

## **Spirit of Prophecy Version™**

“The testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.” Revelation 19:10

Translator:  
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This work of translation is  
DEDICATED TO

- 1) God, the Eternal Father, the Creator and Sustainer of all existence
- 2) The Holy Spirit, the seven Spirits of God who are before his throne,  
who continually convict us of sin, righteousness, and the coming Judgment
- 3) Jesus Christ, the Eternal Son of God, the Lord and Savior of all mankind

Without these Three, this work would never have been possible.

NEHEMIAH 1, 2

SPV

KJV

CHAPTER 1

CHAPTER 1

CHAPTER 1

1 The words of Nehemiah the son of Hacaliah. Now it happened in the month of Kislev, [in the] twentieth year, while I was in Susa the citadel,  
 2 that Hanani, one of my brothers, came, he and men from Judah. And I asked them concerning the Jews, the survivors, who were left from the captivity, and concerning Jerusalem.  
 3 And they said to me, "Those who remain there in the province, who have been left from the captivity, [are] in great distress and in reproach. And the wall of Jerusalem is broken down, and its gates have been burned with fire."  
 4 And it happened as soon as I heard these words, I sat down and wept and mourned [for] days. And I was fasting and praying before the God of heaven.  
 5 And I said, "I beseech you, O LORD, the God of heaven, the great and fearful God, who keeps covenant and loving kindness with those who love him and with those who keep his commandments,  
 6 "Please let your ear be attentive and your eyes open, to listen to the prayer of your servant, with which I am praying before you [this] day, by day and [by] night, on behalf of the sons of Israel your servants, and confessing the sins of the sons of Israel with which we have sinned against you. Indeed, I and the house of my father have sinned.  
 7 "We have acted very corruptly against you, and we have not kept the commandments, or the statutes, or the ordinances, which you commanded Moses your servant.  
 8 "Please remember the word which you commanded Moses your servant, saying, 'Should you act treacherously, I will scatter you among the peoples;  
 9 "but should you return to me and keep my commandments and do them, even though your scattered is in the ends of the heavens, I will gather them from there and bring them to the place which I have chosen, to cause my name to dwell there.'  
 10 "Now they [are] your servants and your people, whom you have redeemed by your great power and by your strong hand.  
 11 "I beseech you, O Lord, please let your ear be attentive to the prayer of your servant and to the prayer of your servants, who delight to fear your name; and please prosper your servant [this] day, and make him an object of compassion in the presence of this man." Now I was a cupbearer to the king.

1 The words of Nehemiah the son of Hachaliah. And it came to pass in the month Chisleu, in the twentieth year, as I was in Shushan the palace,  
 2 That Hanani, one of my brethren, came, he and [certain] men of Judah; and I asked them concerning the Jews that had escaped, which were left of the captivity, and concerning Jerusalem.  
 3 And they said unto me, The remnant that are left of the captivity there in the province [are] in great affliction and reproach: the wall of Jerusalem also [is] broken down, and the gates thereof are burned with fire.  
 4 And it came to pass, when I heard these words, that I sat down and wept, and mourned [certain] days, and fasted, and prayed before the God of heaven,  
 5 And said, I beseech thee, O LORD God of heaven, the great and terrible God, that keepeth covenant and mercy for them that love him and observe his commandments:  
 6 Let thine ear now be attentive, and thine eyes open, that thou mayest hear the prayer of thy servant, which I pray before thee now, day and night, for the children of Israel thy servants, and confess the sins of the children of Israel, which we have sinned against thee: both I and my father's house have sinned.  
 7 We have dealt very corruptly against thee, and have not kept the commandments, nor the statutes, nor the judgments, which thou commandedst thy servant Moses.  
 8 Remember, I beseech thee, the word that thou commandedst thy servant Moses, saying, [If] ye transgress, I will scatter you abroad among the nations:  
 9 But [if] ye turn unto me, and keep my commandments, and do them; though there were of you cast out unto the uttermost part of the heaven, [yet] will I gather them from thence, and will bring them unto the place that I have chosen to set my name there.  
 10 Now these [are] thy servants and thy people, whom thou hast redeemed by thy great power, and by thy strong hand.  
 11 O Lord, I beseech thee, let now thine ear be attentive to the prayer of thy servant, and to the prayer of thy servants, who desire to fear thy name: and prosper, I pray thee, thy servant this day, and grant him mercy in the sight of this man. For I was the king's cupbearer.

CHAPTER 2

CHAPTER 2

CHAPTER 2

1 And it happened in the month of Nisan, [in the] twentieth year of Artaxerxes the king, [when] wine [was] before him, that I took up the wine and gave [it] to the king. Now I had never been sad in his presence.  
 2 And the king said to me, "Why [is] your face sad, even though you are not sick? This is nothing except sadness of heart." Then I became very much afraid.  
 3 And I said to the king, "Let the king live for eternity. Why should my face not be sad when the city, the house of the graves of my fathers, [is] desolate, and its gates have been consumed by fire?"  
 4 And the king said to me, "What are you requesting?" Then I prayed to the God of heaven.  
 5 And I said to the king, "If [it is] pleasing to the king, and if your servant is pleasing in your presence, that you send me to Judah, to the city of the graves of my fathers, in order that I may rebuild it."  
 6 And the king said to me (now the queen was sitting beside him), "How long<sup>1</sup> will your journey be, and when will you return?" So it was pleasing before the king that he should send me, and I gave him a time.  
 7 Moreover I said to the king, "If [it is] pleasing to the king, let them give letters to me for the governors of the region beyond the river, in order that they may let me pass through until I come to Judah,  
 8 "and a letter for Asaph the keeper of the forest which belongs to the king, in order that he may give me timber to make beams for the gates of the citadel which belongs to the house, and for the wall of the city, and for the house into which I will come." And the king granted [them] to me according to the good hand of my God upon me.

1 And it came to pass in the month Nisan, in the twentieth year of Artaxerxes the king, [that] wine [was] before him: and I took up the wine, and gave [it] unto the king. Now I had not been [beforetime] sad in his presence.  
 2 Wherefore the king said unto me, Why [is] thy countenance sad, seeing thou [art] not sick? this [is] nothing [else] but sorrow of heart. Then I was very sore afraid,  
 3 And said unto the king, Let the king live for ever: why should not my countenance be sad, when the city, the place of my fathers' sepulchres, [lieth] waste, and the gates thereof are consumed with fire?  
 4 Then the king said unto me, For what dost thou make request? So I prayed to the God of heaven.  
 5 And I said unto the king, If it please the king, and if thy servant have found favour in thy sight, that thou wouldest send me unto Judah, unto the city of my fathers' sepulchres, that I may build it.  
 6 And the king said unto me, (the queen also sitting by him,) For how long shall thy journey be? and when wilt thou return? So it pleased the king to send me; and I set him a time.  
 7 Moreover I said unto the king, If it please the king, let letters be given me to the governors beyond the river, that they may convey me over till I come into Judah;  
 8 And a letter unto Asaph the keeper of the king's forest, that he may give me timber to make beams for the gates of the palace which [appertained] to the house, and for the wall of the city, and for the house that I shall enter into. And the king granted me, according to the good hand of my God upon me.

1) lit, "Until when"

9 Then I came to the governors of the region beyond the river, and gave them the letters of the king. Now the king had sent with me officers of [the] army and horsemen.

10 When Sanballat the Horonite and Tobiah the servant, the Ammonite, heard about [this], it was displeasing to them [with] great displeasure that a man had come to seek [the] welfare of the sons of Israel.

11 So I came to Jerusalem and was there [for] three days.

12 And I arose [at] night, I and a few men with me, and I told no man what my God was putting into my heart to do for Jerusalem, and there was no beast with me except the beast upon which I was riding.

13 And I went out [at] night by the gate of the valley, and to the front of the spring of the dragon, and to the gate of the garbage heaps. And I was inspecting the walls of Jerusalem which had been broken down, and its gates had been consumed by fire.

14 Then I passed on to the gate of the fountain and to the pool of the king, but there was no room for the beast under me to pass on.

15 So I was going up [at] night by the torrent valley and was inspecting the wall. Then I turned back and came in by the gate of the valley and returned.

16 Now the officials did not know where I had gone or what I had been doing, for I had not as yet told the Jews, or the priests, or the nobles, or the officials, or the rest of those who did the work.

17 Then I said to them, "You are seeing the distress which we are in, that Jerusalem [is] desolate and its gates have been burned by fire. Come, and let us rebuild the wall of Jerusalem, in order that we may no longer be a reproach."

18 And I told them of the hand of my God which was good upon me, and also of the words of the king which he had spoken to me. Then they said, "Let us rise up and build." So they strengthened their hands for the good [work].

19 And Sanballat the Horonite and Tobias the servant, the Ammonite, and Geshem the Arab, heard about [this], and they derided us and despised us and said, "What [is] this thing which you are doing? Are you rebelling against the king?"

20 Then I brought back word to them and said to them, "The God of heaven, he will give us success, and we his servants will rise up and build, but you have no portion or right or memorial in Jerusalem."

CHAPTER 3

1 Then Eliashib the high priest and his brothers the priests rose up and built the gate of the sheep. They sanctified it and set up its doors; and they sanctified it as far as the tower of the hundred, as far as the tower of Hananel.

2 And next to him the men of Jericho built. And next to him Zaccur the son of Imri built.

3 And the sons of Hassenaah built the gate of the fish; they made beams for it and set up its doors, its bolts, and its bars.

4 And next to them Meremoth the son of Uriah, the son of Hakkoz, repaired. And next to them Meshullam the son of Berechiah, the son of Meshezabel, repaired. And next to them Zadok the son of Baana repaired.

5 And next to them the Tekoites repaired, but their nobles did not put their necks to the work of their Lord<sup>1</sup>.

6 And Joiada the son of Paseah and Meshullam the son of Besodeiah repaired the gate of the old; they made beams for it and set up its doors, and its bolts, and its bars.

7 And next to them Melatiah the Gibeonite and Jadon the Meronothite, the men of Gibeon and Mizpah, repaired toward the seat of the governor of the region beyond the river.

8 Next to him Uzziel the son of Harhaiah, of goldsmiths, repaired. And next to him Hananiah, a member of the ointment mixers, repaired. And they restored Jerusalem as far as the broad wall.

9 And next to them Rephaiah the son of Hur, the ruler of half the district of Jerusalem, repaired.

10 And next to them Jedaiah the son of Harumaph repaired even in front of his house. And next to him Hattush the son of Hashabneiah repaired.

CHAPTER 3

9 Then I came to the governors beyond the river, and gave them the king's letters. Now the king had sent captains of the army and horsemen with me.

10 When Sanballat the Horonite, and Tobiah the servant, the Ammonite, heard [of it], it grieved them exceedingly that there was come a man to seek the welfare of the children of Israel.

11 So I came to Jerusalem, and was there three days.

12 And I arose in the night, I and some few men with me; neither told I [any] man what my God had put in my heart to do at Jerusalem: neither [was there any] beast with me, save the beast that I rode upon.

13 And I went out by night by the gate of the valley, even before the dragon well, and to the dung port, and viewed the walls of Jerusalem, which were broken down, and the gates thereof were consumed with fire.

14 Then I went on to the gate of the fountain, and to the king's pool: but [there was] no place for the beast [that was] under me to pass.

15 Then went I up in the night by the brook, and viewed the wall, and turned back, and entered by the gate of the valley, and [so] returned.

16 And the rulers knew not whither I went, or what I did; neither had I as yet told [it] to the Jews, nor to the priests, nor to the nobles, nor to the rulers, nor to the rest that did the work.

17 Then said I unto them, Ye see the distress that we [are] in, how Jerusalem [lieth] waste, and the gates thereof are burned with fire: come, and let us build up the wall of Jerusalem, that we be no more a reproach.

18 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].

19 But when Sanballat the Horonite, and Tobiah the servant, the Ammonite, and Geshem the Arabian, heard [it], they laughed us to scorn, and despised us, and said, What [is] this thing that ye do? will ye rebel against the king?

20 Then answered I them, and said unto them, The God of heaven, he will prosper us; therefore we his servants will arise and build: but ye have no portion, nor right, nor memorial, in Jerusalem.

1) or, "lords"

1 Then Eliashib the high priest rose up with his brethren the priests, and they builded the sheep gate; they sanctified it, and set up the doors of it; even unto the tower of Meah they sanctified it, unto the tower of Hananeel.

2 And next unto him builded the men of Jericho. And next to them builded Zaccur the son of Imri.

3 But the fish gate did the sons of Hassenaah build, who [also] laid the beams thereof, and set up the doors thereof, the locks thereof, and the bars thereof.

4 And next unto them repaired Meremoth the son of Urijah, the son of Koz. And next unto them repaired Meshullam the son of Berechiah, the son of Meshezabeel. And next unto them repaired Zadok the son of Baana.

5 And next unto them the Tekoites repaired; but their nobles put not their necks to the work of their Lord.

6 Moreover the old gate repaired Jehoiada the son of Paseah, and Meshullam the son of Besodeiah; they laid the beams thereof, and set up the doors thereof, and the locks thereof, and the bars thereof.

7 And next unto them repaired Melatiah the Gibeonite, and Jadon the Meronothite, the men of Gibeon, and of Mizpah, unto the throne of the governor on this side the river.

8 Next unto him repaired Uzziel the son of Harhaiah, of the goldsmiths. Next unto him also repaired Hananiah the son of [one of] the apothecaries, and they fortified Jerusalem unto the broad wall.

9 And next unto them repaired Rephaiah the son of Hur, the ruler of the half part of Jerusalem.

10 And next unto them repaired Jedaiah the son of Harumaph, even over against his house. And next unto him repaired Hattush the son of Hashabneiah.

