

NEHEMIAH

CHAPTER 1

The words of Nehemiah the son of Hachaliah: and it came to pass in the month Chislev, of the twentieth year, that I was in Shushan the citadel. ²And Hanani one of my brethren, came, he and some men of Judah; and I asked them concerning them that had escaped, which were left of the captivity, and concerning Jerusalem. ³And they said unto me, The remnant that are left of the captivity are there in the land, in great affliction and reproach: the walls also of Jerusalem are thrown down, and the gates thereof are burned with fire. ⁴And it came to pass, when I heard these words, that I sat down and wept, and mourned for days, and continued fasting and praying before the God of heaven. ⁵And I said, Nay, I pray Thee, O Lord God of heaven, the mighty, the great and terrible, that keepeth Thy covenant and mercy unto them that love Him, and to them that keep His commandments: ⁶let Thine ear now be attentive, and Thine eyes open, that Thou mayest hear the prayer of Thy servant, which I pray before Thee at this time, this day both day and night, for the sons of Israel Thy servants, and make confession for the sins of the sons of Israel, which we have sinned against Thee: both I and my father's house have sinned. ⁷We have altogether broken covenant with Thee, and have not kept the commandments, and the ordinances, and the judgments, which Thou commandedst Thy servant Moses. ⁸Remember, I pray Thee, the word wherewith Thou didst charge Thy servant Moses, saying, If ye break covenant, I will scatter you abroad among the nations. ⁹But if ye turn again unto Me, and keep My commandments, and do them; though ye be scattered under the uttermost *part* of heaven, yet will I gather them from thence, and will bring them into the place that I have chosen to cause My name to dwell there. ¹⁰Now they are Thy servants and thy people, whom Thou hast redeemed with Thy great power, and with Thy strong hand. ¹¹O Lord, I pray Thee, *turn* not *away*, but let 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 to find mercy in the sight of this man. Now I was the king's cupbearer.

CHAPTER 2

And it came to pass in the month Nisan, in the twentieth year of king Artaxerxes, that wine was before me: and I took up the wine, and gave it unto the king: and there was not another before him. ²And the king said unto me, Why is thy countenance sad; and art thou not sick? and now this is nothing else but sorrow of heart. Then I was very sore afraid, ³and said unto the king, Let the king live for ever: why should not my countenance be sad, forasmuch as the city, the house of my fathers' sepulchres, hath been laid waste, and the

gates thereof are consumed with fire? ⁴Then the king said unto me, For what seekest thou thus? So I prayed to the God of heaven. ⁵And I said unto the king, If it seem good to the king, and if thy servant have found favour in thy sight, that thou wouldest send him into Judah, unto the city of my fathers' sepulchres; then shall I rebuild it. ⁶And the king, and his concubine that sat next to him, said unto me, For how long shall thy journey be, and when wilt thou return? And it was pleasing before the king, and he sent me; and I set him a time. ⁷Moreover I said unto the king, If it seem good to the king, let him give me letters to the governors beyond the river, that I may take my journey till I come to Judah; ⁸and a letter unto Asaph the keeper of the garden that pertaineth to the king, that he may give me timber to cover the gates, and for the wall of the city, and for the house that I shall enter into. And the king gave me, according to the good hand of the Lord upon me. ⁹Then 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. ¹⁰And Sanballat the Horonite, and Tobias the servant, the Ammonite, heard of it, and it grieved them that there was come a man to seek good for the sons of Israel.

¹¹So I came to Jerusalem, and was there three days. ¹²And I arose in the night, I and a few men with me; neither told I any man what God had put into my heart to do along with Israel: neither was there any beast with me, save the beast that I rode upon. ¹³And I went out by night by the gate of the valley, and to the mouth of the well of fig trees, and to the dung port: and I mourned over the wall of Jerusalem which they were destroying; and her gates were devoured with fire. ¹⁴Then went I on to the gate of the fountain, and to the king's pool: and there was no room for the beast that was under me to pass. ¹⁵Then went I up in the night by the wall of the brook, and mourned over the wall, and passed through the gate of the valley, and returned. ¹⁶And the sentinels knew not why I went, or what I did; and until that time I told it not to the Jews, or to the priests, or to the nobles, or to the captains, or to the rest that did the works. ¹⁷Then said I unto them, Ye see the trouble that we are in, how Jerusalem is desolate, and the gates thereof are given to fire: come, let us build up the wall of Jerusalem, and we shall no more suffer reproach. ¹⁸Then told I them of the hand of God which was good upon me; as also about the king's words that he had spoken unto me: and I said, Let us rise up and build. And their hands were strengthened for the good work. ¹⁹And Sanballat the Horonite, and Tobias the servant, and Geshem the Arabian heard it, and they laughed us to scorn, and came against us, and said, What is the thing that ye are doing? do ye rebel against the king? ²⁰Then answered I them, and said unto them, The God of heaven, He will prosper us; and we are His pure servants, and we will build: but ye have no portion, nor right, nor memorial, in Jerusalem.

