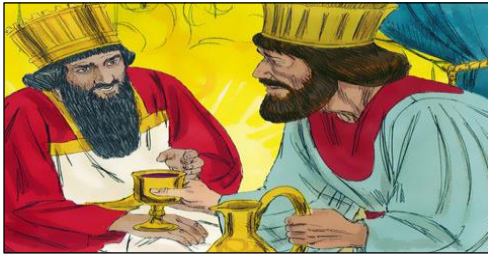


# Lesson 7

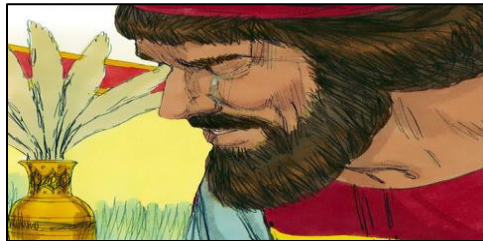
## Nehemiah, A Man of Faith Who Made a Difference

Lesson Text: The Book of Nehemiah

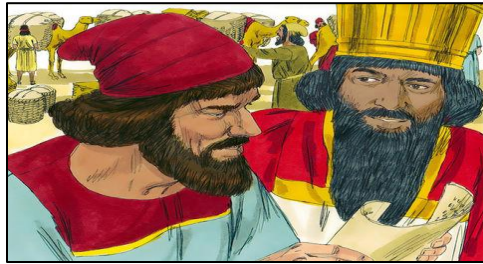


Nehemiah was a Jewish captive serving the king of Persia, Artaxerxes as cupbearer when he hears that the people who had been allowed to return to Jerusalem were in great affliction. He also learns that the wall was also broken down.

We see his character come out fully in verse 4. After hearing those things, he sat down and wept and mourned for days. He also fasted and prayed to God for mercy on those in Jerusalem.

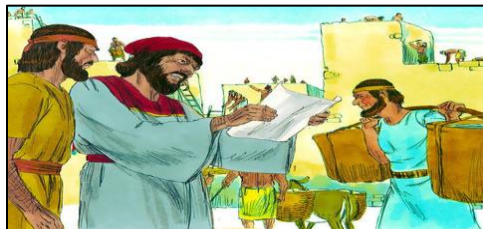


When he next saw King Artaxerxes, the king noticed he was sad and asked him why. The text says that he was very sore afraid as he should not have shown sadness in front of the king like that. Even though he was afraid, he told the king he was sad because the city of his fathers' sepulchers lieth in waste and the gates were consumed with fire.

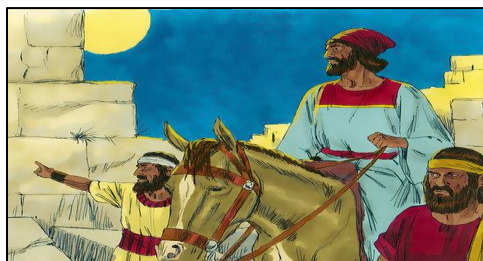


The king asked what he would request and right there we see Nehemiah pray to the God of heaven. After praying, he asked the king if he would be sent to Judah to build it.

After some questions, the king agreed to send Nehemiah on his journey and to send letters for his safety and also for the keeper of the king's forest to give him timber to rebuild the wall.



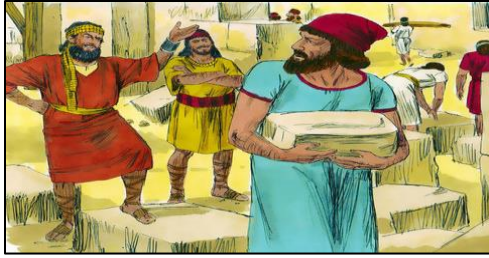
When Nehemiah and his military escort reached the governors beyond the river, he gave the leaders the letters sent by King Artaxerxes. Chapter 2:9-10 we read that this news grieved Sanballat the Horonite and Tobiah the servant, the Ammonite. They were upset that someone was there seeking the welfare of the children of Israel.



After three days, Nehemiah arose in the night and went to see the walls of Jerusalem.

After this, he tells the Jewish leaders his purpose in being there. He is there to motivate and help them rebuild the wall.

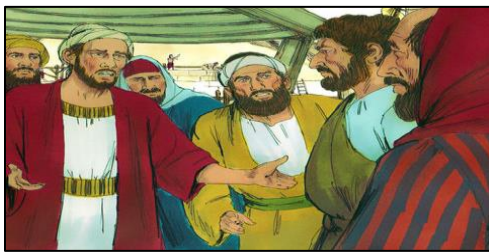
The leaders agree and said they would rise up and build. So, they strengthened their hands for the work.