**11** Malchijah the son of Harim and Hasshub the son of Pahath-moab repaired a second section and the tower of the ovens.  
**12** And next to him Shallum the son of Hallohesh, the ruler of half the district of Jerusalem, repaired, he and his daughters.  
**13** Hanun and the inhabitants of Zanoah repaired the gate of the valley; they built it and set up its doors, its bolts, and its bars, and a thousand cubits of the wall as far as the gate of the garbage heaps.  
**14** And Malchijah the son of Rechab, the ruler of the district of Beth-haccherem, repaired the gate of the garbage heaps; he built it and set up its doors, its bolts, and its bars.  
**15** And Shallun the son of Col-hozeh, the ruler of the district of Mizpah, repaired the gate of the fountain; he built it and made a roof for it and set up its doors, its bolts, and its bars, and the wall of the pool of the water channel of the garden of the king, even as far as the stairs which go down from the city of David.  
**16** After him Nehemiah the son of Azbuk, the ruler of half the district of Beth-zur, repaired as far as in front of the graves of David, and as far as the pool which was made, and as far as the house of the mighty [men].  
**17** After him the Levites repaired: Rehum the son of Bani. Next to him Hashabiah, the ruler of half the district of Keilah, repaired for his district.  
**18** After him their brothers repaired: Bawai the son of Henadad, the ruler of half the district of Keilah.  
**19** And next to him Ezer the son of Jeshua, the ruler of Mizpah, repaired a second section in front of the ascent to the armory [at] the angle.  
**20** After him Baruch the son of Zaccai <sup>zealously</sup><sup>2</sup> repaired a second section, from the angle to the entrance of the house of Eliashib the high priest.  
**21** After him Meremoth the son of Uriah, the son of Koz, repaired a second section, from the entrance of the house of Eliashib to the end of the house of Eliashib.  
**22** And after him the priests, the men of the vicinity, repaired.  
**23** After him Benjamin and Hasshub repaired in front of their house. After him Azariah the son of Maaseiah, the son of Ananiah, repaired beside his house.  
**24** After him Binnui the son of Henadad repaired a second section, from the house of Azariah to the angle and to the corner.  
**25** Phalel the son of Uzai [repaired] in front of the angle and the tower which projected from the upper house of the king, which [is] at the court of the guard. After him Pedaiah the son of Parosh [repaired].  
**26** Now the temple servants were dwelling in Ophel, as far as in front of the gate of the water toward the east and the projecting tower.  
**27** After him the Tekoites repaired a second section, from in front of the great projecting tower to the wall of Orphel.  
**28** Above the gate of the horses the priests repaired, each man in front of his house.  
**29** After them Zakok the son of Immer repaired in front of his house. And after him Shemaiah the son of Shecaniah, the keeper of the gate of the east, repaired.  
**30** After him Hananiah the son of Shelemiah and Hanun the sixth son of Zalaph repaired a second portion. After him Meshullam the son of Berechiah repaired in front of his chamber.  
**31** After him Malchijah, a member of the goldsmiths, repaired as far as the house of the temple servants and the merchants, in front of the gate of the muster, and as far as the upper room of the corner.  
**32** And between the upper room of the corner and the gate of the sheep the goldsmiths and the merchants repaired.

CHAPTER 3

**11** Malchijah the son of Harim, and Hashub the son of Pahath-moab, repaired the other piece, and the tower of the furnaces.  
**12** And next unto him repaired Shallum the son of Halohesh, the ruler of the half part of Jerusalem, he and his daughters.  
**13** The valley gate repaired Hanun, and the inhabitants of Zanoah; they built it, and set up the doors thereof, the locks thereof, and the bars thereof, and a thousand cubits on the wall unto the dung gate.  
**14** But the dung gate repaired Malchiah the son of Rechab, the ruler of part of Bethhaccerem; he built it, and set up the doors thereof, the locks thereof, and the bars thereof.  
**15** But the gate of the fountain repaired Shallun the son of Colhozeh, the ruler of part of Mizpah; he built it, and covered it, and set up the doors thereof, the locks thereof, and the bars thereof, and the wall of the pool of Siloah by the king's garden, and unto the stairs that go down from the city of David.  
**16** After him repaired Nehemiah the son of Azbuk, the ruler of the half part of Bethzur, unto [the place] over against the sepulchres of David, and to the pool that was made, and unto the house of the mighty.  
**17** After him repaired the Levites, Rehum the son of Bani. Next unto him repaired Hashabiah, the ruler of the half part of Keilah, in his part.  
**18** After him repaired their brethren, Bavai the son of Henadad, the ruler of the half part of Keilah.  
**19** And next to him repaired Ezer the son of Jeshua, the ruler of Mizpah, another piece over against the going up to the armory at the turning [of the wall].  
**20** After him Baruch the son of Zabbai earnestly repaired the other piece, from the turning [of the wall] unto the door of the house of Eliashib the high priest.  
**21** After him repaired Meremoth the son of Urijah the son of Koz another piece, from the door of the house of Eliashib even to the end of the house of Eliashib.  
**22** And after him repaired the priests, the men of the plain.  
**23** After him repaired Benjamin and Hashub over against their house. After him repaired Azariah the son of Maaseiah the son of Ananiah by his house.  
**24** After him repaired Binnui the son of Henadad another piece, from the house of Azariah unto the turning [of the wall], even unto the corner.  
**25** Palai the son of Uzai, over against the turning [of the wall], and the tower which lieth out from the king's high house, that [was] by the court of the prison. After him Pedaiah the son of Parosh.  
**26** Moreover the Nethinims dwelt in Ophel, unto [the place] over against the water gate toward the east, and the tower that lieth out.  
**27** After them the Tekoites repaired another piece, over against the great tower that lieth out, even unto the wall of Ophel.  
**28** From above the horse gate repaired the priests, every one over against his house.  
**29** After them repaired Zadok the son of Immer over against his house. After him repaired also Shemaiah the son of Shechaniah, the keeper of the east gate.  
**30** After him repaired Hananiah the son of Shelemiah, and Hanun the sixth son of Zalaph, another piece. After him repaired Meshullam the son of Berechiah over against his chamber.  
**31** After him repaired Malchiah the goldsmith's son unto the place of the Nethinims, and of the merchants, over against the gate Miphkad, and to the going up of the corner.  
**32** And between the going up of the corner unto the sheep gate repaired the goldsmiths and the merchants.

2) lit, "he kindled"

CHAPTER 4

**1** And it happened when Sanballat heard that we were building the wall, that he burned with anger and was greatly vexed, and he derided the Jews.  
**2** And he spoke in the presence of his brothers and the army of Samaria and said, "What are the feeble Jews doing? Will they restore [it] for themselves? Will they sacrifice? Will they complete [it] at once<sup>1</sup>? Will they revive the stones out of the heaps of rubble, seeing they are burned?"  
**3** Now Tobiah the Ammonite [was] beside him, and he said, "Even what they are building, if a fox goes up, then he will break down their stone wall<sup>2</sup>."

CHAPTER 4

CHAPTER 4

**1** But it came to pass, that when Sanballat heard that we builded the wall, he was wroth, and took great indignation, and mocked the Jews.  
**2** And he spake before his brethren and the army of Samaria, and said, What do these feeble Jews? will they fortify themselves? will they sacrifice? will they make an end in a day? will they revive the stones out of the heaps of the rubbish which are burned?  
**3** Now Tobiah the Ammonite [was] by him, and he said, Even that which they build, if a fox go up, he shall even break down their stone wall.

1) or, "in a day"

2) lit, "the wall of their stones"

4 Hear, O our God, for we have become [an object of] contempt, and turn back their reproach upon their own heads and give them up as plunder in a land of captivity.

5 And do not cover their iniquity and let not their sin be blotted out from your presence, for they have provoked [you] to anger in front of the builders.

6 So we built the wall. And the whole wall was jointed together up to its midpoint, for the people had a heart to work.

7 And it happened when Sanballat and Tobiah and the Arabs and the Ammonites and the Ashdodites heard that restoration of the walls of Jerusalem went forward, that the breaches began to be closed up, that they burned greatly with anger.

8 And all of them conspired together to come to fight against Jerusalem and to cause confusion in it.

9 And we prayed to our God, and because of them we set up a watch against them by day and [by] night.

10 And Judah said, "The strength of the burden bearer has stumbled, and the rubble [is] much, and we ourselves are not able to build at the wall."

11 And our enemies said, "They will not know and they will not see until we come into their midst and kill them and stop the work."

12 And it happened when the Jews who lived beside them came, that they said to us ten times from all the places, "Return to us."

13 Then I set [the people] in [the] lowest parts of the place behind the wall, in the open places. And I set the people according to clans, with their swords, their spears, and their bows.

14 And I looked and rose up and said to the nobles and to the officials and to the rest of the people, "Do not be afraid of their presence. Remember the great and fearful Lord<sup>3</sup>, and fight for your brothers, your sons and your daughters, your wives and your houses."

15 And it happened when our enemies heard that it was known to us and [that] God had broken their plan, that all of us returned to the wall, each man to his work.

16 And it happened from that day [on], half of my servants were laboring at the work, and half of them were holding both the spears, the shields, and the bows, and the coats of armor; and the leaders [were] behind the whole house of Judah.

17 Those who were building at the wall and those who were bearing burdens were carrying load with his one hand laboring at the work and [the] other holding a weapon.

18 And those who were building, each man, his sword was tied to his hips while [they] were building. And he who blew the horn [was] beside me.

19 And I said to the nobles and to the officials and to the rest of the people, "The work [is] great and broad, and we are separated upon the wall, far away each man from his brother.

20 "In the place in which you hear the sound of the horn, gather yourselves to us there. Our God will fight for us."

21 So we were laboring at the work, and half of them were holding the spears from the rising of the dawn until the coming out of the stars.

22 Also at that time I said to the people, "Let each man and his servant spend the night in the midst of Jerusalem, in order that they may be a watch for us [during] the night and a workforce [during] the day."

23 So neither I, nor my brothers, nor my servants, nor the men of the watch who [were] behind me, we were not taking off our garments [or] each man his weapon [at] the water.

CHAPTER 5

1 Then a great outcry of the people and their wives arose against their brothers the Jews.

2 For there were [those] who were saying, "We, our sons and our daughters, [are] many. Therefore let us get grain, in order that we may eat and live."

3 And there were [those] who were saying, "We are pawning our fields and our vineyards and our houses, in order that we may get grain because of the famine<sup>1</sup>."

4 And there were [those] who were saying, "We have borrowed money [upon] our fields and our vineyards for the tax of the king.

CHAPTER 4

4 Hear, O our God; for we are despised: and turn their reproach upon their own head, and give them for a prey in the land of captivity:

5 And cover not their iniquity, and let not their sin be blotted out from before thee: for they have provoked [thee] to anger before the builders.

6 So built we the wall; and all the wall was jointed together unto the half thereof: for the people had a mind to work.

7 But it came to pass, [that] when Sanballat, and Tobiah, and the Arabians, and the Ammonites, and the Ashdodites, heard that the walls of Jerusalem were made up, [and] that the breaches began to be stopped, then they were very wroth,

8 And conspired all of them together to come [and] to fight against Jerusalem, and to hinder it.

9 Nevertheless we made our prayer unto our God, and set a watch against them day and night, because of them.

10 And Judah said, The strength of the bearers of burdens is decayed, and [there is] much rubbish; so that we are not able to build the wall.

11 And our adversaries said, They shall not know, neither see, till we come in the midst among them, and slay them, and cause the work to cease.

12 And it came to pass, that when the Jews which dwelt by them came, they said unto us ten times, From all places whence ye shall return unto us [they will be upon you].

13 Therefore set I in the lower places behind the wall, [and] on the higher places, I even set the people after their families with their swords, their spears, and their bows.

14 And I looked, and rose up, and said unto the nobles, and to the rulers, and to the rest of the people, Be not ye afraid of them: remember the Lord, [which is] great and terrible, and fight for your brethren, your sons, and your daughters, your wives, and your houses.

15 And it came to pass, when our enemies heard that it was known unto us, and God had brought their counsel to nought, that we returned all of us to the wall, every one unto his work.

16 And it came to pass from that time forth, [that] the half of my servants wrought in the work, and the other half of them held both the spears, the shields, and the bows, and the habergeons; and the rulers [were] behind all the house of Judah.

17 They which builded on the wall, and they that bare burdens, with those that laded, [every one] with one of his hands wrought in the work, and with the other [hand] held a weapon.

18 For the builders, every one had his sword girded by his side, and [so] builded. And he that sounded the trumpet [was] by me.

19 And I said unto the nobles, and to the rulers, and to the rest of the people, The work [is] great and large, and we are separated upon the wall, one far from another.

20 In what place [therefore] ye hear the sound of the trumpet, resort ye thither unto us: our God shall fight for us.

21 So we laboured in the work: and half of them held the spears from the rising of the morning till the stars appeared.

22 Likewise at the same time said I unto the people, Let every one with his servant lodge within Jerusalem, that in the night they may be a guard to us, and labour on the day.

23 So neither I, nor my brethren, nor my servants, nor the men of the guard which followed me, none of us put off our clothes, [saving that] every one put them off for washing.

3) or, "Lord, the great and fearful [one]"

CHAPTER 5

CHAPTER 5

1 And there was a great cry of the people and of their wives against their brethren the Jews.

2 For there were that said, We, our sons, and our daughters, [are] many: therefore we take up corn [for them], that we may eat, and live.

3 [Some] also there were that said, We have mortgaged our lands, vineyards, and houses, that we might buy corn, because of the dearth.