CHAPTER 3

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 the hundred they sanctified it, unto the tower of Hananel. ²And they builded it at the side of the men of Jericho, and at the side of the sons of Zaccur, the son of Imri. ³But the fish gate did the sons of Hassenaah build; they roofed it, and covered in the doors thereof, and the bars thereof, and the bolts thereof. ⁴And at their hand one of Meremoth the son of Uriah, the son of Hakkoz, took his place; and at their hand Meshullam the son of Berachiah took his place: and at their hand Zadok the son of Baana took his place. ⁵And at their hand the Tekoites took their place; but the Adorites put not their neck to their service. ⁶Moreover the gate of Jasana repaired Jehoiada the son of Paseah, and Meshullam the son of Basodeiah; they covered it in, and set up the doors thereof, and the bolts thereof, and the bars thereof. ⁷And at their hand repaired Melatiah the Gibeonite, and Jadon the Meronothite, the men of Gibeon and Mizpah, unto the throne of the governor on this side the river. ⁸And at their hand repaired Uzziel the son of Arachiah of the smiths: next unto them also repaired Hananiah the son of one of the apothecaries, and they finished Jerusalem unto the broad wall. ⁹And next unto them repaired Rephaiah the son of Zur, the ruler of the half part of the district round about Jerusalem. ¹⁰And next unto them repaired Jedaiah the son of Harumaph, even over against his house: and next unto him repaired Hattush the son of Hashabniah. ¹¹And Malchijah the son of Harim, and Hashub the son of Pahath-moab, repaired even unto the tower of the furnaces. ¹²And next unto him repaired Shallum the son of Hallohesh, the ruler of the half part of the area round about Jerusalem, he and his daughters. ¹³The valley gate repaired Hanun, and the inhabitants of Zanoah; they built it, and set up the doors thereof, and the bolts thereof, and the bars thereof, and a thousand cubits of the wall unto the dung gate. ¹⁴But the dung gate repaired Malchijah the son of Rechab, the ruler of the district round about Beth-haccerim, he and his sons; and they covered it, and set up the doors thereof, and the bolts thereof, and the bars thereof. ¹⁵But the gate of the fountain repaired Solomon the son of Cholezah, the ruler of part of Mizpah; he built it, and covered it, and set up the doors thereof, and the bars thereof, and the wall of the pool of the skins by the king's meadow, and unto the steps that lead down from the city of David. ¹⁶After him repaired Nehemiah the son of Azbuk, the ruler of the half part of the area round about Beth-zur, unto the garden of the sepulchre of David, and to the pool that was made, and unto the house of the mighty. ¹⁷After him repaired the Levites, Rehum the son of Bani: next unto him repaired Hashabiah, the ruler of the half part of the area round about Keilah, in his district. ¹⁸And after him repaired his brethren, Bavai the son of Henadad, the ruler of the half part of the area round about Keilah. ¹⁹And next to him repaired Ezer the son of Jeshua, the ruler of Mizpah, another piece of the tower of going up, where it meeteth the corner. ²⁰After him repaired Baruch the son of Zabbai, a second

piece, from the corner unto the door of the house of Eliashib the high priest. ²¹And after him repaired Meremoth the son of Urijah the son of Koz, a second part from the door of the house of Eliashib even to the end of the house of Eliashib. ²²And after him repaired the priests, the men of Achechar. ²³And after him repaired Benjamin and Hasshub over against their house: and after him repaired Azariah the son of Maaseiah the son of Ananiah, near to his house. ²⁴After him repaired Binnui the son of Henadad, another piece, from the house of Azariah unto the corner and to the turning, ²⁵of Palai the son of Uzai, over against the corner, and also the tower that lieth out from the king's house, even the upper one of the prison house: and after him Pedaiiah the son of Parosh. ²⁶Moreover the Nethinim, which dwelt in Ophel, repaired unto the garden of the water gate eastward, and the tower that lieth out. ²⁷And after them the Tekoites repaired another piece, over against the great tower that lieth out, even unto the wall of Ophel. ²⁸From above the horse gate repaired the priests, every man over against his own house. ²⁹And after him repaired Zadok the son of Immer over against his own house: and after him repaired Shemaiah the son of Shechaniah, the guard of the east gate. ³⁰After him repaired Hananiaha the son of Shelemiah, and Hanun, the sixth son of Zalaph, another piece: after him repaired Meshullam the son of Berechiah over against his treasury. ³¹After him repaired Malchijah the son of Saraphi unto the house of the Nethinim, and of the merchants, over against the gate of Miphkad, and unto the steps of the corner. ³²And between that and the sheep gate repaired the smiths and the merchants.

³³Now it came to pass, when Sanaballat heard that we builded the wall, he was wroth, and took great indignation, and mocked the Jews. ³⁴And he said before his brethren, Is this the power of Samaria, that these Jews do build them the city? do they indeed sacrifice? will they then be strong? and will they this day revive the stones which are burned, after they had been the heap of rubbish of the land? ³⁵And Tobias the Ammonite came near to him, and they said unto themselves, Will they sacrifice, or eat in their place? shall not a fox go up, and even break down their stone wall? ³⁶Hear, O our God; for we are despised; and return their reproach upon their own head, and make them a scorn in a land of captivity: and cover not their iniquity.

