Nehemiah 13:12; Malachi 3:10)
- O. Nehemiah appointed faithful storekeepers over the storehouse to distribute properly the items and gifts brought to the house of the Lord. (Nehemiah 13:13)
- P. Nehemiah prayed that God would remember him for the good deeds he had done for the house of the Lord. (Nehemiah 13:14)
- Q. During this period of time, Nehemiah saw that some of the people of Judah were violating the Sabbath, so he warned them. (Nehemiah 13:15)
- R. Men from Tyre had also come to Jerusalem and were selling their merchandise to the people of Judah on the Sabbath. (Nehemiah 13:16)
- S. Nehemiah disputed with the nobles of Judah and questioned them about the evil practice of desecrating the Sabbath. (Nehemiah 13:17)

- T. He reminded them that Jerusalem was destroyed because their ancestors had followed the same evil practices and declared that they were inviting God's wrath upon Jerusalem by profaning the Sabbath. (Nehemiah 13:18)
- U. Nehemiah commanded that the gates to Jerusalem be shut at dusk the evening before the Sabbath, and they were not to be reopened until after the Sabbath. (Nehemiah 13:19)
- V. Nehemiah placed some of his servants at the gates to prevent any burdens from being brought in on the Sabbath. (Nehemiah 13:19)
- W. Merchants and sellers of merchandise camped outside Jerusalem one or two times, but Nehemiah warned them that if they continued to do so, he would lay hands on them. They heeded his warning. (Nehemiah 13:20-21)
- X. Nehemiah commanded the Levites to cleanse themselves; afterward, they were to go guard the gates to keep the Sabbath sanctified. (Nehemiah 13:22)
- Y. Once again, Nehemiah prayed and asked God to remember him and spare him according to His great mercy. (Nehemiah 13:22)
- Z. During that same time period, Nehemiah recognized that some of the Jews had married women from Ashdod, Ammon, and Moab. (Nehemiah 13:23)
- AA. The children of those who had intermarried with these other nations did not speak the Jewish language. (Nehemiah 13:24)
- BB. Nehemiah disputed with these men, invoked a curse upon them, beat some, and pulled out their hair. (Nehemiah 13:25)
- CC. He made them swear by God that they would neither give their daughters as wives to these strangers nor take their daughters to be wives to their sons or themselves. (Nehemiah 13:25)
- DD. He reminded them of King Solomon's sin in marrying strange wives. Although he was God's beloved, heathen wives caused Solomon to sin. (Nehemiah 13:26)
- EE. Nehemiah let them know that they would not be allowed to continue in this evil practice. (Nehemiah 13:27)

- FF. Nehemiah drove out one of the sons of Joiada and grandson of Eliashib the high priest because he had married the daughter of Sanballat the Horonite. (Nehemiah 13:28)
- GG. Again, Nehemiah asked God to remember him, declaring that the priesthood and the covenant of the priesthood and Levites had been defiled. (Nehemiah 13:29)
- HH. After cleansing the priests and Levites of all foreign personnel, Nehemiah designated the appropriate ministry to each of them, ensuring that the wood for the offerings and the firstfruits would not be neglected. (Nehemiah 13:30-31)
- II. Nehemiah asked God to remember him for the good that he had done. (Nehemiah 13:31)