4 There were also that said, We have borrowed money for the king's tribute, [and that upon] our lands and vineyards.

1) or, "hunger"

5 "And now our flesh [is] as the flesh of our brothers, our sons [are] as their sons. Yet behold, we are forcing our sons and our daughters as slaves, and some of our daughters are forced [already], and it is not in the power of our hand, for our fields and our vineyards belong to other [men]."

6 And I burned greatly with anger when I heard their outcry and these words.

7 And I took counsel with myself<sup>2</sup>, and contended with the nobles and with the officials and said to them, "You are lending [on] interest, each man against his brother." And I held a great assembly against them.

8 And I said to them, "We, according to our ability<sup>3</sup>, have bought our brothers the Jews who had been sold to the nations. And yet you yourselves are selling your brothers in order that they may be sold to us!" Then they were silent and did not find an answer.

9 And I said, "The thing which you are doing [is] not good. Should you not walk in the fear of our God, because of the reproach of the nations our enemies?"

10 "And likewise I, my brothers and my servants, are lending them money and grain. Now let us abandon this interest.

11 "Return now to them this very day their fields, their vineyards, their olive trees, and their houses, and the hundredth of the money, and the grain, the fresh wine, and the oil which you have been lending them."

12 And they said, "We will return [them] and we will not demand [anything] from them; thus we will do as you say." Then I called the priests and made them swear to do according to this promise.

13 Also I shook out the fold of my garment and said, "Thus may God shake out every man from his house and from his property who does not keep this promise. Indeed thus may he be shaken out and empty." And the whole assembly said, "Amen." And they praised the LORD. And the people did according to this promise.

14 Moreover from [the] day on which he commanded me to be their governor in the land of Judah, from [the] twentieth year to [the] thirty-second year of Artaxerxes the king, twelve years, I and my brothers have not eaten the food allowance of the governor.

15 But the former governors who [were] before me had laid heavy burdens upon the people, and had taken from them of bread and wine after forty shekels of silver; even their servants had power over the people. But I myself did not do so, because of the fear of God.

16 And also I applied myself in the work of this wall, and we did not buy a land, and all my servants were gathered there for the work.

17 Moreover the Jews and the officials, a hundred and fifty men, besides those who came to us from the nations which [were] round about us, [were] at my table.

18 Now [that] which was prepared for one day [was] one ox, six selected sheep, and birds. They were prepared for me. And [during] an interval of ten days all kinds of wine in abundance. Yet with this I did not demand the food allowance of the governor, because the service was heavy upon this people.

19 Remember for my good, O my God, all that I have done for this people.

CHAPTER 6

1 And it happened when it was heard by Sanballat and Tobiah, and by Geshem the Arab, and by the rest of our enemies, that I had built the wall and [that] no breach was left in it (although up to that time I had not set up doors in the gates),

2 that Sanballat and Geshem sent to me, saying, "Come, and let us meet together at Kephirim in the valley-plain of Ono." But they were planning to do me harm.

3 So I sent messengers to them, saying, "I am doing a great work and I am not able to come down. Why should the work stop while I leave it and come down to you?"

4 And they sent to me four times in this way, and I brought back to them in this manner.

5 Then Sanballat sent his servant to me a fifth time in this way with an open letter in his hand.

CHAPTER 5

2) lit, "my heart took counsel upon me"

3) lit, "the sufficiency in us"

5 Yet now our flesh [is] as the flesh of our brethren, our children as their children: and, lo, we bring into bondage our sons and our daughters to be servants, and [some] of our daughters are brought unto bondage [already]: neither [is it] in our power [to redeem them]; for other men have our lands and vineyards.

6 And I was very angry when I heard their cry and these words.

7 Then I consulted with myself, and I rebuked the nobles, and the rulers, and said unto them, Ye exact usury, every one of his brother. And I set a great assembly against them.

8 And I said unto them, We after our ability have redeemed our brethren the Jews, which were sold unto the heathen; and will ye even sell your brethren? or shall they be sold unto us? Then held they their peace, and found nothing [to answer].

9 Also I said, It [is] not good that ye do: ought ye not to walk in the fear of our God because of the reproach of the heathen our enemies?

10 I likewise, [and] my brethren, and my servants, might exact of them money and corn: I pray you, let us leave off this usury.

11 Restore, I pray you, to them, even this day, their lands, their vineyards, their oliveyards, and their houses, also the hundredth [part] of the money, and of the corn, the wine, and the oil, that ye exact of them.

12 Then said they, We will restore [them], and will require nothing of them; so will we do as thou sayest. Then I called the priests, and took an oath of them, that they should do according to this promise.

13 Also I shook my lap, and said, So God shake out every man from his house, and from his labour, that performeth not this promise, even thus be he shaken out, and emptied. And all the congregation said, Amen, and praised the LORD. And the people did according to this promise.

14 Moreover from the time that I was appointed to be their governor in the land of Judah, from the twentieth year even unto the two and thirtieth year of Artaxerxes the king, [that is], twelve years, I and my brethren have not eaten the bread of the governor.

15 But the former governors that [had been] before me were chargeable unto the people, and had taken of them bread and wine, beside forty shekels of silver; yea, even their servants bare rule over the people: but so did not I, because of the fear of God.

16 Yea, also I continued in the work of this wall, neither bought we any land: and all my servants [were] gathered thither unto the work.

17 Moreover [there were] at my table an hundred and fifty of the Jews and rulers, beside those that came unto us from among the heathen that [are] about us.

18 Now [that] which was prepared [for me] daily [was] one ox [and] six choice sheep; also fowls were prepared for me, and once in ten days store of all sorts of wine: yet for all this required not I the bread of the governor, because the bondage was heavy upon this people.

19 Think upon me, my God, for good, [according] to all that I have done for this people.

CHAPTER 6

CHAPTER 6

1 Now it came to pass, when Sanballat, and Tobiah, and Geshem the Arabian, and the rest of our enemies, heard that I had builded the wall, and [that] there was no breach left therein; (though at that time I had not set up the doors upon the gates;)

2 That Sanballat and Geshem sent unto me, saying, Come, let us meet together in [some one of] the villages in the plain of Ono. But they thought to do me mischief.

3 And I sent messengers unto them, saying, I [am] doing a great work, so that I cannot come down: why should the work cease, whilst I leave it, and come down to you?

4 Yet they sent unto me four times after this sort; and I answered them after the same manner.

5 Then sent Sanballat his servant unto me in like manner the fifth time with an open letter in his hand;

6 In it was written, "It is heard among the nations, and Geshem is saying [it], you and the Jews are planning to rebel, therefore you are building the wall; and you are going to become their king according to these reports.

7 "And also you have set up prophets to proclaim concerning you in Jerusalem, saying, 'A king [is] in Judah!' And now it will be heard by the king according to these reports. Now therefore come, and let us take counsel together."

8 Then I sent to him, saying, "Nothing has occurred according to these reports which you are saying, but rather you are inventing them out of your own heart."

9 For all of them were making us afraid, saying, "Their hands will grow slack from the work and it will not be done." Now therefore strengthen my hands.

10 Now I came [to] the house of Shemaiah the son of Delaiah, the son of Mehetabel, and he was confined. And he said, "Let us meet in the house of God, in the midst of the temple, and let us shut the doors of the temple, for [they] are going to come to kill you; indeed [at] night [they] are going to come to kill you."

11 And I said, "Should a man like me flee? And who [is there] like me who could go into the temple and live? I will not go in."

12 Then he perceived, and behold, God had not sent him, but rather he had spoken the prophecy against me because Tobiah and Saballat had hired him.

13 For this reason he was hired, in order that I might be afraid and do so and sin, with the result that they would have [something] for an evil report, in order that they might reproach me.

14 Remember Tobiah and Sanballat, O my God, according to these works of theirs, and also Noadiah the prophetess and the rest of the prophets who were making me afraid.

15 So the wall was completed on [the] twenty-fifth of Elul, in fifty-two days.

16 And it happened when all our enemies heard about [this], that all the nations which [were] around about us became afraid and fell greatly in their own esteem<sup>1</sup>, for they perceived that this work had been accomplished by our God.

17 Also in those days the nobles of Judah were sending many letters<sup>2</sup> to Tobiah, and [those] which belonged to Tobiah were coming to them.

18 For many in Judah [were] bound by oath to him because he [was] son-in-law to Shechaniah the son of Arah, and Jehohanan his son had taken the daughter of Meshullam the son of Berechiah.

19 Also they were speaking about his good [deeds] in my presence and were reporting my words to him. Tobiah sent letters to make me afraid.

CHAPTER 6

6 Wherein [was] written, It is reported among the heathen, and Gashmu saith [it, that] thou and the Jews think to rebel: for which cause thou buildest the wall, that thou mayest be their king, according to these words.

7 And thou hast also appointed prophets to preach of thee at Jerusalem, saying, [There is] a king in Judah: and now shall it be reported to the king according to these words. Come now therefore, and let us take counsel together.

8 Then I sent unto him, saying, There are no such things done as thou sayest, but thou feignest them out of thine own heart.

9 For they all made us afraid, saying, Their hands shall be weakened from the work, that it be not done. Now therefore, [O God], strengthen my hands.

10 Afterward I came unto the house of Shemaiah the son of Delaiah the son of Mehetabeel, who [was] shut up; and he said, Let us meet together in the house of God, within the temple, and let us shut the doors of the temple: for they will come to slay thee; yea, in the night will they come to slay thee.

11 And I said, Should such a man as I flee? and who [is there], that, [being] as I [am], would go into the temple to save his life? I will not go in.

12 And, lo, I perceived that God had not sent him; but that he pronounced this prophecy against me: for Tobiah and Sanballat had hired him.

13 Therefore [was] he hired, that I should be afraid, and do so, and sin, and [that] they might have [matter] for an evil report, that they might reproach me.

14 My God, think thou upon Tobiah and Sanballat according to these their works, and on the prophetess Noadiah, and the rest of the prophets, that would have put me in fear.

15 So the wall was finished in the twenty and fifth [day] of [the month] Elul, in fifty and two days.

16 And it came to pass, that when all our enemies heard [thereof], and all the heathen that [were] about us saw [these things], they were much cast down in their own eyes: for they perceived that this work was wrought of our God.

17 Moreover in those days the nobles of Judah sent many letters unto Tobiah, and [the letters] of Tobiah came unto them.

18 For [there were] many in Judah sworn unto him, because he [was] the son in law of Shechaniah the son of Arah; and his son Johanan had taken the daughter of Meshullam the son of Berechiah.

19 Also they reported his good deeds before me, and uttered my words to him. [And] Tobiah sent letters to put me in fear.

1) lit. "eyes"

2) lit. "were making numerous their letters going"

CHAPTER 7

1 And it happened when the wall had been built and I had set up the doors, and the gatekeepers and the singers and the Levites had been appointed,

2 that I gave Hanani my brother and Hananiah the commander of the citadel charge over Jerusalem, for he [was] in every way a man of faithfulness and feared God more than many.

3 And I said to them, "The gates of Jerusalem shall not be opened until the sun becomes warm. And while they are standing, let them shut the doors, and bar [them]. And set up the guards from among the inhabitants of Jerusalem, each man at his guard post and each man in front of his own house."

4 Now the city [was] broad on both sides and large, but the people in the midst of it [were] few, and houses were not built.

5 And my God put [it] into my heart to gather the nobles and the officials and the people to be enrolled by genealogy. And I found the book of the genealogy [of] those who came up at the beginning. And I found written in it:

6 These [are] the sons of the province who came up from the captivity of the exiles, whom Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon had carried away into exile and [who] returned to Jerusalem and to Judah, each man to his city,

7 who came with Zerubbabel, Jeshua, Nehemiah, Azariah, Raamiah, Nahamani, Mordecai, Bilshan, Mispereth, Bigvai, Nehum, Baanah. The number of the men of the people of Israel:

8 the sons of Parosh, two thousand one hundred and seventy-two;

9 the sons of Shephatiah, three hundred and seventy-two;

CHAPTER 7

CHAPTER 7

1 Now it came to pass, when the wall was built, and I had set up the doors, and the porters and the singers and the Levites were appointed,

2 That I gave my brother Hanani, and Hananiah the ruler of the palace, charge over Jerusalem: for he [was] a faithful man, and feared God above many.

3 And I said unto them, Let not the gates of Jerusalem be opened until the sun be hot; and while they stand by, let them shut the doors, and bar [them]: and appoint watches of the inhabitants of Jerusalem, every one in his watch, and every one [to be] over against his house.