CHAPTER 4

But it came to pass, that when Sanaballat, and Tobias, and the Arabians, and the Ammonites, heard that the height of the walls of Jerusalem increased, for that the breaches began to be stopped, it seemed very evil to them. ²And they gathered all of them together to come and fight against Jerusalem, and to destroy it utterly. ³Nevertheless we made our prayer unto our God, and set watchmen against them day and night, because of them. ⁴And Judah said, The strength of the enemy is broken, and there is much rubbish; and we shall not be able to build upon the wall. ⁵And they that afflicted us said, They shall not know, neither shall they see, till we come in

the midst among them, and slay them, and cause the work to cease. ⁶And it came to pass, that when the Jews which dwelt by them came, they said unto us, They come up against us from all places. ⁷Therefore set I in the lowest parts of the place behind the wall, in the covered places, I even set the people according to their families, with their swords, their spears, and their bows. ⁸And I looked, and rose up, and said unto the nobles, and to the rulers, and to the rest of the people, Be ye not afraid of them: remember our God, *Which is great and terrible*, and fight for your brethren, your sons, and your daughters, your wives, and your houses. ⁹And it came to pass, when our enemies heard that it was known unto us, and God had scattered their counsel, that we returned all of us to the wall, every one unto his work. ¹⁰And it came to pass from that day forth, that the half of them that had been driven forth wrought the work, and half of them kept watch; and *there were* spears, and shields, and bows, and haberegeons, and rulers behind all the house of Judah, ¹¹even of them which builded the wall. And they that carried the burdens *were* under arms; each with one hand wrought his work, and with the other held his dart. ¹²And the builders wrought each man having his sword girt upon his loins, and so they built: and the trumpeter with his trumpet next to him. ¹³And I said unto the nobles, and to the rulers, and to the rest of the people, The work is great and abundant, and we are scattered upon the wall, each at a great distance from the other. ¹⁴In what place soever ye shall hear the sound of the trumpet, gather ye together thither unto us: and our God shall fight for us. ¹⁵So we laboured in the work: and half of them held the spears from the rising of the morning till the stars appeared. ¹⁶And at that time said I unto the people, Lodge ye every man with his servant in the midst of Jerusalem, and let the night be a time of watch to you, and the day a time of work. ¹⁷And I was there, and the watchman behind me, and there was not a man of us that put off his clothes.

CHAPTER 5

And there was a great cry of the people and of their wives against their brethren the Jews. ²For there were some that said, We, with our sons, and our daughters, are many: therefore we will take up corn, and eat, and live. ³Some also there were that said, Our fields, and our vineyards, and our houses, let us mortgage them; and we will take corn, and eat. ⁴And some said, As for our fields, and our vineyards, and houses, we have borrowed money for the king's tributes. ⁵Yet now our flesh is as the flesh of our brethren, our children as their children: and lo, we do bring into bondage our sons and our daughters to be slaves: and there is no power of our hands, for our fields and our vineyards pertain unto the nobles. ⁶And I was much grieved when I heard their cry and these words. ⁷And my heart took counsel within me, and I contended with the nobles, and the rulers, and said unto them, Shall every man demand of his brother that ye demand? And I set a great assembly against them. ⁸And I said unto them, We of our own freewill

have redeemed our brethren the Jews, which were sold unto the nations; and do ye even sell your brethren? and shall they be delivered unto us? Then held they their peace, and found no answer. ⁹And I said, The thing that ye do is not good; not thus; ye shall depart in the fear of our God by reason of the reproach of the nations our enemies. ¹⁰And my brethren, and mine acquaintance, and I, have lent them money and corn: let us now leave off this exaction. ¹¹Restore, I pray you, unto them, even as at this day, their fields, their vineyards, their oliveyards, and their houses, and bring forth to them corn, and wine, and oil, of the money. ¹²And they said, We will restore, and we will not exact of them; so we will do as thou sayest. Then I called the priests, and bound them by oath to do according to this word. ¹³And I shook out my garment, and said, So God shake out every man from his house, and from his labour, that shall not keep to this word; even thus shall he be shaken out as an outcast and empty. And all the congregation said, Amen, and praised the Lord: and the people did this thing.

¹⁴From the day that he charged me to be their ruler in the land of Judah, from the twentieth year even unto the two and thirtieth year of Artaxerxes, that is, twelve years, I and my brethren ate not provision extorted from them. ¹⁵But as for the former acts of extortion wherein those that were before me oppressed them, they even took of them their last money, forty didrachmas for bread and wine; yea the very outcasts of them exercised authority over the people: but so did not I, because of the fear of God. ¹⁶Yea, also in the work of the wall treated I not them with rigour; I bought not land: and all that were gathered together came thither unto the work. ¹⁷And the Jews, to the number of five hundred and fifty men, beside those that came unto us from among the nations round about, *were* at my table. ¹⁸And there came unto me for one day one calf, and I had six choice sheep and a goat, and every ten days wine in abundance of all sorts: yet with these required I not the bread of extortion, because the bondage was heavy upon this people. ¹⁹Remember me, O God, for good, in all that I have done for this people.

