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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 – July 14, 2021

Nehemiah: The Courage to Face Opposition

Lesson 10:

Big Decisions

Nehemiah 11



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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

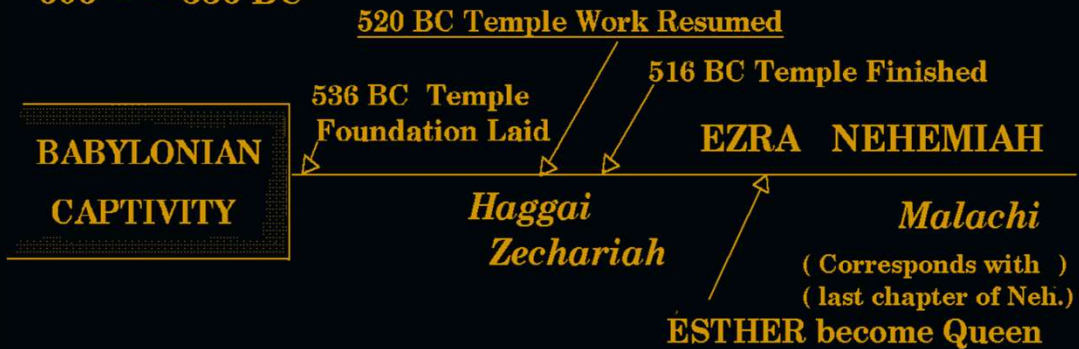


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Overview Of Nehemiah

RETURN FROM CAPTIVITY

606 - - 536 BC



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Overview Of Nehemiah 11



The Jews Cast Lots To Determine Who Will Remain In The City



The City Of Jerusalem Re-Populated & Rebuilding Continues



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Read Nehemiah 11

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1. How did the Jews in chapter 11 decide who would live in Jerusalem?

- **Positional Responsibility**: The leaders stepped up and became the 1st to make the sacrifice to live in Jerusalem.
- **Communal Equity**: By lot (without favoritism) each family had members chosen to live in Jerusalem.
- **Spiritual Necessity**: The Temple servants and worship leaders were close to Jerusalem because of the need maintain the worship of God.



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2. What reasons do you think the people might have to not want to live in Jerusalem?

- **Spiritual Demands**: A greater strictness of conversation was expected from the inhabitants of Jerusalem than from others.
- **Physical Danger**: Jerusalem, was most hated by the enemies of God and where they focused their attacks.
- **Financial Disadvantage**: Jerusalem was no trading city, there was more money to be made in the country.

Note: All seek their own (wealth, pleasure, ease, and safety) not the things that are Christ's, Phil. 2:21 ~ Matthew Henry



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3. What reasons can you think of for these five groups of people to live in Jerusalem (v. 3)?

- **Practical Reasons**: Some Israelites – people with a variety of skills and talents to keep the city and the nation going.
- **Heavenly Reasons**: Priests, Levites, Temple Servants, Kings Servants – kept the temple and worship of God going.

Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. 1 Cor. 12:12 (NIV)



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4. List jobs or positions that would need to be filled in Jerusalem.

- **Carpenters:** There was still a lot construction and building that needed to be done.
- **Storekeepers:** Good for everyday needs needed to be provided to the residents.
- **Administrators:** Governance and administrative tasks (accountants, managers, etc.).
- **Farmers:** Agriculture – planting, cultivating, providing food, textiles, etc.
- **Priests/Temple Servants/Musicians & Singers:** Spiritual leadership keep the people focused on God.



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4. List jobs or positions that would need to be filled in Jerusalem.

- **Guards:** Providing security and protection for the citizens of the city.

Note: These jobs were needed to make Jerusalem, the temple and the religious practices function well. It takes many people to make it all work.

The church operates the same way.




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5. How (from chapter 10) would all of these people be taken care of materially?

*“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. Neh. 10:37 (NIV)*

- **Ability Of The People:** As God gives the people grace and the power to get wealth – they will be able to bless these people.




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5. How (from chapter 10) would all of these people be taken care of materially?

- **Generosity Of The People:** Sacrificial giving – not by force but a loving expression of thankfulness to God and to His servants.
- **Consistency Of The People:** There is a commitment to give in season and out so there is a constant flow of provision.

“Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.” II Cor. 9:7 (NIV)



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6. How is the security and functioning of Jerusalem related to the Jews living in the towns around Jerusalem?

- **Security:** In war the outlying towns would come into the walls of Jerusalem for safety and security.
- **Functionality:** If Jerusalem does not function properly as the government, all the Jews in the towns will be less safe and secure.

“Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, The people He has chosen as His own inheritance.” Psalm 33:12 (NKJV)



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7. What would have been the natural struggle of where to live?

- **Struggle Against Uncertainty:** Relocating to Jerusalem meant stepping into new areas with an uncertain future.
- **Struggle For Posterity:** Moving to Jerusalem could potentially affect the inheritance of the next generation.
- **Struggle With Nationality:** There would tension between loyalty to family and loyalty to Israel.

“If anyone comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters—yes, even their own life—such a person cannot be my disciple.” Luke 14:26 (NIV)



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8. What personal decisions (past and future) about where you live and how that impacts your service for God come to mind?

In December 2016, SRMBC purchased 4.6 acres of land at 2400 Locust Lane in the Edgemont section of Harrisburg.

- **We Believe It Is The Will Of God For Us To Build And Move.**
- **We need new building To Support Our Ministry Events.**
- **To Prepare For Our Future Growth In Numbers and Attendance.**
- **To Be Forward Thinking – Proactive Rather Than Reactive.**



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8. What personal decisions (past and future) about where you live and how that impacts your service for God come to mind?

- **To spread the Gospel to Edgemont, Harrisburg, CoPA, USA and around the World.**
- **To Build Our Faith In God And Bring Glory To His Name.**

Note: We could be moved by God almost anywhere to be involved in his kingdom building. God's kingdom is not a small piece of land anymore; it is the world.



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Keys For Living

- Understanding that everything we have belongs to God, provides the motivation to build ourselves and our community on Biblical principles.
- We ought to honor those among us who make special sacrifices in order that the work of the Lord serving of His people gets done.
- There is always a greater purpose behind where God has placed us to live, work, worship and serve (Esther 4:14, Acts 17:16).



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“**A**LL AUTHORITY in heaven and on earth *has been given to me.* Go therefore and **make disciples** of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and of the Holy Spirit, *teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.*”

The **G**R**E**A**T**
COMMISSION

MATTHEW 28:18-20

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