4 Now the city [was] large and great: but the people [were] few therein, and the houses [were] not builded.

5 And my God put into mine heart to gather together the nobles, and the rulers, and the people, that they might be reckoned by genealogy. And I found a register of the genealogy of them which came up at the first, and found written therein,

6 These [are] the children of the province, that went up out of the captivity, of those that had been carried away, whom Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon had carried away, and came again to Jerusalem and to Judah, every one unto his city;

7 Who came with Zerubbabel, Jeshua, Nehemiah, Azariah, Raamiah, Nahamani, Mordecai, Bilshan, Mispereth, Bigvai, Nehum, Baanah. The number, [I say], of the men of the people of Israel [was this];

8 The children of Parosh, two thousand an hundred seventy and two.

9 The children of Shephatiah, three hundred seventy and two.

NEHEMIAH 7

SPV

- 10 the sons of Arah, six hundred and fifty-two;
- 11 the sons of Pahath-moab, of the sons of Jeshua and Joab, two thousand eight hundred and eighteen;
- 12 the sons of Elam, a thousand two hundred and fifty-four;
- 13 the sons of Zattu, eight hundred and forty-five;
- 14 the sons of Zaccai, seven hundred and sixty;
- 15 the sons of Binnui, six hundred and forty-eight;
- 16 the sons of Bebai, six hundred and twenty-eight;
- 17 the sons of Azgad, two thousand three hundred and twenty-two;
- 18 the sons of Adonikam, six hundred and sixty-seven;
- 19 the sons of Bigvai, two thousand and sixty-seven;
- 20 the sons of Adin, six hundred and fifty-five;
- 21 the sons of Ater, of Hezekiah, ninety-eight;
- 22 the sons of Hashum, three hundred and twenty-eight;
- 23 the sons of Bezai, three hundred and twenty-four;
- 24 the sons of Hariph, a hundred and twelve;
- 25 the sons of Gibeon, ninety-five;
- 26 the men of Bethlehem and Netophah, a hundred and eighty-eight;
- 27 the men of Anathoth, a hundred and twenty-eight;
- 28 the men of Beth-azmaveth, forty-two;
- 29 the men of Kiriath-jearim, Chephirah, and Beeroth, seven hundred and forty-three;
- 30 the men of Ramah and Geba, six hundred and twenty-one;
- 31 the men of Michmas, a hundred and twenty-two;
- 32 the men of Bethel and Ai, a hundred and twenty-three;
- 33 the men of [the] other Nebo, fifty-two;
- 34 the sons of [the] other Elam, a thousand two hundred and fifty-four;
- 35 the sons of Harim, three hundred and twenty;
- 36 the sons of Jericho, three hundred and forty-five;
- 37 the sons of Lod, Hadid, and Ono, seven hundred and twenty-one;
- 38 the sons of Senaah, three thousand nine hundred and thirty.
- 39 The priests: the sons of Jedaiah, of the house of Jeshua, nine hundred and seventy-three;
- 40 the sons of Immer, a thousand and fifty-two;
- 41 the sons of Pashhur, a thousand two hundred and forty-seven;
- 42 the sons of Harim, a thousand and seventeen.
- 43 The Levites: the sons of Jeshua, of Kadmiel, of the sons of Hodevah, seventy-four.
- 44 The singers: the sons of Asaph, a hundred and forty-eight.
- 45 The gatekeepers: the sons of Shallum, the sons of Ater, the sons of Talmon, the sons of Akkub, the sons of Hatita, the sons of Shobai, a hundred and thirty-eight.
- 46 The temple servants: the sons of Ziha, the sons of Hasupha, the sons of Tabbaoth,
- 47 the sons of Keros, the sons of Sia, the sons of Padon,
- 48 the sons of Lebana, the sons of Hagaba, the sons of Salmal,
- 49 the sons of Hanan, the sons of Giddel, the sons of Gahar,
- 50 the sons of Reaiah, the sons of Rezin, the sons of Nekoda,
- 51 the sons of Gazzam, the sons of Uzza, the sons of Paseah,
- 52 the sons of Besai, the sons of Meunim, the sons of Nephishesim,
- 53 the sons of Bakbuk, the sons of Hakupha, the sons of Harhur,
- 54 the sons of Bazlith, the sons of Mehida, the sons of Harsha,
- 55 the sons of Barkos, the sons of Sisera, the sons of Temah,
- 56 the sons of Nezhiah, the sons of Hatipha.
- 57 The sons of the servants of Solomon: the sons of Sotai, the sons of Sophereth, the sons of Perida,

KJV

CHAPTER 7

- 10 The children of Arah, six hundred fifty and two.
- 11 The children of Pahathmoab, of the children of Jeshua and Joab, two thousand and eight hundred [and] eighteen.
- 12 The children of Elam, a thousand two hundred fifty and four.
- 13 The children of Zattu, eight hundred forty and five.
- 14 The children of Zaccai, seven hundred and threescore.
- 15 The children of Binnui, six hundred forty and eight.
- 16 The children of Bebai, six hundred twenty and eight.
- 17 The children of Azgad, two thousand three hundred twenty and two.
- 18 The children of Adonikam, six hundred threescore and seven.
- 19 The children of Bigvai, two thousand threescore and seven.
- 20 The children of Adin, six hundred fifty and five.
- 21 The children of Ater of Hezekiah, ninety and eight.
- 22 The children of Hashum, three hundred twenty and eight.
- 23 The children of Bezai, three hundred twenty and four.
- 24 The children of Hariph, an hundred and twelve.
- 25 The children of Gibeon, ninety and five.
- 26 The men of Bethlehem and Netophah, an hundred fourscore and eight.
- 27 The men of Anathoth, an hundred twenty and eight.
- 28 The men of Bethazmaveth, forty and two.
- 29 The men of Kirjathjearim, Chephirah, and Beeroth, seven hundred forty and three.
- 30 The men of Ramah and Geba, six hundred twenty and one.
- 31 The men of Michmas, an hundred and twenty and two.
- 32 The men of Bethel and Ai, an hundred twenty and three.
- 33 The men of the other Nebo, fifty and two.
- 34 The children of the other Elam, a thousand two hundred fifty and four.
- 35 The children of Harim, three hundred and twenty.
- 36 The children of Jericho, three hundred forty and five.
- 37 The children of Lod, Hadid, and Ono, seven hundred twenty and one.
- 38 The children of Senaah, three thousand nine hundred and thirty.
- 39 The priests: the children of Jedaiah, of the house of Jeshua, nine hundred seventy and three.
- 40 The children of Immer, a thousand fifty and two.
- 41 The children of Pashur, a thousand two hundred forty and seven.
- 42 The children of Harim, a thousand and seventeen.
- 43 The Levites: the children of Jeshua, of Kadmiel, [and] of the children of Hodevah, seventy and four.
- 44 The singers: the children of Asaph, an hundred forty and eight.
- 45 The porters: the children of Shallum, the children of Ater, the children of Talmon, the children of Akkub, the children of Hatita, the children of Shobai, an hundred thirty and eight.
- 46 The Nethinims: the children of Ziha, the children of Hashupha, the children of Tabbaoth,
- 47 The children of Keros, the children of Sia, the children of Padon,
- 48 The children of Lebana, the children of Hagaba, the children of Salmal,
- 49 The children of Hanan, the children of Giddel, the children of Gahar,
- 50 The children of Reaiah, the children of Rezin, the children of Nekoda,
- 51 The children of Gazzam, the children of Uzza, the children of Phaseah,
- 52 The children of Besai, the children of Meunim, the children of Nephishesim,
- 53 The children of Bakbuk, the children of Hakupha, the children of Harhur,
- 54 The children of Bazlith, the children of Mehida, the children of Harsha,
- 55 The children of Barkos, the children of Sisera, the children of Tamah,
- 56 The children of Nezhiah, the children of Hatipha.
- 57 The children of Solomon's servants: the children of Sotai, the children of Sophereth, the children of Perida,

58 the sons of Jaala, the sons of Darkon, the sons of Giddel,  
 59 the sons of Shephatiah, the sons of Hattil, the sons of Pochereth-hazzebaim, the sons of Amon.  
 60 All the temple servants and the sons of the servants of Solomon [were] three hundred and ninety-two.  
 61 And these [were] those who came up from Tel-melah, Tel-harsha, Cherub, Addon, and Immer, but they were not able to declare the house of their fathers or their descent, whether they [were] from Israel:  
 62 the sons of Delaiah, the sons of Tobiah, the sons of Nekoda, six hundred and forty-two.  
 63 And from the priests: the sons of Habaiah, the sons of Hakkoz, the sons of Barzillai, who had taken a wife of the daughters of Barzillai the Gileadite and was called by their name.  
 64 These sought their registration [among] those who were enrolled by genealogy, but it was not found. Therefore they were excluded from the priesthood as defiled.  
 65 And the Tirshatha told them that they should not eat of the most holy things<sup>1</sup> until a priest with Urim and Thummin arose.  
 66 The whole assembly as one [was] forty-two thousand three hundred and sixty,  
 67 apart from their male servants and their female servants: these [were] seven thousand three hundred and thirty-seven. And they had two hundred and forty-five male singers and female singers,  
 68 four hundred and thirty-five camels, six thousand seven hundred and twenty donkeys.  
 69 And part<sup>2</sup> of the heads of the fathers gave to the work. The Tirshatha gave to the treasury a thousand drachmas of gold, fifty basins, five hundred and thirty tunics of priests.  
 70 And part of the heads of the fathers gave to the treasury of the work twenty thousand drachmas of gold and two thousand two hundred minas of silver.  
 71 And [that] which the rest of the people gave [was] twenty thousand drachmas of gold and two thousand minas of silver and sixty-seven tunics of priests.  
 72 Therefore the priests, and the Levites, and the gatekeepers, and the singers, and part of the people, and the temple servants, and all Israel dwelled in their cities. When the seventh month arrived, the sons of Israel [were] in their cities.

CHAPTER 7

58 The children of Jaala, the children of Darkon, the children of Giddel,  
 59 The children of Shephatiah, the children of Hattil, the children of Pochereth of Zebaim, the children of Amon.  
 60 All the Nethinims, and the children of Solomon's servants, [were] three hundred ninety and two.  
 61 And these [were] they which went up [also] from Telmelah, Telharscha, Cherub, Addon, and Immer: but they could not shew their father's house, nor their seed, whether they [were] of Israel.  
 62 The children of Delaiah, the children of Tobiah, the children of Nekoda, six hundred forty and two.  
 63 And of the priests: the children of Habaiah, the children of Koz, the children of Barzillai, which took [one] of the daughters of Barzillai the Gileadite to wife, and was called after their name.  
 64 These sought their register [among] those that were reckoned by genealogy, but it was not found: therefore were they, as polluted, put from the priesthood.  
 65 And the Tirshatha said unto them, that they should not eat of the most holy things, till there stood [up] a priest with Urim and Thummim.  
 66 The whole congregation together [was] forty and two thousand three hundred and threescore,  
 67 Beside their manservants and their maidservants, of whom [there were] seven thousand three hundred thirty and seven: and they had two hundred forty and five singing men and singing women.  
 68 Their horses, seven hundred thirty and six: their mules, two hundred forty and five:  
 69 [Their] camels, four hundred thirty and five: six thousand seven hundred and twenty asses.  
 70 And some of the chief of the fathers gave unto the work. The Tirshatha gave to the treasure a thousand drams of gold, fifty basons, five hundred and thirty priests' garments.  
 71 And [some] of the chief of the fathers gave to the treasure of the work twenty thousand drams of gold, and two thousand and two hundred pound of silver.  
 72 And [that] which the rest of the people gave [was] twenty thousand drams of gold, and two thousand pound of silver, and threescore and seven priests' garments.  
 73 So the priests, and the Levites, and the porters, and the singers, and [some] of the people, and the Nethinims, and all Israel, dwelt in their cities; and when the seventh month came, the children of Israel [were] in their cities.

1) lit., "holy thing of the holy things"

2) lit, "part of the extremity"

CHAPTER 8

1 And all the people gathered as one man to the plaza which [was] before the gate of the water, and they told Ezra the scribe to bring the book of the law of Moses which the LORD had commanded Israel.  
 2 And Ezra the priest brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and everyone who understood what they heard<sup>1</sup>, on [the] first day of the seventh month.  
 3 And he read from it before the plaza which [was] before the gate of the water from dawn until the middle of the day, in front of the men and the women and those who had understanding. And the ears of all the people [were] toward the book of the law.  
 4 And Ezra the scribe stood upon a tower of wood which they had made for the occasion. And Mattithiah, and Shema, and Anaiiah, and Uriah, and Hilkiah, and Maaseiah stood beside him at his right, and Pedaiah, and Mishael, and Malchijah, and Hashum, and Hashbaddanah, Zechariah, Meshullam at his left.  
 5 And Ezra opened the book before the eyes of all the people, for he was above all the people; and as soon as he opened [it], all the people stood up.  
 6 And Ezra blessed the LORD the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, amen," with the lifting up of their hands. Then they bowed down and prostrated themselves before the LORD [with their] faces to [the] ground.  
 7 Now Jeshua, and Bani, and Sherehiah, Jamin, Akkub, Shabbethai, Hodiah, Maaseiah, Kelita, Azariah, Jozabad, Hanan, Pelaiah, and the Levites made the people understand the law while the people [were] in their place<sup>2</sup>.  
 8 And they read from the book, from the law of God, clearly, and they gave understanding with the result that they understood the reading.

CHAPTER 8

CHAPTER 8

1 And all the people gathered themselves together as one man into the street that [was] before the water gate; and they spake unto Ezra the scribe to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the LORD had commanded to Israel.  
 2 And Ezra the priest brought the law before the congregation both of men and women, and all that could hear with understanding, upon the first day of the seventh month.  
 3 And he read therein before the street that [was] before the water gate from the morning until midday, before the men and the women, and those that could understand; and the ears of all the people [were attentive] unto the book of the law.  
 4 And Ezra the scribe stood upon a pulpit of wood, which they had made for the purpose; and beside him stood Mattithiah, and Shema, and Anaiiah, and Urijah, and Hilkiah, and Maaseiah, on his right hand; and on his left hand, Pedaiah, and Mishael, and Malchiah, and Hashum, and Hashbadana, Zechariah, [and] Meshullam.  
 5 And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people; (for he was above all the people;) and when he opened it, all the people stood up:  
 6 And Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God. And all the people answered, Amen, Amen, with lifting up their hands: and they bowed their heads, and worshipped the LORD with [their] faces to the ground.  
 7 Also Jeshua, and Bani, and Sherebiah, Jamin, Akkub, Shabbethai, Hodijah, Maaseiah, Kelita, Azariah, Jozabad, Hanan, Pelaiah, and the Levites, caused the people to understand the law: and the people [stood] in their place.  
 8 So they read in the book in the law of God distinctly, and gave the sense, and caused [them] to understand the reading.