CHAPTER 6

Now it came to pass, when Sanaballat, and Tobias, 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 up to that time I had not set up the doors upon the gates;) ²that Sanaballat and Geshem sent unto me, saying, Come, and let us meet together in the villages in the plain of Ono. But they thought to do me mischief. ³And I sent messengers unto them, saying, I am doing a great work, and I shall not be able to come down, lest the work cease: when I have finished it, I shall come down to you. ⁴Yet they sent again unto me after this sort; and I sent them word after the same manner. ⁵Then sent Sanaballat his servant unto me with an open letter in his hand. ⁶And therein was written, It is reported among the nations that thou and the Jews do plan to revolt: for which cause thou buildest the wall, and thou wilt

be a king unto them. ⁷And moreover thou hast appointed prophets unto thyself, that thou mightest dwell in Jerusalem as a king over Judah: and now shall these words be reported to the king. Come now therefore, let us take counsel together. ⁸Then sent I unto him, saying, It hath not happened as thou sayest, for thou feignest them out of thine own heart. ⁹For they all tried to make us afraid, saying, Their hands shall be weakened from this work, and it shall not be done. Now therefore have I strengthened my hands.

¹⁰And I came unto the house of Shemaiah the son of Delaiah the son of Mehetabel, and he was shut up; and he said, Let us meet together in the house of God, in the midst thereof, and let us shut the doors of it: for they are coming by night to slay thee. ¹¹And I said, Who is the man that shall enter into the house, that he may live? ¹²And I perceived; and lo, God had not sent him, for the prophecy was a fable against us: ¹³and Tobias and Sanaballat had hired a multitude against me, that I should be afraid, and do this, and sin, and become unto them an ill name, that they might reproach me. ¹⁴Remember, O God, Tobias and Sanaballat according to these their works, and the prophetess Noadiah, and the rest of the prophets that tried to put me in fear.

¹⁵So the wall was finished in the twenty and fifth day of the month Elul, in fifty and two days. ¹⁶And it came to pass, that when all our enemies heard thereof, all the nations that were round about us feared, and great fear fell upon them: and they perceived that it was of our God that this work should be finished. ¹⁷And in those days letters came unto Tobias from many nobles of Judah, and those of Tobias came unto them. ¹⁸For many in Judah were bound unto him by oath, because he was the son in law of Shechaniah the son of Arah; and his son Jehohanan had taken the daughter of Meshullam the son of Berechiah to wife. ¹⁹Also they reported his words unto me, and carried out my words to him: and Tobias sent letters to put me in fear.

CHAPTER 7

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, ²that I gave my brother Hanani, and Hananiah the ruler of the palace, charge over Jerusalem: for he was a faithful man, and feared God beyond many. ³And I said unto them, The gates of Jerusalem shall not be opened until the sun be hot; and while they still watch, let the doors be shut and barred; and appoint watches of them that dwell in Jerusalem, every man at his post, and every man over against his house.

⁴Now the city was large and great: but the people were few therein, and the houses were not builded. ⁵And God put it into mine heart, and I gathered together the nobles, and the rulers, and the people, into companies: and I found a register of the company that came up first, and found written therein as follows: ⁶Now these are the children of the country, that came up

out of captivity, of the number which Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon had carried away, and came again to Jerusalem and Judah, every man unto his city; ⁷with Zerubbabel, and Jeshua, and Nehemiah, Azariah, and Raemias, Nahamani, Mordecai, Bilshan, Mispereth, Ezra, Bigvai, Nehum, Baanah, Masphar, men of the people of Israel. ⁸The children of Parosh, two thousand and hundred seventy and two. ⁹The children of Shephatiah, three hundred seventy and two. ¹⁰The children of Arah, six hundred fifty and two. ¹¹The children of Pahath-moab, with the children of Jeshua and Joab, two thousand and six hundred and eighteen. ¹²The children of Elam, a thousand two hundred fifty and four. ¹³The children of Zattu, eight hundred forty and five. ¹⁴The children of Zaccai, seven hundred and threescore. ¹⁵The children of Binnui, six hundred forty and eight. ¹⁶The children of Bebai, six hundred twenty and eight. ¹⁷The children of Azgad, two thousand three hundred twenty and two. ¹⁸The children of Adonikam, six hundred sixty and seven. ¹⁹The children of Bigvai, two thousand threescore and seven. ²⁰The children of Adin, six hundred fifty and five. ²¹The children of Ater, the son of Hezekiah, ninety and eight. ²²The children of Hashum, three hundred twenty and eight. ²³The children of Bezai, three hundred twenty and four. ²⁴The children of Hariph, an hundred and twelve: the children of Asen, two hundred twenty and three. ²⁵The children of Gibeon, ninety and five. ²⁶The children of Bethlehem, an hundred twenty and three: the children of Netophah, fifty and six. ²⁷The children of Ananah, an hundred twenty and eight. ²⁸The men of Beth-azmaveth, forty and two. ²⁹The men of Kirjath-jearim, Chephirah, and Beeroh, seven hundred forty and three. ³⁰The men of Ramah and Geba, six hundred and twenty. ³¹The men of Michmas, an hundred twenty and two. ³²The men of Bethel and Ai, an hundred twenty and three. ³³The men of Nebo, an hundred fifty and two. ³⁴The men of Elam, one thousand two hundred fifty and two. ³⁵The children of Harim, three hundred and twenty. ³⁶The children of Jericho, three hundred forty and five. ³⁷The children of Lod, Hadid and Ono, seven hundred twenty and one. ³⁸The children of Senaah, three thousand nine hundred and thirty. ³⁹The priests: the sons of Jedaiah, pertaining to the house of Jeshua, nine hundred seventy and three. ⁴⁰The children of Immer, one thousand fifty and two. ⁴¹The children of Phashur, one thousand two hundred forty and seven. ⁴²The children of Harim, a thousand and seventeen. ⁴³The Levites: the children of Jeshua, the son of Kadmiel, with the children of Hodevah, seventy and four. ⁴⁴The singers: the children of Asaph, an hundred forty and eight. ⁴⁵The 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. ⁴⁶The Nethinim: the children of Ziha, the children of Hasupha, the children of Tabbaoth, ⁴⁷the children of Keros, the children of Sia, the children of Padon, ⁴⁸the children of Lebana, the children of Hagaba, the children of Salmai, ⁴⁹the children of Hanan, the children of Giddel, the children of Gahar, ⁵⁰the children of Reaiah, the children of Rezin, the children of Nekoda, ⁵¹the children of Gazzam, the children of Uzza, the children of Paseah, ⁵²the children of Besai, the children of Meunim, the children of Nephishesim, ⁵³the