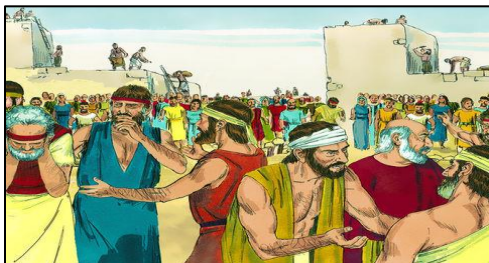
Chapter 2:19-20 tells us that Sanballat and Tobiah laughed them to scorn and asked them if they were going to rebel against the king. Nehemiah told them the God of heaven will prosper them and that Sanballat and Tobiah had no portion, no right, nor memorial in Jerusalem.



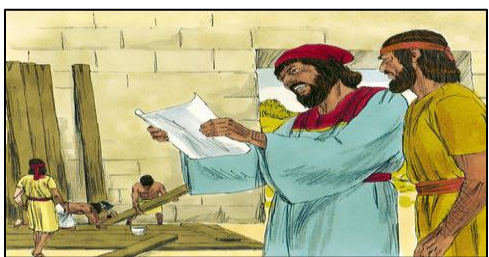
Chapter 3 we see the Jews divide the work. Then in Chapter 4 we see how Sanballat, Tobiah hindered them and even brought in the Arabians, the Ammonites, and the Ashdodites to conspire against the Jews and to come and fight against them to hinder them building the wall. Verse 4 we see that even with this opposition, the Jews prayed to God and set a watch day and night so they could work.



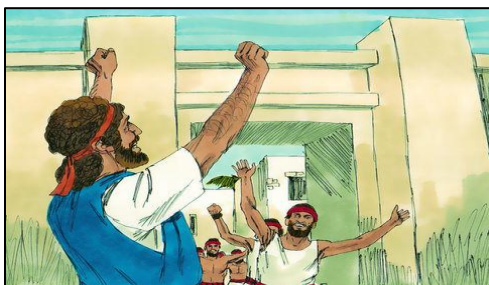
Their adversaries decided they would go so far as to slay them to keep the wall from being rebuilt! When the Jews heard of this, Nehemiah told the people not to be afraid, to remember the Lord and to fight for their brethren, their sons, daughters, wives and houses.



The people worked with one hand and kept a weapon in the other hand. They stayed together as a unit and guarded one another to continue building the wall.



Chapter 5 is where Nehemiah learns that the nobles were taking usury from the poor and that the poor were oppressed. Nehemiah goes to the nobles and urges them to stop this oppression and after his speech, the nobles agree to do so.



Nehemiah is appointed governor in the land of Judah, and we are told in verse 14 of chapter 5 that he did not take the pay like governors before him did. Verse 19 he asks God to think upon him for good according to all he had done for the people.

Chapter 6 we read of the conspiracy against Nehemiah by Sanballat, Tobiah and more of his enemies. They sent word asking Nehemiah to meet them. But he didn't because he knew they meant to do him harm. They even threatened to lie to the king unless he met them. Then they hired a false prophet to lie to Nehemiah and to try to get him to sin. Still he refused. We see Nehemiah go to God in prayer many times. He did not listen to men. Instead, he prayed to God.

Even with all the opposition, Nehemiah motivated the people and they rebuilt the wall in 52 days! He also stood up for those in need, even when he had many other issues he was dealing with.

What an example for us! Let us go to God in prayer and do what the Bible says instead of listening to men.

# Thought Questions

Nehemiah is an example for us in so many ways. He weeps and mourns for days because of what others were going through and because the wall had not been built like God had instructed. He kept doing God's will even when many people bullied him and threatened him and the people. He cared for those less fortunate and helped them even though he had so many troubles of his own he was dealing with.

1. Why do you think Nehemiah prayed to God before answering the king when the king asked him what he wanted?
2. Nehemiah helped the poor. What are some things you can do to help the poor today?
3. Read Nehemiah 5:19. What do you think Nehemiah meant in this verse?

## Multiple Choice

1. Nehemiah was a \_\_\_\_\_ for King Artaxerxes.  
a. blacksmith    b. captain    c. cupbearer    d. judge
2. Nehemiah was \_\_\_\_\_ after showing sadness in front of the king.  
a. happy    b. mad    c. offended    d. afraid
3. King Artaxerxes allowed Nehemiah to use \_\_\_\_\_ from his forest.  
a. timber    b. deer    c. rocks    d. bear
4. Nehemiah returned to Jerusalem to \_\_\_\_\_ the people to rebuild the wall.  
a. pay    b. motivate    c. force    d. intimidate