1) lit, "to hear"

2) lit, "upon their standing"

9 And Nehemiah (that is, the Tirshatha) and Ezra the priest, the scribe, and the Levites who made the people understand, said to all the people, "This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn and do not weep." For all the people were weeping as soon as they heard the words of the law.

10 Then he said to them, "Go, eat fat [things] and drink sweet [things] and send portions to [him who] has nothing prepared, for this day [is] holy to our Lord; and do not grieve, for the joy of the LORD is your fortress."

11 So the Levites were making all the people silent, saying, "Keep silence, for this day [is] holy, and do not grieve."

12 Then all the people went to eat and to drink and to send portions and to make great joy, because they understood the words which they had made known to them.

13 And on the second day the heads of the fathers of all the people, the priests, and the Levites gathered to Ezra the scribe and in particular to gain insight into the words of the law.

14 And they found written in the law that the LORD had commanded by the hand of Moses that the sons of Israel should dwell in booths during the festival in the seventh month,

15 and that they should proclaim and cause an announcement to pass through in all their cities and in Jerusalem, saying, "Go out [to] the mountain and bring foliage of olive, and foliage of oleaster<sup>3</sup> trees, and foliage of myrtle, and foliage of palms, and foliage of trees intertwined with leaves, to make booths according to that which is written."

16 So the people went out and brought [them] and made booths for themselves, each man upon his roof, and in their courts and in the courts of the house of God, and in the plaza of the gate of the water and in the plaza of the gate of Ephraim.

17 And the whole assembly which had returned from the captivity made booths and dwelled in the booths, for from the days of Joshua the son of Nun to that day the sons of Israel had not done so. And there was very great joy.

18 And he read from the book of the law of God day by day, from the first day to the last day. And they held a festival [for] seven days, and on the eighth day a solemn assembly according to the ordinance.

CHAPTER 8

9 And Nehemiah, which [is] the Tirshatha, and Ezra the priest the scribe, and the Levites that taught the people, said unto all the people, This day [is] holy unto the LORD your God; mourn not, nor weep. For all the people wept, when they heard the words of the law.

10 Then he said unto them, Go your way, eat the fat, and drink the sweet, and send portions unto them for whom nothing is prepared: for [this] day [is] holy unto our Lord: neither be ye sorry; for the joy of the LORD is your strength.

11 So the Levites stilled all the people, saying, Hold your peace, for the day [is] holy; neither be ye grieved.

12 And all the people went their way to eat, and to drink, and to send portions, and to make great mirth, because they had understood the words that were declared unto them.

13 And on the second day were gathered together the chief of the fathers of all the people, the priests, and the Levites, unto Ezra the scribe, even to understand the words of the law.

14 And they found written in the law which the LORD had commanded by Moses, that the children of Israel should dwell in booths in the feast of the seventh month:

15 And that they should publish and proclaim in all their cities, and in Jerusalem, saying, Go forth unto the mount, and fetch olive branches, and pine branches, and myrtle branches, and palm branches, and branches of thick trees, to make booths, as [it is] written.

16 So the people went forth, and brought [them], and made themselves booths, every one upon the roof of his house, and in their courts, and in the courts of the house of God, and in the street of the water gate, and in the street of the gate of Ephraim.

17 And all the congregation of them that were come again out of the captivity made booths, and sat under the booths: for since the days of Jeshua the son of Nun unto that day had not the children of Israel done so. And there was very great gladness.

18 Also day by day, from the first day unto the last day, he read in the book of the law of God. And they kept the feast seven days; and on the eighth day [was] a solemn assembly, according unto the manner.

3) lit. "oil"

CHAPTER 9

1 Now on [the] twenty-fourth day of this month the sons of Israel gathered with fasting and in sackcloths, with soil upon them.

2 And the seed of Israel separated themselves from all foreigners, and stood and confessed their sins and the iniquities of their fathers.

3 And they rose up in their place<sup>1</sup> and read from the book of the law of the LORD their God [for] a fourth of the day; and [for] a fourth [they] were confessing and were prostrating themselves before the LORD their God.

4 Then Jeshua, and Bani, Kadmiel, Shebaniah, Bunni, Sherebiah, Bani, Chenani rose up upon the platform of the Levites, and they cried out with a loud voice to the LORD their God.

5 Then the Levites, Jeshua, and Kadmiel, Bani, Hashabneiah, Sherebiah, Hodiah, Shebaniah, Pethahiah, said, "Rise up, bless the LORD your God from eternity to eternity, and let them bless your glorious name<sup>2</sup>, which is exalted above all blessing and praise.

6 "You are the LORD, you alone; you made the heavens, the heavens of heavens and all their host, the earth and all that [is] upon it, the seas and all that [is] in them, and you are keeping all of them alive; and the host of the heavens are prostrating themselves before you.

7 "You are the LORD God, you who chose Abram and brought him out from Ur of [the] Chaldeans and established his name [as] Abraham,

8 "and found his heart faithful before you, and cut the covenant with him to give the land of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Jebusites, and the Girgashites, to give [it] to his seed. And you have established your words, for you [are] righteous.

9 "And you saw the affliction of our fathers in Egypt and heard their cry at the Red sea<sup>3</sup>.

CHAPTER 9

1 Now in the twenty and fourth day of this month the children of Israel were assembled with fasting, and with sackclothes, and earth upon them.

2 And the seed of Israel separated themselves from all strangers, and stood and confessed their sins, and the iniquities of their fathers.

3 And they stood up in their place, and read in the book of the law of the LORD their God [one] fourth part of the day; and [another] fourth part they confessed, and worshipped the LORD their God.

4 Then stood up upon the stairs, of the Levites, Jeshua, and Bani, Kadmiel, Shebaniah, Bunni, Sherebiah, Bani, [and] Chenani, and cried with a loud voice unto the LORD their God.

5 Then the Levites, Jeshua, and Kadmiel, Bani, Hashabneiah, Sherebiah, Hodijah, Shebaniah, [and] Pethahiah, said, Stand up [and] bless the LORD your God for ever and ever: and blessed be thy glorious name, which is exalted above all blessing and praise.

6 Thou, [even] thou, [art] LORD alone; thou hast made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth, and all [things] that [are] therein, the seas, and all that [is] therein, and thou preservest them all; and the host of heaven worshippeth thee.

7 Thou [art] the LORD the God, who didst choose Abram, and broughtest him forth out of Ur of the Chaldees, and gavest him the name of Abraham;

8 And foundest his heart faithful before thee, and madest a covenant with him to give the land of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Jebusites, and the Girgashites, to give [it, I say], to his seed, and hast performed thy words; for thou [art] righteous:

9 And didst see the affliction of our fathers in Egypt, and heardest their cry by the Red sea;

1) lit. "upon their standing"

2) lit. "the name of your glory"

3) lit. "sea of reeds"

10 "And you performed signs and wonders against Pharaoh and against all his servants and against all the people of his land, for you knew that they acted presumptuously toward them. Therefore you have made a name for yourself this very day.

11 "And you split the sea before them, and they passed through the midst of the sea on the dry land; but you threw their pursuers into [the] depths, as a stone into mighty waters.

12 "And by a pillar of cloud you led them by day and by a pillar of fire [by] night, to light up for them the way on which they were going.

13 "And you came down upon mount Sinai and spoke with them from heaven and gave them right judgments and laws of truth, good statutes and commandments.

14 "And you made known to them your holy Sabbath<sup>4</sup>, and commanded them commandments and statutes and a law by the hand of Moses your servant.

15 "And you gave them bread from heaven for their hunger and brought forth for them water from a rock for their thirst, and you commanded them to go to take possession of the land which you had sworn<sup>5</sup> to give them.

16 "But they and our fathers acted presumptuously and hardened their neck and did not obey your commandments.

17 "And they refused to listen and did not remember your wonderful acts which you had performed with them. But rather they hardened their neck, and in their rebellion appointed a leader to return to their slavery. But you [are] a God of forgiveness, gracious and compassionate, slow to<sup>6</sup> anger, and abundant in lovingkindness; and you did not forsake them.

18 "Even when they made for themselves a calf of molten metal and said, 'This is your god which brought you up from Egypt,' and committed great blasphemies,

19 "yet you in your abundant compassion did not forsake them in the wilderness; the pillar of cloud did not depart from them by day to lead them on the way, and the pillar of fire by night to light up for them the way on which they were going.

20 "And you gave your good Spirit to instruct them, and did not withhold your manna from their mouth, and gave them water for their thirst.

21 "And [for] forty years you sustained them in the wilderness; they were not lacking; their clothes did not wear out and their feet did not swell.

22 "And you gave them kingdoms and peoples and divided them into each corner; and they took possession of the land of Sihon, the land of the king of Heshbon, and the land of Og the king of Bashan.

23 "And you made their sons numerous as the stars of the heavens, and brought them into the land which you had commanded their fathers to enter to take possession of [it].

24 "So the sons entered and took possession of the land, and you subdued before them the inhabitants of the land, the Canaanites, and gave them into their hand, both their kings and the peoples of the land, to do with them according to their pleasure.

25 "And they captured fortified cities and a fat land, and took possession of houses full of all good things, hewed out cisterns, vineyards, and olive trees, and trees of food in abundance. And they ate and were satisfied and made themselves fat and lived a life of luxury in your great goodness.

26 "But they rebelled and revolted against you, and threw your law behind their back and killed your prophets who had testified against them in order to turn them back to you, and they committed great blasphemies.

27 "Therefore you gave them into the hand of their enemies, and they caused them distress. And in the time of their distress they would cry out to you and you would hear from heaven, and according to your abundant compassion you would give them saviors who saved them from the hand of their enemies.

28 "But as soon as they had rest<sup>7</sup>, they began returning to do evil before you. Therefore you forsook them in the hand of their enemies, and they ruled over them. Then they returned and cried out to you, and you would hear from heaven and would deliver them many times according to your compassion.

4) lit, "the Sabbath of your holiness"

5) lit, "lifted up your hand"

6) lit, "long of"

7) lit, "there was rest for them"

10 And shewedst signs and wonders upon Pharaoh, and on all his servants, and on all the people of his land: for thou knewest that they dealt proudly against them. So didst thou get thee a name, as [it is] this day.

11 And thou didst divide the sea before them, so that they went through the midst of the sea on the dry land; and their persecutors thou threwest into the deeps, as a stone into the mighty waters.

12 Moreover thou leddest them in the day by a cloudy pillar; and in the night by a pillar of fire, to give them light in the way wherein they should go.

13 Thou camest down also upon mount Sinai, and spakest with them from heaven, and gavest them right judgments, and true laws, good statutes and commandments:

14 And madest known unto them thy holy sabbath, and commandedst them precepts, statutes, and laws, by the hand of Moses thy servant:

15 And gavest them bread from heaven for their hunger, and broughtest forth water for them out of the rock for their thirst, and promisedst them that they should go in to possess the land which thou hadst sworn to give them.

16 But they and our fathers dealt proudly, and hardened their necks, and hearkened not to thy commandments,

17 And refused to obey, neither were mindful of thy wonders that thou didst among them; but hardened their necks, and in their rebellion appointed a captain to return to their bondage: but thou [art] a God ready to pardon, gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and forsookest them not.

18 Yea, when they had made them a molten calf, and said, This [is] thy God that brought thee up out of Egypt, and had wrought great provocations;

19 Yet thou in thy manifold mercies forsookest them not in the wilderness: the pillar of the cloud departed not from them by day, to lead them in the way; neither the pillar of fire by night, to shew them light, and the way wherein they should go.

20 Thou gavest also thy good spirit to instruct them, and withheldest not thy manna from their mouth, and gavest them water for their thirst.

21 Yea, forty years didst thou sustain them in the wilderness, [so that] they lacked nothing; their clothes waxed not old, and their feet swelled not.

22 Moreover thou gavest them kingdoms and nations, and didst divide them into corners: so they possessed the land of Sihon, and the land of the king of Heshbon, and the land of Og king of Bashan.

23 Their children also multipliedst thou as the stars of heaven, and broughtest them into the land, concerning which thou hadst promised to their fathers, that they should go in to possess [it].

24 So the children went in and possessed the land, and thou subduedst before them the inhabitants of the land, the Canaanites, and gavest them into their hands, with their kings, and the people of the land, that they might do with them as they would.

25 And they took strong cities, and a fat land, and possessed houses full of all goods, wells digged, vineyards, and oliveyards, and fruit trees in abundance: so they did eat, and were filled, and became fat, and delighted themselves in thy great goodness.

26 Nevertheless they were disobedient, and rebelled against thee, and cast thy law behind their backs, and slew thy prophets which testified against them to turn them to thee, and they wrought great provocations.

27 Therefore thou deliveredst them into the hand of their enemies, who vexed them: and in the time of their trouble, when they cried unto thee, thou heardest [them] from heaven; and according to thy manifold mercies thou gavest them saviours, who saved them out of the hand of their enemies.

28 But after they had rest, they did evil again before thee: therefore leftest thou them in the hand of their enemies, so that they had the dominion over them: yet when they returned, and cried unto thee, thou heardest [them] from heaven; and many times didst thou deliver them according to thy mercies;

29 "And you testified against them in order to turn them back to your law. Yet they acted presumptuously and did not obey your commandments or your ordinances; they sinned against them (which should a man do, he shall live by them), and turned a stubborn shoulder and hardened their neck and did not listen.

30 "However, you bore with them [for] many years and testified against them by your Spirit through the hand of your prophets, yet they did not give ear. Therefore you gave them into the hand of the peoples of the lands.

31 "Nevertheless in your abundant compassion you did not make them into complete destruction or forsake them, for you [are] a gracious and compassionate God.