children of Bakbuk, the children of Hakupha, the children of Harhur, ⁵⁴the children of Bazlith, the children of Mehida, the children of Adashan, ⁵⁵the children of Barkos, the children of Sisera, the children of Tamah, ⁵⁶the children of Neziah, the children of Hatipha. ⁵⁷The children of the servants of Solomon: the children of Sotai, the children of Sophereth, the children of Perida, ⁵⁸the children of Jaala, the children of Darkon, the children of Giddel, ⁵⁹the children of Shephatiah, the children of Hattil, the children of Pochereth, the children of Zebaim, the children of Amon. ⁶⁰All the Nethinim, and children of the servants of Solomon, were three hundred ninety and two. ⁶¹And these went up from Tel-melah, Tel-harsha, Cherub, Addon, Immer: but they could not shew their father's house, nor their seed, whether they were of Israel. ⁶²The children of Delaiah, the children of Tobias, the children of Nekoda, six hundred forty and two. ⁶³And of the priests: the children of Habaiah, the children of Koz, the children of Barzillai, for they took wives of the daughters of Barzillai the Gileadite, and were called after their name. ⁶⁴These sought the register of their company, and it was not found, and they were removed from the priesthood. ⁶⁵And the governor said that they should not eat of the most holy things, until a priest should stand up to give light. ⁶⁶And the whole congregation was about forty and two thousand three hundred and threescore, ⁶⁷beside their menservants and their maidservants: these were seven thousand three hundred thirty and seven: and the singing men and singing women two hundred forty and five. *(no verse 68)* ⁶⁹Two thousand seven hundred asses. ⁷⁰And part of the heads of the families gave into the treasury to Nehemiah for the work a thousand pieces of gold, fifty basons, and thirty priests' garments. ⁷¹And some of the heads of families gave into the treasuries of the work twenty thousand pieces of gold, and two thousand three hundred pounds of silver. ⁷²And the rest of the people gave twenty thousand pieces of gold, and two thousand two hundred pounds of silver, and threescore and seven priests' garments. ⁷³And the priests, and the Levites, and the porters, and the singers, and some of the people, and the Nethinim, and all Israel, dwelt in their cities.

CHAPTER 8

And the seventh month came, and the sons of Israel were in their tents; and all the people were gathered together as one man unto the broad place before the water gate, and they told Ezra the scribe to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had commanded Israel. ²And Ezra the priest brought the law before the congregation both of men and women, and every one that had understanding to hear, on the first day of seventh month. ³And he read therein from the time of sunrise until the mid of the day, before the men and women; and they understood it, and the ears of all the people were attentive unto the book of the law. ⁴And Ezra the scribe stood upon a stage of wood; and next to him stood Mattithiah, and Shema, and Ananiah, and Urijah, and Hiliah, and Maaseiah, on his right hand; and on his left

hand, Pedaiah, and Mishael, and Malchijah, and Hashum, and Hashbadana, and Zechariah, and Meshullam. ⁵And Ezra opened the book before all the people; (for he was above the people;) and it came to pass, when he opened it, that all the people stood up. ⁶And Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God: and all the people answered, and said Amen, lifting up their hands: and they bowed down and worshipped the Lord with their faces to the ground. ⁷Also Jeshua, and Bani, and Sherebiah instructed the people in the law: and the people stood in their place. ⁸And they read in the book of the law of God, and Ezra taught and instructed them distinctly in the knowledge of the Lord; and the people understood in the reading. ⁹And Nehemiah, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites, and they that instructed the people, spake and said unto all the people, It is an holy day unto the Lord our God; mourn not, nor weep. For all the people wept, when they heard the word of the law. ¹⁰Then he said unto them, Go, eat the fat, and drink the sweet, and send portions unto them that have nothing: for the day is holy unto the Lord: and faint not, for the Lord is our strength. ¹¹And the Levites caused all the people to be silent, saying, Hold your peace, for this is an holy day; neither be ye despondent. ¹²And 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 he made known unto them.

