

Nehemiah 11

Fear God

▪ Nehemiah Overview

1. 445 BC Nehemiah cupbearer to King of Persia
2. Jerusalem destroyed 100 years earlier
3. People taken into exile by Babylon; which was later defeated by Persia
4. After 70 years of exile some went back to re-build destroyed Temple
5. Wall still broken down and Nehemiah asks King for permission
6. Observes devastation to see what is needed/Rallies people of Israel to begin to build wall
7. Opposition without and within/ Wall around Jerusalem completed in less 2 months
8. Word of God is read/Repentance/Rejoicing/Revival/ **People make a covenant with the Lord**

Put it in Writing: We will obey your commands
Good Times in Israel: Rallying around One God and His Temple

I. People Dwelling in Jerusalem

1 Now the **leaders of the people dwelt at Jerusalem**; the rest of the people cast lots to bring one out of ten to dwell in Jerusalem, the holy city, and nine-tenths were to dwell in other cities.

- Leaders lived within city
- Another 10% chosen by lottery

2 And the people blessed all the men who **willingly offered themselves to dwell at Jerusalem.**

- **Volunteers:** Willingly offered to live in Jerusalem
 1. Willingly gave up land/homes
 2. Willingly left friends
 3. Willingly lived among some ruins for sake of God/others

Whatever we willingly give to the Lord will be restored abundantly

Matthew 19:27 [After Jesus taught on difficulty of rich entering heaven] ...Peter answered and said to Him, "See, we have left all and followed You. Therefore what shall we have?" 28 So Jesus said to them, "Assuredly I say to you, that in the regeneration, when the Son of Man sits on the throne of His glory, you who have followed Me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. 29 And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My name's sake, shall **receive a hundredfold**, and inherit eternal life.

- **NOTE:** When the Spirit of God is moving complaining ceases

Philippians 2:14 Do **all things without complaining** and disputing, 15 that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world

- **Willingly gave for the sake of others:** God so love the world that He gave...
- Next, God records names of those who willingly gave...

3 These are the heads of the province who dwelt in Jerusalem. (But in the cities of Judah everyone dwelt in his own possession in their cities—Israelites, priests, Levites, Nethinim, and descendants of Solomon’s servants.) 4 Also in Jerusalem dwelt some of the children of Judah and of the children of Benjamin. The children 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 children 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 Shiloni. 6 All the sons of Perez who dwelt at Jerusalem were four hundred and sixty-eight valiant men.

- **Vv 3-6** Sons of Judah living in Jerusalem

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 Jeshai; 8 and after him Gabbai and Sallai, nine hundred and twenty-eight. 9 Joel the son of Zichri was their overseer, and Judah the son of Senuah was second over the city.

- **Vv 7-9** Sons of Benjamin living in Jerusalem

10 Of the priests: Jedaiah the son of Joiarib, and 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 leader of the house of God. 12 Their brethren who did the work of the house were 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 brethren, heads of the fathers’ houses, were two hundred and forty-two; and Amashai the son of Azarel, the son of Ahzai, the son of Meshillemoth, the son of Immer, 14 and their brethren, mighty men of valor, were one hundred and twenty-eight. Their overseer was Zabdiel the son of one of the great men.

- **Vv 10-14** Priests living in Jerusalem

15 Also of the Levites: Shemaiah the son of Hasshub, the son of Azrikam, the son of Hashabiah, the son of Bunni; 16 Shabbethai and Jozabad, of the heads of the Levites, had the oversight of the business outside of the house of God; 17 Mattaniah the son of Micha, the son of Zabdi, the son of Asaph, the leader who began the thanksgiving with prayer; 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 and eighty-four.

- **Vv 15-18** Levites living in the “holy city”

- **284** Levites care for the Temple of the Lord/help priests

19 Moreover the gatekeepers, Akkub, Talmon, and their brethren who kept the gates, were one hundred and seventy-two.

- **V 19** 172 Gatekeepers living in Jerusalem

20 And the rest of Israel, of the priests and Levites, were in all the cities of Judah, everyone in his inheritance. 21 But the Nethinim dwelt in Ophel. And Ziha and Gishpa were over the Nethinim.

- **Nethinim:** Servants who also took care of Temple

22 Also the overseer 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 in charge of the service of the house of God. 23 For it was the king's command concerning them that a certain portion should be for the singers, a quota day by day. 24 Pethahiah the son of Meshezabel, of the children of Zerah the son of Judah, was the king's deputy in all matters concerning the people.

- **Summary: Vv 3-24** Those who dwelt in Jerusalem
- **NOTE:** King of Persia Artaxerxes providing for Nehemiah's people...
 1. **Peth-a-hiah:** Persian King's deputy in ALL matters concerning the people
 2. **Provide for singers needs**

Pagan King helps Jerusalem for the sake of Nehemiah

Proverbs 3:3 Let not **mercy and truth** forsake you; Bind them around your neck, Write them on the tablet of your heart, 4 And so **find favor** and **high esteem** In the **sight of God and man.**

Luke 2:52 ...Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in **favor with God and men.**

- **Pagan world may not necessarily like us but will show favor...**
 1. They can trust us
 2. They hear the wisdom of God
 3. They can count on us
 4. We show Grace/Mercy
 5. We don't complain
 6. We do what we say going to do [Integrity]
 7. We keep our word

II. People Dwelling Outside Jerusalem

25 And as for the villages with their fields, some of the children of Judah dwelt in Kirjath Arba and its villages, Dibon and its villages, Jekabzeel and its villages; 26 in Jeshua, Moladah, Beth Pelet, 27 Hazar Shual, and

Beersheba and its villages; 28 in Ziklag and Meconah and its villages; 29 in En Rimmon, Zorah, Jarmuth, 30 Zanoah, Adullam, and their villages; in Lachish and its fields; in Azekah and its villages. They dwelt from Beersheba to the Valley of Hinnom. 31 Also the children of Benjamin from Geba dwelt in Michmash, Aija, and Bethel, and their villages; 32 in Anathoth, Nob, Ananiah; 33 in Hazor, Ramah, Gittaim; 34 in Hadid, Zeboim, Neballat; 35 in Lod, Ono, and the Valley of Craftsmen. 36 Some of the Judean divisions of Levites were in Benjamin.

- **Vv 25-36** People dwelling outside Jerusalem