32 "Now therefore, our God, the great, the mighty, and the fearful God, who keeps covenant and lovingkindness, let not all the hardship seem little in your presence, which has come upon us, upon our kings, upon our princes, and upon our priests, and upon our prophets, and upon our fathers, and upon all your people, from the days of the kings of Assyria<sup>8</sup> to this day.

33 "Yet you [have been] righteous with regard to all that has come upon us, for you have shown faithfulness and we have acted wickedly.

34 "Indeed our kings, our princes, our priests, and our fathers did not keep your law and did not give attention to your commandments or to your testimonies by which you had testified against them.

35 "And they, in their kingdom and in your abundant goodness which you gave them and in the broad and fat land which you gave before them, did not serve you and did not turn back from their evil deeds.

36 "Behold, we [are] slaves this day; and the land which you gave our fathers to eat its fruit and its good things, behold, we [are] slaves in it.

37 "And [it] is multiplying its yield to the kings whom you have set over us because of our sins. And [they] are ruling over our bodies and over our cattle according to their pleasure, and we [are] in great distress.

38 "Therefore because of all this we are making a firm covenant and writing [it]; and upon the [document] which is sealed [are] our leaders, our Levites, [and] our priests."

CHAPTER 9

29 And testifiedst against them, that thou mightest bring them again unto thy law: yet they dealt proudly, and hearkened not unto thy commandments, but sinned against thy judgments, (which if a man do, he shall live in them;) and withdrew the shoulder, and hardened their neck, and would not hear.

30 Yet many years didst thou forbear them, and testifiedst against them by thy spirit in thy prophets: yet would they not give ear: therefore gavest thou them into the hand of the people of the lands.

31 Nevertheless for thy great mercies' sake thou didst not utterly consume them, nor forsake them; for thou [art] a gracious and merciful God.

32 Now therefore, our God, the great, the mighty, and the terrible God, who keepest covenant and mercy, let not all the trouble seem little before thee, that hath come upon us, on our kings, on our princes, and on our priests, and on our prophets, and on our fathers, and on all thy people, since the time of the kings of Assyria unto this day.

33 Howbeit thou [art] just in all that is brought upon us; for thou hast done right, but we have done wickedly:

34 Neither have our kings, our princes, our priests, nor our fathers, kept thy law, nor hearkened unto thy commandments and thy testimonies, wherewith thou didst testify against them.

35 For they have not served thee in their kingdom, and in thy great goodness that thou gavest them, and in the large and fat land which thou gavest before them, neither turned they from their wicked works.

36 Behold, we [are] servants this day, and [for] the land that thou gavest unto our fathers to eat the fruit thereof and the good thereof, behold, we [are] servants in it:

37 And it yieldeth much increase unto the kings whom thou hast set over us because of our sins: also they have dominion over our bodies, and over our cattle, at their pleasure, and we [are] in great distress.

38 And because of all this we make a sure [covenant], and write [it]; and our princes, Levites, [and] priests, seal [unto it].

8) lit. "Asshur"

CHAPTER 10

- 1 Now upon the [documents] which were sealed [were] Nehemiah the Tirshatha, the son of Hacaliah, Zedekiah,
- 2 Seraiah, Azariah, Jeremiah,
- 3 Pashhur, Amariah, Malchijah,
- 4 Hattush, Shebaniah, Malluch,
- 5 Harim, Meremoth, Obadiah,
- 6 Daniel, Ginnethon, Baruch,
- 7 Meshullam, Abijah, Mijamin,
- 8 Maaziah, Bilgai, Shemaiah. These [were] the priests.
- 9 And the Levites, namely, Jeshua the son of Azaniah, Binnui of the sons of Henadad, Kadmiel,
- 10 and their brethren: Shebaniah, Hodiah, Kelita, Pelaiah, Hanan,
- 11 Mica, Rehob, Hashabiah,
- 12 Zaccur, Sherebiah, Shebaniah,
- 13 Hodiah, Bani, Beninu.
- 14 The heads 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,
- 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 Malluch, Harim, Baanah.

CHAPTER 10

CHAPTER 10

- 1 Now those that sealed [were], Nehemiah, the Tirshatha, the son of Hachaliah, and Zidkijah,
- 2 Seraiah, Azariah, Jeremiah,
- 3 Pashur, Amariah, Malchijah,
- 4 Hattush, Shebaniah, Malluch,
- 5 Harim, Meremoth, Obadiah,
- 6 Daniel, Ginnethon, Baruch,
- 7 Meshullam, Abijah, Mijamin,
- 8 Maaziah, Bilgai, Shemaiah: these [were] the priests.
- 9 And the Levites: both Jeshua the son of Azaniah, Binnui of the sons of Henadad, Kadmiel;
- 10 And their brethren, Shebaniah, Hodijah, Kelita, Pelaiah, Hanan,
- 11 Micha, Rehob, Hashabiah,
- 12 Zaccur, Sherebiah, Shebaniah,
- 13 Hodijah, Bani, Beninu.
- 14 The chief of the people; Parosh, Pahathmoab, Elam, Zattu, Bani,
- 15 Bunni, Azgad, Bebai,
- 16 Adonijah, Bigvai, Adin,
- 17 Ater, Hizkijah, Azzur,
- 18 Hodijah, Hashum, Bezai,
- 19 Hariph, Anathoth, Nebai,
- 20 Magpiash, Meshullam, Hezir,
- 21 Meshezabeel, Zadok, Jaddua,
- 22 Pelatiah, Hanan, Anaiah,
- 23 Hoshea, Hananiah, Hashub,
- 24 Hallohesh, Pileha, Shobek,
- 25 Rehum, Hashabnah, Maaseiah,
- 26 And Ahijah, Hanan, Anan,
- 27 Malluch, Harim, Baanah.

28 And the rest of the people, the priests, the Levites, the gatekeepers, the singers, the temple servants, and everyone who had separated himself from the peoples of the lands to the law of God, their wives, their sons and their daughters, everyone who had understanding<sup>1</sup>,

29 were joining with their brothers, their nobles, and entering into a curse and into an oath to walk in the law of God which had been given by the hand of Moses the servant of God, and to keep and to do all the commandments of the LORD our Lord and his ordinances and his statutes,

30 and that we would not give our daughters to the peoples of the land or take their daughters for our sons.

31 And the peoples of the land who brought wares or any grain on the day of the Sabbath to sell, we would not take [any] from them on the Sabbath or on a holy day<sup>2</sup>. And we would leave off the seventh year and the interest of every hand.

32 Also we set up obligations upon ourselves to impose upon ourselves a third of the shekel per year for the service of the house of our God,

33 for the bread of orderly arrangement, and the continual grain offering<sup>3</sup>, and for the continual burnt offering<sup>4</sup>, the sabbaths, the new moons, for the appointed festivals, and for the holy things, and for the sin offerings to make atonement for Israel, and all the work of the house of our God.

34 And we cast the lots, the priests, the Levites, and the people, for the delivery of wood, to bring [it] into the house of our God, according to the house of our fathers, at appointed times, year by year, to keep a fire burning upon the altar of the LORD our God, according to that which was written in the law,

35 and to bring the firstfruits of our ground and the firstfruits of every fruit of every tree, year by year, to the house of the LORD,

36 and to bring the firstborns of our sons and of our cattle, according to that which was written in the law, and the firstborns of our herds and of our flocks to the house of our God, to the priests who ministered in the house of our God.

37 And we will bring the first of our dough and our contributions and the fruit of every tree, fresh wine and oil, to the priests, to the chambers of the house of our God, and the tithe of our ground to the Levites, for they, the Levites, [are] the ones who take tithes in all the cities of our service.

38 And the priest, the son of Aaron, shall be with the Levites when the Levites collect tithes, and the Levites shall bring up the tithe of the tithe to the house of our God, to the chambers of the house of treasure.

39 For the sons of Israel and the sons of Levi shall bring the contribution of the grain, the fresh wine, and the oil, to the chambers where the articles of the sanctuary, and the priests who minister, and the gatekeepers, and the singers [are]. Therefore we will not forsake the house of our God.

CHAPTER 10

1) lit. "knew understanding"

2) lit. "day of holiness"

3) lit. "grain offering of continuity"

4) lit. "burnt offering of continuity"

28 And the rest of the people, the priests, the Levites, the porters, the singers, the Nethinims, and all they that had separated themselves from the people of the lands unto the law of God, their wives, their sons, and their daughters, every one having knowledge, and having understanding;

29 They clave to their brethren, their nobles, and entered into a curse, and into an oath, to walk in God's law, which was given by Moses the servant of God, and to observe and do all the commandments of the LORD our Lord, and his judgments and his statutes;

30 And that we would not give our daughters unto the people of the land, nor take their daughters for our sons:

31 And [if] the people of the land bring ware or any victuals on the sabbath day to sell, [that] we would not buy it of them on the sabbath, or on the holy day: and [that] we would leave the seventh year, and the exaction of every debt.

32 Also we made ordinances for us, to charge ourselves yearly with the third part of a shekel for the service of the house of our God;

33 For the shewbread, and for the continual meat offering, and for the continual burnt offering, of the sabbaths, of the new moons, for the set feasts, and for the holy [things], and for the sin offerings to make an atonement for Israel, and [for] all the work of the house of our God.

34 And we cast the lots among the priests, the Levites, and the people, for the wood offering, to bring [it] into the house of our God, after the houses of our fathers, at times appointed year by year, to burn upon the altar of the LORD our God, as [it is] written in the law:

35 And to bring the firstfruits of our ground, and the firstfruits of all fruit of all trees, year by year, unto the house of the LORD:

36 Also the firstborn of our sons, and of our cattle, as [it is] written in the law, and the firstlings of our herds and of our flocks, to bring to the house of our God, unto the priests that minister in the house of our God:

37 And [that] we should bring the firstfruits of our dough, and our offerings, and the fruit of all manner of trees, of wine and of oil, unto the priests, to the chambers of the house of our God; and the tithes of our ground unto the Levites, that the same Levites might have the tithes in all the cities of our tillage.

38 And the priest the son of Aaron shall be with the Levites, when the Levites take tithes: and the Levites shall bring up the tithe of the tithes unto the house of our God, to the chambers, into the treasure house.

39 For the children of Israel and the children of Levi shall bring the offering of the corn, of the new wine, and the oil, unto the chambers, where [are] the vessels of the sanctuary, and the priests that minister, and the porters, and the singers: and we will not forsake the house of our God.

CHAPTER 11

1 And the leaders of the people dwelled in Jerusalem, while the rest of the people cast lots to bring one out of ten to dwell in Jerusalem the holy city<sup>1</sup>, and nine-tenths<sup>2</sup> in the [other] cities.

2 And the people blessed all the men who willingly offered to dwell in Jerusalem.

3 Now these [were] the heads of the province who dwelled in Jerusalem; while in the cities of Judah they dwelled each man in his property in their cities: Israel, the priests, and the Levites, and the temple servants, and the sons of the servants of Solomon.

4 And in Jerusalem part of the sons of Judah and part of the sons of Benjamin dwelled. Of the sons of Judah: Athaiah the son of Uziah, the son of Zechariah, the son of Amariah, the son of Shephatiah, the son of Mahalalel, of the sons of Perez,

5 and Maaseiah the son of Baruch, the son of Col-hozeh, the son of Hazaiah, the son of Adaiah, the son of Joiarib, the son of Zechariah, the son of the Shilonite.

6 All the sons of Perez who dwelled in Jerusalem [were] four hundred and sixty-eight men of strength.

7 And these [were] the sons of Benjamin: Sallu the son of Meshullam, the son of Joed, the son of Pedaiah, the son of Kolaiah, the son of Maaseiah, the son of Ithiel, the son of Jeshaiiah,

8 and after him Gebbai, Sallai, nine hundred and twenty-eight;

9 and Joel the son of Zichri [was] overseer over them, and Judah the son of Hassenuah [was] second-in-command over the city.

CHAPTER 11

1) lit. "city of holiness"  
2) lit. "the nine parts"

CHAPTER 11

1 And the rulers of the people dwelt at Jerusalem: the rest of the people also cast lots, to bring one of ten to dwell in Jerusalem the holy city, and nine parts [to dwell] in [other] cities.

2 And the people blessed all the men, that willingly offered themselves to dwell at Jerusalem.

3 Now these [are] the chief of the province that dwelt in Jerusalem: but in the cities of Judah dwelt every one in his possession in their cities, [to wit], Israel, the priests, and the Levites, and the Nethinims, and the children of Solomon's servants.

4 And at Jerusalem dwelt [certain] of the children of Judah, and of the children of Benjamin. Of the children of Judah; Athaiah the son of Uziah, the son of Zechariah, the son of Amariah, the son of Shephatiah, the son of Mahalaleel, of the children of Perez;

5 And Maaseiah the son of Baruch, the son of Colhozeh, the son of Hazaiah, the son of Adaiah, the son of Joiarib, the son of Zechariah, the son of Shiloni.

6 All the sons of Perez that dwelt at Jerusalem [were] four hundred threescore and eight valiant men.

7 And these [are] the sons of Benjamin; Sallu the son of Meshullam, the son of Joed, the son of Pedaiah, the son of Kolaiah, the son of Maaseiah, the son of Ithiel, the son of Jesaiah.