¹³And on the second day were gathered together the heads of the families with all the people, the priests, and the Levites, unto Ezra the scribe, even to attend unto all the words of the law. ¹⁴And they found written in the law which the Lord had commanded by Moses, that the sons of Israel should dwell in booths in the feast in the seventh month: ¹⁵and that they should sound with trumpets in all their cities, and in Jerusalem. And Ezra said, Go forth into the mount, and fetch olive branches, and branches of cypress trees, and myrtle branches, and palm branches, and branches of thick tree, to make booths, according to that which was written. ¹⁶And the people went forth, and brought them, and made themselves booths, each one upon his roof, and in their courts, and in the courts of the house of God, and in the streets of the city, and unto the gate of Ephraim. ¹⁷And all the congregation that had come again from the captivity made booths, and dwelt in booths: for since the days of Joshua the son of Nun unto that day had not the sons of Israel done so: and there was great gladness. ¹⁸Also Ezra read in the book of the law of God daily, from the first day even unto the last day: and they kept the feast seven days; and on the eighth day was a solemn assembly, according unto the ordinance.

CHAPTER 9

Now in the twenty and fourth day of this month the sons of Israel were assembled with fasting, and in sackcloths, and with ashes upon their head. ²And the sons of Israel separated themselves from every stranger, and stood and confessed their sins, and the iniquities of their fathers. ³And they stood

up in their place, and read in the book of the law of the Lord their God: and they confessed their sins unto the Lord, and worshipped the Lord their God. ⁴Then stood up upon the stairs, of the Levites, Jeshua, and the sons of Kadmiel, Shebaniah the son of Sherebiah, the sons of Chenani; and they cried with a loud voice unto the Lord their God. ⁵Then the Levites, Jeshua, and Kadmiel, said, Rise up and bless the Lord our God for ever and ever: and let them bless Thy glorious name, and exalt it with all blessing and praise. ⁶And Ezra said, Thou art the only Lord Himself; Thou madest the heavens, and the heaven of heavens, and all their array, the earth, and all things that are therein; and Thou quickenest all things, and the hosts of heaven worship Thee. ⁷Thou art the Lord God, Thou didst choose Abram, and broughtest him forth out of the land of the Chaldeans, and gavest him the name of Abraham: ⁸and Thou foundest his heart faithful before Thee, and madest a covenant with him to give unto him and his seed the land of the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Jebusites, and the Gergashites; and Thou hast confirmed Thy words, for Thou art righteous. ⁹And Thou didst see the affliction of our fathers in Egypt, and heardest their cry by the Red Sea. ¹⁰And Thou shewdst signs and wonders in Egypt upon Pharaoh, and on all his servants, and on all the people of his land: for Thou knowest that they behaved themselves insolently against them: and Thou madest Thee a name, as at this day. ¹¹And Thou didst cleave the sea before them, and they went through the midst of the sea on dry land; and them that were about to pursue them Thou threwest into the deep, as a stone into the mighty water. ¹²Moreover Thou guidedst them by day by a pillar of cloud, and by night a pillar of fire; to give them light for the way wherein they should walk. ¹³Thou camest down also upon mount Sinai, and spakest with them from heaven, and gavest them right judgments, and laws of truth, ordinances, and good commandments. ¹⁴And Thou madest known unto them Thy holy sabbaths, and enjoinedst upon them commandments, and ordinances, and a law, by the hand of Thy servant Moses. ¹⁵And Thou gavest them bread from heaven for their hunger, and broughtest forth water for them out of the rock for their thirst, and badest them go in to inherit the land, over which Thou stretchedst forth Thine hand to give it them. ¹⁶But they and our fathers dealt proudly, and hardened their neck, and hearkened not to Thy commandments, ¹⁷and refused to hearken, neither were they mindful of Thy wonders that Thou wroughtest with them; but they hardened their neck, and appointed a leader to return to their bondage in Egypt: but Thou, O God, art merciful and compassionate, and abundant in mercy, and forsookest them not. ¹⁸And still farther, they even made them a molten calf, and said, These are the gods that brought us up out of the land of Egypt: and they wrought great provocations. ¹⁹Yet Thou in Thy great compassions forsook them not in the wilderness: Thou didst not away from them the pillar of the cloud by day, to guide them in the way, nor the pillar of fire by night, to enlighten for them the way wherein they should walk. ²⁰Thou gavest also Thy good Spirit to instruct them, and withheldest not Thy manna from their mouth, and gavest them water for their thirst. ²¹Yea, forty years didst Thou sustain them in the