## True/False

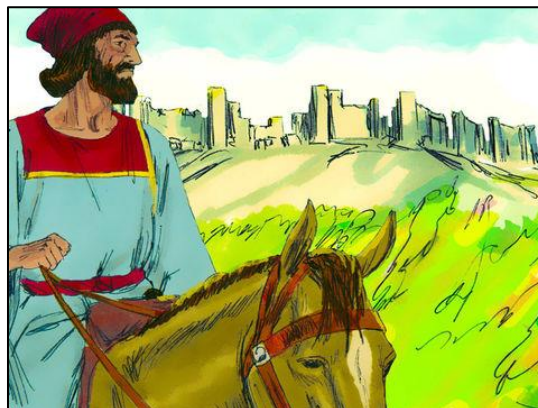
1. Nehemiah was a Jewish captive, serving the Assyrian King. \_\_\_\_\_
2. Nehemiah didn't care when he heard his people were in great affliction. \_\_\_\_\_
3. When appointed governor, Nehemiah didn't take the pay for doing the job. \_\_\_\_\_
4. The people rebuilt the wall in 72 days. \_\_\_\_\_

# Nehemiah

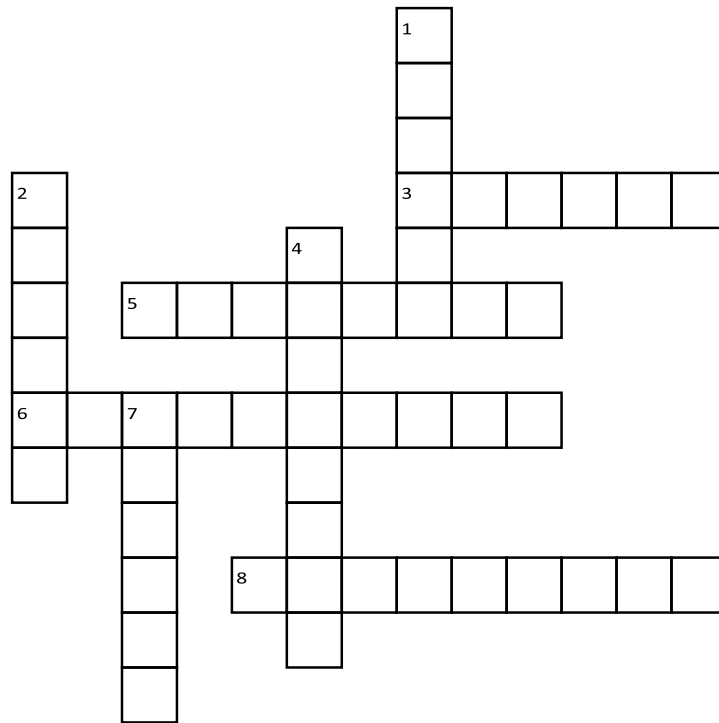
I	W	A	C	M	O	T	I	V	A	T	I	O	N
R	O	T	I	E	E	C	A	O	V	V	P	V	O
H	S	I	W	E	J	A	I	P	O	O	R	T	C
A	T	I	O	B	X	P	V	P	L	L	A	W	C
R	T	I	P	I	I	T	E	N	R	S	N	S	A
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V	B	W	R	O	N	R	E	V	O	G	A	I	I
T	S	G	L	P	H	V	K	I	N	G	H	O	I
A	X	P	R	N	E	H	E	M	I	A	H	S	N

TRAVEL  
GOVERNOR  
POOR  
ARTAXERXES  
NEHEMIAH  
CAPTIVE  
WALL  
MOTIVATION  
PEOPLE  
TOBIAH  
SANBALLAT  
NOBLES  
BIBLE  
KING  
JEWISH

Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/1323669/>



# Nehemiah



**Down:**

1. The people worked with one hand and kept this in the other
2. The servant who was grieved because of Nehemiah
4. Jewish captive serving king Artaxerxes as cupbearer
7. The king was allowing Nehemiah to use this from his forest

**Across:**

3. What Nehemiah did after the king asked him what he wanted to do
5. Nehemiah was appointed this over the land
6. King of Persia Nehemiah served
8. The Horonite who was grieved because of Nehemiah

# Cryptogram: Nehemiah 1:4

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
21	7	13	23	2	24	26	12	11	19	8	5	20	3	9	17	1	15	25	18	22	14	10	6	16	4

\_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_  
 21   3   23        11   18        13   21   20   2        18   9        17   21   25   25        10   12   2   3

\_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_  
 11        12   2   21   15   23        18   12   2   25   2        10   9   15   23   25        18   12   21   18

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 20   9   22   15   3   2   23        13   2   15   18   21   11   3        23   21   16   25        21   3   23

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 24   21   25   18   2   23        21   3   23        17   15   21   16   2   23        7   2   24   9   15   2

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 18   12   2        26   9   23        9   24        12   2   21   14   2   3