8 And after him Gabbai, Sallai, nine hundred twenty and eight.

9 And Joel the son of Zichri [was] their overseer: and Judah the son of Senuah [was] second over the city.

**10** Of the priests: Jedaiah the son of Joiarib, Jachin,  
**11** Seraiah the son of Hilkiyah, the son of Meshullam, the son of Zadok, the son of Meraioth, the son of Ahitub, the ruler of the house of God,  
**12** and their brothers who did the work of the house, eight hundred and twenty-two; and Adaiah the son of Jeroham, the son of Pelaliah, the son of Amzi, the son of Zechariah, the son of Pashhur, the son of Malchijah,  
**13** and his brothers, heads of fathers, two hundred and forty-two; and Amashsai the son of Azarel, the son of Ahzai, the son of Meshillemoth, the son of Immer,  
**14** and their brothers, mighty men of strength, a hundred and twenty-eight; and Zabdiel the son of Haggadolim [was] overseer over them.  
**15** And of the Levites: Shemaiah the son of Hasshub, the son of Azrikam, the son of Hashabiah, the son of Bunni,  
**16** and Shabbethai and Jozabad, of the heads of the Levites, [who were] over the outside work of the house of God,  
**17** and Mattaniah the son of Mica, the son of Zabdi, the son of Asaph, the head of the beginning (he would give thanks with prayer), and Bakbukiah, second-in-command among his brothers, and Abda the son of Shammua, the son of Galal, the son of Jeduthun.  
**18** All the Levites in the holy city<sup>3</sup> [were] two hundred and eighty-four.  
**19** And the gatekeepers, Akkub, Talmon, and their brothers, who kept watch at the gates, [were] a hundred and seventy-two.  
**20** And the rest of Israel, of the priests, of the Levites, [were] in all the cities of Judah, each man in his inheritance.  
**21** But the temple servants were dwelling in Ophel, and Ziha and Gishpa [were] over the temple servants.  
**22** Now the overseer of the Levites in Jerusalem [was] Uzzi the son of Bani, the son of Hashabiah, the son of Mattaniah, the son of Mica, of the sons of Asaph, the singers, with regard to the work of the house of God.  
**23** For the command of the king [was] upon them and an agreement [was] upon the singers [concerning] daily duties<sup>4</sup>.  
**24** And Pethahiah the son of Meshezabel, of the sons of Zerah the son of Judah, [was] at the side of the king in every matter concerning the people.  
**25** Now concerning the villages with their fields, some of the sons of Judah dwelled in Kiriath-arba and its villages, and in Dibon and its villages, and in Jekabzeel and its villages,  
**26** and in Jeshua and in Moladah and in Beth-pelet,  
**27** and in Hazar-shual and in Beersheba and its villages,  
**28** and in Ziklag and in Meconah and its villages,  
**29** and in En-rimmon and in Zorah and in Jarmuth,  
**30** Zanoah, Adullam, and their villages, Lachish and its fields, Azekah and its villages. So they encamped from Beersheba to the valley of Hinnom.  
**31** Also the sons of Benjamin [dwelled] from Geba [to] Michmash, and Aija, and Bethel and its villages,  
**32** Anathoth, Nob, Ananiah,  
**33** Hazor, Ramah, Gittaim,  
**34** Hadid, Zeboim, Neballat,  
**35** Lod, and Ono, Ge-harashim.  
**36** And of the Levites, the divisions of Judah [went] to Benjamin.

CHAPTER 11

**10** Of the priests: Jedaiah the son of Joiarib, Jachin.  
**11** Seraiah the son of Hilkiyah, the son of Meshullam, the son of Zadok, the son of Meraioth, the son of Ahitub, [was] the ruler of the house of God.  
**12** And their brethren that did the work of the house [were] eight hundred twenty and two: and Adaiah the son of Jeroham, the son of Pelaliah, the son of Amzi, the son of Zechariah, the son of Pashur, the son of Malchiah,  
**13** And his brethren, chief of the fathers, two hundred forty and two: and Amashai the son of Azareel, the son of Ahasai, the son of Meshillemoth, the son of Immer,  
**14** And their brethren, mighty men of valour, an hundred twenty and eight: and their overseer [was] Zabdiel, the son of [one of] the great men.  
**15** Also of the Levites: Shemaiah the son of Hashub, the son of Azrikam, the son of Hashabiah, the son of Bunni;  
**16** And Shabbethai and Jozabad, of the chief of the Levites, [had] the oversight of the outward business of the house of God.  
**17** And Mattaniah the son of Micha, the son of Zabdi, the son of Asaph, [was] the principal to begin the thanksgiving in prayer: and Bakbukiah the second among his brethren, and Abda the son of Shammua, the son of Galal, the son of Jeduthun.  
**18** All the Levites in the holy city [were] two hundred fourscore and four.  
**19** Moreover the porters, Akkub, Talmon, and their brethren that kept the gates, [were] an hundred seventy and two.  
**20** And the residue of Israel, of the priests, [and] the Levites, [were] in all the cities of Judah, every one in his inheritance.  
**21** But the Nethinims dwelt in Ophel: and Ziha and Gispa [were] over the Nethinims.  
**22** The overseer also of the Levites at Jerusalem [was] Uzzi the son of Bani, the son of Hashabiah, the son of Mattaniah, the son of Micha. Of the sons of Asaph, the singers [were] over the business of the house of God.  
**23** For [it was] the king's commandment concerning them, that a certain portion should be for the singers, due for every day.  
**24** And Pethahiah the son of Meshezabeel, of the children of Zerah the son of Judah, [was] at the king's hand in all matters concerning the people.  
**25** And for the villages, with their fields, [some] of the children of Judah dwelt at Kirjatharba, and [in] the villages thereof, and at Dibon, and [in] the villages thereof, and at Jekabzeel, and [in] the villages thereof,  
**26** And at Jeshua, and at Moladah, and at Bethpelet,  
**27** And at Hazarshual, and at Beersheba, and [in] the villages thereof,  
**28** And at Ziklag, and at Mekonah, and in the villages thereof,  
**29** And at Enrimmon, and at Zareah, and at Jarmuth,  
**30** Zanoah, Adullam, and [in] their villages, at Lachish, and the fields thereof, at Azekah, and [in] the villages thereof. And they dwelt from Beersheba unto the valley of Hinnom.  
**31** The children also of Benjamin from Geba [dwelt] at Michmash, and Aija, and Bethel, and [in] their villages,  
**32** [And] at Anathoth, Nob, Ananiah,  
**33** Hazor, Ramah, Gittaim,  
**34** Hadid, Zeboim, Neballat,  
**35** Lod, and Ono, the valley of craftsmen.  
**36** And of the Levites [were] divisions [in] Judah, [and] in Benjamin.

3) lit. "city of holiness"

4) lit. "matter of a day in its day"

CHAPTER 12

**1** Now these [were] the priests and the Levites who had come up with Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and Jeshua: Seraiah, Jeremiah, Ezra,  
**2** Amariah, Malluch, Hattush,  
**3** Shechaniah, Rehum, Meremoth,  
**4** Iddo, Ginnethoi, Abijah,  
**5** Mijamin, Maadiah, Bilgah,  
**6** Shemaiah, and Joiarib, Jedaiah,  
**7** Sallu, Amok, Hilkiyah, Jedaiah. These [were] the heads of the priests and of their brethren in the days of Jeshua.  
**8** And the Levites: Jeshua, Binnui, Kadmiel, Sherebiah, Judah, Mattaniah, [who was] over the songs of thanksgiving, he and his brothers.

CHAPTER 12

CHAPTER 12

**1** Now these [are] the priests and the Levites that went up with Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and Jeshua: Seraiah, Jeremiah, Ezra,  
**2** Amariah, Malluch, Hattush,  
**3** Shechaniah, Rehum, Meremoth,  
**4** Iddo, Ginnethoi, Abijah,  
**5** Miamin, Maadiah, Bilgah,  
**6** Shemaiah, and Joiarib, Jedaiah,  
**7** Sallu, Amok, Hilkiyah, Jedaiah. These [were] the chief of the priests and of their brethren in the days of Jeshua.  
**8** Moreover the Levites: Jeshua, Binnui, Kadmiel, Sherebiah, Judah, [and] Mattaniah, [which was] over the thanksgiving, he and his brethren.

9 And Bakbukiah and Unni, their brothers, [were] opposite them according to the service divisions.

10 And Jeshua begot Joiakim, and Joiakim begot Eliashib, and Eliashib Joiada,

11 and Joiada begot Jonathan, and Jonathan begot Jaddua.

12 And in the days of Joiakim [were] priests, the heads of the fathers: of Seraiah, Meraiah; of Jeremiah, Hananiah;

13 of Ezra, Meshullam; of Amariah, Jehohanan;

14 of Melichu, Jonathan; of Shebaniah, Joseph;

15 of Harim, Adna; of Meraioth, Helkai;

16 of Iddo, Zechariah; of Ginnethon, Meshullam;

17 of Abijah, Zichri; of Miniamin, of Moadiah, Piltai;

18 of Bilgah, Shammua; of Shemaiah, Jehonathan;

19 of Joiarib, Mattenai; of Jedaiah, Uzzi;

20 of Sallai, Kallai; of Amok, Eber;

21 of Hilkiah, Hashabiah; of Jedaiah, Nethanel.

22 The Levites, in the days of Eliashib, Joiada, and Johanan, and Jaddua, were recorded [as] heads of fathers; also the priests, in<sup>1</sup> the reign of Darius the Persian.

23 The sons of Levi, the heads of the fathers, were written in the book of the accounts of the days up to the days of Johanan the son of Eliashib.

24 And the heads of the Levites: Hashabiah, Sherebiah, and Jeshua the son of Kadmiel, with their brothers opposite them, to praise, to give thanks, according to the command of David the man of God, service division by service division.

25 Mattaniah, and Bakbukiah, Obadiah, Meshullam, Talmon, Akkub, [were] gatekeepers keeping watch at the storehouses<sup>2</sup> of the gates.

26 These [were] in the days of Joiakim the son of Jeshua, the son of Jozadak, and in the days of Nehemiah the governor and of Ezra the priest, the scribe.

27 Now at the dedication of the wall of Jerusalem they sought out the Levites from all their places, to bring them to Jerusalem in order to celebrate a joyful dedication<sup>3</sup>, both with thanksgivings and with songs, cymbals, harps, and lyres.

28 And the sons of the singers gathered themselves both from the vicinity round about Jerusalem and from the villages of [the] Netophathites,

29 both from Beth-gilgal and from the fields of Geba and Azmaveth, for the singers had built for themselves villages round about Jerusalem.

30 And the priests and the Levites purified themselves, and they purified the people and the gates and the wall.

31 Then I brought the leaders of Judah up upon the wall and set up two great choirs and processions. [The first which went] to the right upon the wall toward the gate of the garbage heaps.

32 And Hoshaiiah and half of the leaders of Judah went after them,

33 and<sup>4</sup> Azariah, Ezra, and Meshullam,

34 Judah, and Benjamin, and Shemaiah, and Jeremiah,

35 and some of the sons of the priests with trumpets; Zechariah the son of Jonathan, the son of Shemaiah, the son of Mattaniah, the son of Micaiah, the son of Zaccur, the son of Asaph,

36 and his brothers Shemaiah, and Azarel, Milalai, Gilalai, Maai, Nethanel, and Judah, Hanani, with the musical instruments<sup>5</sup> of David the man of God. And Ezra the scribe [was] before them.

37 And at the gate of the fountain and in front of them, they went up by the stairs of the city of David, at the ascent of the wall, by the house of David, to the gate of the water [in the] east.

38 And the second choir which went in [the] opposite direction, with me behind them and half of the people upon the wall, by the tower of the furnaces, to the broad wall,

39 and by the gate of Ephraim, and by the gate of the old, and by the gate of the fish, and the tower of Hananel, and the tower of the hundred, to the gate of the sheep; and they stood still at the gate of the guard.

40 Then the two choirs stood in the house of God, and I and half of the officials with me,

CHAPTER 12

9 Also Bakbukiah and Unni, their brethren, [were] over against them in the watches.

10 And Jeshua begot Joiakim, Joiakim also begot Eliashib, and Eliashib begot Joiada,

11 And Joiada begot Jonathan, and Jonathan begot Jaddua.

12 And in the days of Joiakim were priests, the chief of the fathers: of Seraiah, Meraiah; of Jeremiah, Hananiah;

13 Of Ezra, Meshullam; of Amariah, Jehohanan;

14 Of Melicu, Jonathan; of Shebaniah, Joseph;

15 Of Harim, Adna; of Meraioth, Helkai;

16 Of Iddo, Zechariah; of Ginnethon, Meshullam;

17 Of Abijah, Zichri; of Miniamin, of Moadiah, Piltai;

18 Of Bilgah, Shammua; of Shemaiah, Jehonathan;

19 And of Joiarib, Mattenai; of Jedaiah, Uzzi;

20 Of Sallai, Kallai; of Amok, Eber;

21 Of Hilkiah, Hashabiah; of Jedaiah, Nethaneel.

22 The Levites in the days of Eliashib, Joiada, and Johanan, and Jaddua, [were] recorded chief of the fathers: also the priests, to the reign of Darius the Persian.

23 The sons of Levi, the chief of the fathers, [were] written in the book of the chronicles, even until the days of Johanan the son of Eliashib.

24 And the chief of the Levites: Hashabiah, Sherebiah, and Jeshua the son of Kadmiel, with their brethren over against them, to praise [and] to give thanks, according to the commandment of David the man of God, ward over against ward.

25 Mattaniah, and Bakbukiah, Obadiah, Meshullam, Talmon, Akkub, [were] porters keeping the ward at the thresholds of the gates.

26 These [were] in the days of Joiakim the son of Jeshua, the son of Jozadak, and in the days of Nehemiah the governor, and of Ezra the priest, the scribe.

27 And at the dedication of the wall of Jerusalem they sought the Levites out of all their places, to bring them to Jerusalem, to keep the dedication with gladness, both with thanksgivings, and with singing, [with] cymbals, psalteries, and with harps.