wilderness; Thou sufferdst not any thing to fail them; their clothes waxed not old, and their feet were not bruised. ²²Moreover Thou gavest them kingdoms and nations, and didst divide nations unto them: and they inherited the land of Sihon king of Heshbon, and the land of Og king of Bashan. ²³Their children also multipliedst Thou as the stars of heaven, and broughtest them into the land, concerning which Thou spakest to their fathers; ²⁴and they inherited it: and Thou destroyedst from before them that dwelt in the land of the Canaanites, and gavest into their hands them and their kings, and the nations of the land, that they might do unto them as it pleased them. ²⁵And they took lofty cities, and inherited houses full of all good things, wells digged, vineyards, and oliveyards, and every fruit tree in abundance: so that they did eat, and were filled, and grew fat, and rioted in Thy great goodness. ²⁶Nevertheless they turned, and revolted from 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. ²⁷Then Thou gavest them into the hand of them that afflicted them, and they did afflict them: and in the time of their affliction they cried unto Thee, and Thou heardest them from Thy heaven; and in Thy great compassion Thou gavest them deliverers, and didst save them out of the hand of them that afflicted them. ²⁸But when they rested, they did evil again before Thee: so Thou leftest them in the hands of their enemies, and they ruled over them: and they cried again unto Thee, and Thou heardest them from heaven, and didst deliver them in Thy great compassions. ²⁹And Thou testifiedst against them, that Thou mightest bring them back unto Thy law: yet they hearkened not, but sinned against Thy commandments, and Thy judgments, (which if a man do, he shall live in them;) and turned their back, and hardened their neck, and heard not. ³⁰Yet many years didst Thou bear long with them, and testifiedst to them by the Spirit by the hand of the prophets: ye they hearkened not: so Thou gavest them into the hand of the nations of the land. ³¹But Thou in Thy many mercies didst not appoint them unto destruction, nor forsake them; for Thou art strong, and merciful, and full of pity. ³²And now, O Lord our God, the powerful, the great, the mighty, and the terrible, keeping Thy covenant and mercy, let not all the affliction seem little before Thee, that hath come upon us, and our kings, and our princes, and our priests, and our prophets, and our fathers, and upon all Thy people, since the days of the kings of Assur unto this day. ³³Howbeit Thou art just in all the things that come upon us; for Thou hast done faithfully, but we have sinned greatly. ³⁴And our kings, and our princes, and our priests, and our fathers, have not performed Thy law, nor hearkened unto thy commandments and Thy testimonies, which Thou didst testify unto them. ³⁵And they served Thee not in Thy kingdom, and in Thy great goodness which Thou gavest unto them, and in the great and fat land which Thou furnishedst before them, neither turned they from their evil devices. ³⁶Behold, 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: ³⁷and the produce thereof is abundant for the kings whom Thou didst appoint over us because of our sins: also they have

dominion over our bodies, and over our cattle, as it pleaseth them, and we are in great affliction. ³⁸And in all these things we ordained a trust, and write it; and our princes, Levites, and priests, put their seal unto it.

CHAPTER 10

And over them that sealed were Nehemiah the governor, the son of Hachaliah, and Zedekiah, ²the son of Seraiah, and Azariah, and Jeremiah, ³Pashhur, Amariah, Malchijah, ⁴Hattush, Shebaniah, Malluch, ⁵Harim, Meremoth, Obadiah, ⁶Daniel, Ginnethon, Baruch, ⁷Meshullam, Abijah, Mijamin, ⁸Maaziah, Bilgai, Shemaiah: these were priests. ⁹And the Levites: Jeshua the son of Azaniah, Binnui of the sons of Henadad, Kadmiel, ¹⁰and his brethren, Shebaniah, Hodijah, Kelita, Pelaiah, Hanan, ¹¹Micha, Rehob, Hashabiah, ¹²Zaccur, Sherebiah, Shebaniah, ¹³Hodijah, the sons of Beninu. ¹⁴The heads of the people: Parosh, Pahath-moab, Elam, Zattu, ¹⁵the sons of Bunni, Azgad, Bebai, ¹⁶Adonijah, Bigvai, Adin, ¹⁷Ater, Hezekiah, Azzur, ¹⁸Hodijah, Hashum, Bezai, ¹⁹Hariph, Anathoth, Nebai, ²⁰Magpiash, Meshullam, Hezir, ²¹Meshezabel, Zadok, Jaddua, ²²Pelathiah, Hanan, Anaiah, ²³Hoshea, Hananiah, Hasshub, ²⁴Hallohesh, Pilhah, Shobek, ²⁴Rehum, Hashabnah, Maaseiah, ²⁶and Ahijah, Hanan, Anan, ²⁷Malluch, Harim, Baanah. ²⁸And the rest of the people, the priests, the Levites, the porters, the singers, the Nethinim, and every one that had drawn off from the nations of the land unto the law of God, their wives, their sons, and the daughters, every one having knowledge and understanding, ²⁹who were urgent with their brethren, and bound them under a curse, and entered into a curse, and into an oath, to walk in God's law, which was given by Moses the servant of God; to observe and do all the commandments of the Lord, and His judgments, and His ordinances; ³⁰and that we will not give our daughters unto the people of the land, nor take their daughters to our sons. ³¹And the people of the land, who bring wares and all merchandise to sell on the sabbath, we will not buy of them on the sabbath, or on the holy day: and we will leave the seventh year, and the exaction of every debt. ³²Also we will impose ordinances upon ourselves, to levy on ourselves year the third part of a didrachma for the service of the house of our God; ³³for the loaves of presentation, and for the continual meat offering, and for the continual whole burnt offering, of the sabbaths, of the new moon, for the feasts, and for the holy things, and for the sin offerings to make an atonement for Israel, and for the works of the house of our God. ³⁴And we cast lots for the office of wood bearing, the priests, and the Levites, and the people, to bring it into the house of our God, according to the house of our families, at certain times appointed year by year, to burn upon the altar of the Lord our God, as it is written in the law: ³⁵and to bring the firstfruits of our land, and the firstfruits of every tree year by year, into the house of the Lord: ³⁶the firstborn of our sons, and of our cattle, as it is written in the law, also the firstborn of our herds and of our flocks to bring unto the house of the Lord, for the priests that minister in the house of the