28 And the sons of the singers gathered themselves together, both out of the plain country round about Jerusalem, and from the villages of Netophathi;

29 Also from the house of Gilgal, and out of the fields of Geba and Azmaveth: for the singers had builded them villages round about Jerusalem.

30 And the priests and the Levites purified themselves, and purified the people, and the gates, and the wall.

31 Then I brought up the princes of Judah upon the wall, and appointed two great [companies of them that gave] thanks, [whereof one] went on the right hand upon the wall toward the dung gate:

32 And after them went Hoshaiiah, and half of the princes of Judah,

33 And Azariah, Ezra, and Meshullam,

34 Judah, and Benjamin, and Shemaiah, and Jeremiah,

35 And [certain] of the priests' sons with trumpets; [namely], Zechariah the son of Jonathan, the son of Shemaiah, the son of Mattaniah, the son of Micaiah, the son of Zaccur, the son of Asaph:

36 And his brethren, Shemaiah, and Azarael, Milalai, Gilalai, Maai, Nethaneel, and Judah, Hanani, with the musical instruments of David the man of God, and Ezra the scribe before them.

37 And at the fountain gate, which was over against them, they went up by the stairs of the city of David, at the going up of the wall, above the house of David, even unto the water gate eastward.

38 And the other [company of them that gave] thanks went over against [them], and I after them, and the half of the people upon the wall, from beyond the tower of the furnaces even unto the broad wall;

39 And from above the gate of Ephraim, and above the old gate, and above the fish gate, and the tower of Hananeel, and the tower of Meah, even unto the sheep gate: and they stood still in the prison gate.

40 So stood the two [companies of them that gave] thanks in the house of God, and I, and the half of the rulers with me:

1) or, "until"

2) or, "storerooms"

3) lit, "dedication and joy"

4) or, "namely,"

5) lit, "instruments of the music"

**41** and the priests Eliakim, Maaseiah, Miniamin, Micaiah, Elioenai, Zechariah, Hananiah, with trumpets, **42** and Maaseiah, and Shemaiah, and Eleazar, and Uzzi, and Jehohanan, and Malchijah, and Elam, and Ezer. And the singers sounded forth, with Jezrahiah the overseer.

**43** And on that day they sacrificed great sacrifices and rejoiced, for God had made them rejoice [with] great joy; and the women and children also rejoiced. And the joy of Jerusalem was heard far away.

**44** And on that day men were appointed over the chambers of the treasuries for the contributions, for the firstfruits, and for the tithes, to gather into them, according to the fields of the cities, the portions prescribed by the law for the priests and for the Levites, for the joy of Judah [was] over the priests and over the Levites who stood in service.

**45** And they kept the charge of their God and the charge of purification, also the singers and the gatekeepers, according to the command of David [and] Solomon his son.

**46** For in the days of David and Asaph, from long ago, [there were] the heads of the singers, and songs of praise and thanksgiving to God.

**47** And all Israel, in the days of Zerubbabel and in the days of Nehemiah, were giving the portions of the singers and the gatekeepers, daily allowances<sup>6</sup>, and were setting apart [that which was] for the Levites, and the Levites were setting apart [that which was] for the sons of Aaron.

CHAPTER 12

**41** And the priests; Eliakim, Maaseiah, Miniamin, Micaiah, Elioenai, Zechariah, [and] Hananiah, with trumpets; **42** And Maaseiah, and Shemaiah, and Eleazar, and Uzzi, and Jehohanan, and Malchijah, and Elam, and Ezer. And the singers sang loud, with Jezrahiah [their] overseer.

**43** Also that day they offered great sacrifices, and rejoiced: for God had made them rejoice with great joy: the wives also and the children rejoiced: so that the joy of Jerusalem was heard even afar off.

**44** And at that time were some appointed over the chambers for the treasures, for the offerings, for the firstfruits, and for the tithes, to gather into them out of the fields of the cities the portions of the law for the priests and Levites: for Judah rejoiced for the priests and for the Levites that waited.

**45** And both the singers and the porters kept the ward of their God, and the ward of the purification, according to the commandment of David, [and] of Solomon his son.

**46** For in the days of David and Asaph of old [there were] chief of the singers, and songs of praise and thanksgiving unto God.

**47** And all Israel in the days of Zerubbabel, and in the days of Nehemiah, gave the portions of the singers and the porters, every day his portion: and they sanctified [holy things] unto the Levites; and the Levites sanctified [them] unto the children of Aaron.

6) lit. "matter of a day in its day"

CHAPTER 13

**1** On that day it was read in the book of Moses in the ears of the people and it was found written in it, that no Ammonite or Moabite should come into the assembly of God for eternity,

**2** because they did not meet the sons of Israel with bread and with water, but he hired Balaam against them to curse them. However, our God turned the curse into a blessing.

**3** And it happened as soon as they heard the law, that they separated all foreign people from Israel.

**4** Now before this, Eliashib the priest, [who had been] set over the chambers of the house of our God, [was] close to Tobiah.

**5** And he prepared for him a great chamber, where in former times they had been laying the grain offering, the frankincense, and the articles, and the tithe of the grain, the fresh wine and the oil, the commandment for the Levites and the singers and the gatekeepers, and the contributions for the priests.

**6** But during all this I was not in Jerusalem, for in [the] thirty-second year of Artaxerxes the king of Babylon I had gone to the king. However, at [the] end of days I requested leave of the king.

**7** And I came to Jerusalem, and gave heed to the evil which Eliashib had done for Tobiah, by preparing for him a chamber in the courts of the house of God.

**8** And it was very displeasing to me. Therefore I threw all the articles of the house of Tobiah out of the chamber.

**9** Then I gave orders, and they cleansed the chambers. And I brought back there the articles of the house of God, with the grain offering and the frankincense.

**10** Also I learned that the portions of the Levites had not been given [to them], with the result that the Levites and the singers who did the work had fled, each man to his field.

**11** So I contended with the officials and said, "Why has the house of God been forsaken?" Then I gathered them together and set them in their places<sup>1</sup>.

**12** And all Judah brought the tithe of the grain and the fresh wine and the oil into the treasuries.

**13** And I appointed as treasurers over [the] treasuries Shelemiah the priest, and Zadok the scribe, and Pedaiah of the Levites, and next to them Hanan the son of Zaccur, the son of Mattaniah, for they were regarded [as] faithful, and [it was] upon them to distribute to their brothers.

**14** Remember me, O my God, on account of this, and do not blot out my good deeds which I have done for the house of my God and for its service divisions.

**15** In those days I saw in Judah [men] treading winepresses on the Sabbath, and bringing in heaps of grain and loading [them] upon the donkeys, and also wine, grapes, and figs, and every load, and bringing [them into] Jerusalem on the day of the Sabbath. And I testified [against them] on the day on which they sold provisions.

CHAPTER 13

CHAPTER 13

**1** On that day they read in the book of Moses in the audience of the people; and therein was found written, that the Ammonite and the Moabite should not come into the congregation of God for ever;

**2** Because they met not the children of Israel with bread and with water, but hired Balaam against them, that he should curse them: howbeit our God turned the curse into a blessing.

**3** Now it came to pass, when they had heard the law, that they separated from Israel all the mixed multitude.

**4** And before this, Eliashib the priest, having the oversight of the chamber of the house of our God, [was] allied unto Tobiah:

**5** And he had prepared for him a great chamber, where aforetime they laid the meat offerings, the frankincense, and the vessels, and the tithes of the corn, the new wine, and the oil, which was commanded [to be given] to the Levites, and the singers, and the porters; and the offerings of the priests.

**6** But in all this [time] was not I at Jerusalem: for in the two and thirtieth year of Artaxerxes king of Babylon came I unto the king, and after certain days obtained I leave of the king:

**7** And I came to Jerusalem, and understood of the evil that Eliashib did for Tobiah, in preparing him a chamber in the courts of the house of God.

**8** And it grieved me sore: therefore I cast forth all the household stuff of Tobiah out of the chamber.

**9** Then I commanded, and they cleansed the chambers: and thither brought I again the vessels of the house of God, with the meat offering and the frankincense.

**10** And I perceived that the portions of the Levites had not been given [them]: for the Levites and the singers, that did the work, were fled every one to his field.

**11** Then contended I with the rulers, and said, Why is the house of God forsaken? And I gathered them together, and set them in their place.

**12** Then brought all Judah the tithe of the corn and the new wine and the oil unto the treasuries.

**13** And I made treasurers over the treasuries, Shelemiah the priest, and Zadok the scribe, and of the Levites, Pedaiah: and next to them [was] Hanan the son of Zaccur, the son of Mattaniah: for they were counted faithful, and their office [was] to distribute unto their brethren.

**14** Remember me, O my God, concerning this, and wipe not out my good deeds that I have done for the house of my God, and for the offices thereof.

**15** In those days saw I in Judah [some] treading wine presses on the sabbath, and bringing in sheaves, and lading asses; as also wine, grapes, and figs, and all [manner of] burdens, which they brought into Jerusalem on the sabbath day: and I testified [against them] in the day wherein they sold victuals.

1) lit. "upon their standing"

**16** Also the Tyrians dwelled in it, bringing in fish and every salable item and selling [them] on the Sabbath to the sons of Judah, and in Jerusalem.

**17** Then I contended with the nobles of Judah and said to them, "What [is] this evil thing which you are doing, by profaning the day of the Sabbath?"

**18** "Did not your fathers do thus, and [did not] our God bring all this disaster upon us and upon this city? Yet you are adding wrath upon Israel by profaning the Sabbath."

**19** And it happened when the gates of Jerusalem became dark before the Sabbath, that I gave orders, and the doors were shut, and I gave orders that they should not open them until after the Sabbath (now I had set some of my servants at the gates), [that] no burden should come in on the day of the Sabbath.

**20** Then the merchants and the sellers of every salable item spent the night outside Jerusalem once or twice.

**21** And I testified against them and said to them, "Why are you spending the night in front of the wall? If you do [this] again, I will lay hands on you." From that time on they did not come on the Sabbath.

**22** And I gave orders to the Levites that they should purify themselves and come guard the gates, in order to keep the day of the Sabbath holy. Remember also this for me, O my God, and look compassionately upon me according to the abundance of your lovingkindness.

**23** Also in those days I saw the Jews [who] had married<sup>2</sup> Ashdodite, Ammonite, [and] Moabite women.

**24** And their sons, half were speaking Ashdodite (and they did not know how to speak Judean), and according to the language of each people.

**25** And I contended with them, and cursed them, and struck some of them, men, and pulled out their hair, and made them swear by God, "You shall not give your daughters to their sons, and you shall not take of their daughters for your sons or for yourselves.

**26** "Did not Solomon the king of Israel sin in regard to these [things]? Yet among the many nations there was no king like him, and he was loved by his God, and God made him king over all Israel. The foreign women caused even him to sin.

**27** "Should we then hear about you that [you] are doing all this great evil by acting treacherously against our God, by marrying<sup>3</sup> foreign women?"

**28** And one of the sons of Jehoiada, the son of Eliashib the high priest, [was] son-in-law to Sanballat the Horonite. Therefore I chased him away from me.

**29** Remember them, O my God, on account of the defilement of the priesthood and the covenant of the priesthood and the Levites.

**30** Thus I purified them from everything which was foreign. And I set up services for the priests and for the Levites, each man in his work,

**31** and for the delivery of the wood at appointed times, and for the firstfruits. Remember me, O my God, for good.

2) lit, "given a dwelling to"

3) lit, "giving a dwelling to"

**16** There dwelt men of Tyre also therein, which brought fish, and all manner of ware, and sold on the sabbath unto the children of Judah, and in Jerusalem.

**17** Then I contended with the nobles of Judah, and said unto them, What evil thing [is] this that ye do, and profane the sabbath day?

**18** Did not your fathers thus, and did not our God bring all this evil upon us, and upon this city? yet ye bring more wrath upon Israel by profaning the sabbath.

**19** And it came to pass, that when the gates of Jerusalem began to be dark before the sabbath, I commanded that the gates should be shut, and charged that they should not be opened till after the sabbath: and [some] of my servants set I at the gates, [that] there should no burden be brought in on the sabbath day.

**20** So the merchants and sellers of all kind of ware lodged without Jerusalem once or twice.

**21** Then I testified against them, and said unto them, Why lodge ye about the wall? if ye do [so] again, I will lay hands on you. From that time forth came they no [more] on the sabbath.

**22** And I commanded the Levites that they should cleanse themselves, and [that] they should come [and] keep the gates, to sanctify the sabbath day. Remember me, O my God, [concerning] this also, and spare me according to the greatness of thy mercy.

**23** In those days also saw I Jews [that] had married wives of Ashdod, of Ammon, [and] of Moab:

**24** And their children spake half in the speech of Ashdod, and could not speak in the Jews' language, but according to the language of each people.

**25** And I contended with them, and cursed them, and smote certain of them, and plucked off their hair, and made them swear by God, [saying], Ye shall not give your daughters unto their sons, nor take their daughters unto your sons, or for yourselves.

**26** Did not Solomon king of Israel sin by these things? yet among many nations was there no king like him, who was beloved of his God, and God made him king over all Israel: nevertheless even him did outlandish women cause to sin.

**27** Shall we then hearken unto you to do all this great evil, to transgress against our God in marrying strange wives?

**28** And [one] of the sons of Joiada, the son of Eliashib the high priest, [was] son in law to Sanballat the Horonite: therefore I chased him from me.

**29** Remember them, O my God, because they have defiled the priesthood, and the covenant of the priesthood, and of the Levites.

**30** Thus cleansed I them from all strangers, and appointed the wards of the priests and the Levites, every one in his business;

**31** And for the wood offering, at times appointed, and for the firstfruits. Remember me, O my God, for good.