Lord. ³⁷And the firstfruits of our corn, and the fruit of every tree, of wine, and of oil, we will bring unto the priests to the treasury of the house of God; and a tithe of our land unto the Levites: for the same Levites shall receive tithes in all the cities of the land we till. ³⁸And the priest the son of Aaron shall be with the Levites in the tithe of the Levite: and the Levites shall bring up a tenth part of their tithe unto the house of our God, into the treasuries of the house of God. ³⁹For the sons of Israel and the children of Levi shall bring into the treasuries the firstfruits of the corn, and wine, and oil; and there are the holy vessels, and the priests, and them that minister, and the porters, and the singers: and we will not forsake the house of our God.

CHAPTER 11

And the chiefs 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 in the other cities. ²And the people blessed all the men, that willingly offered themselves to dwell at Jerusalem. ³Now these are the chiefs of the province that dwelt in Jerusalem and in the cities of Judah: every man dwelt in his possession in their cities, to wit, Israel, the priests, and the Levites, and the Nethinim, and the children of Solomon' servants. ⁴And at Jerusalem dwelt certain of the children of Judah, and of the children of Benjamin. Of the children of Judah; Athaiah the son of Uzziah, the son of Zechariah, the son of Amariah, the son of Shephatiah, the son of Mahalalel, and of the children of Perez; ⁵and Maaseiah the son of Baruch, the son of Colhozeh, the son of Hazaiah, the son of Adaiyah, the son of Joiarib, the son of Zechariah, the son of Shiloni. ⁶All the sons of Perez that dwelt in Jerusalem were four hundred fourscore and eight men of might. ⁷And these were the children of Benjamin; Sallu the son of Meshullam, the son of Joed, the son of Pedaiyah, the son of Kolaiah, the son of Maaseiah, the son of Ithiel, the son of Jeshaiyah. ⁸And after him Gabbai, Sallai, nine hundred twenty and eight. ⁹And Joel the son of Zichri was overseer over them: and Judah the son of Asana was second in the city. ¹⁰Of the priests: both Jedaiah the son of Joiarib, and Jachin. ¹¹Seraiah the son of Hilkiyah, the son of Meshullam, the son of Zadok, the son of Meraioth, the son of Ahitub, was over the house of God. ¹²And their brethren that did the work of the house were eight hundred twenty and two: and Adaiyah the son of Jeroham, the son of Pelaliah, the son of Amzi, the son of Zechariah, the son of Passhur, the son of Malchijah, ¹³and his brethren, the chiefs of families, two hundred forty and two: and Amashai the son of Azarel, the son of Meshillemoth, the son of Immer, ¹⁴and his brethren, mighty men of war, an hundred twenty and eight: and their overseer was Zabdiel, the son of one of the great men. ¹⁵And of the Levites: Shemaiah the son of Azrikam, *(no verse 16)* ¹⁷Mattaniah the son of Micha, and Jobebah the son of Zamui, ¹⁸two hundred eighty and four. ¹⁹And the porters: Akkub, Talmon, and their brethren, an hundred seventy and two. *(no verses 20-21)* ²²And the overseer of the Levites was the son of Bani, the son of Uzzi, the son

of Hashabiah, the son of Micah. Of the sons of Asaph the singers some were over the house of God, ²³for so was the king's commandment concerning them. ²⁴And Pethahiah the son of Meshezabel was in attendance on the king in every matter for the people, ²⁵and with regard to the villages in their country district: and some of the children of Judah dwelt in Kirjath-arba, ²⁶and in Jeshua, ²⁷and in Beersheba: *(no verses 28-9)* ³⁰and their villages were Lachish and her lands: and they pitched their tents in Beersheba. ³¹And the children of Benjamin dwelt from Geba unto Michmash. *(no verses 32-5)* ³⁶And of the Levites there were divisions unto Judah, and to Benjamin.

CHAPTER 12

Now these are the priests and the Levites that went up with Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and Jeshua: Seraiah, Jeremiah, Ezra, ²Amariah, Malluch, ³Shecheniah. *(no verses 4-6)* ⁷These were the chiefs of the priests and of their brethren in the days of Joshua. ⁸Moreover the Levites: Jeshua, Binnui, Kadmiel, Sherebiah, Judah, Mattaniah: he was over the bands, and his brethren were appointed to the daily courses. *(no verse 9)* ¹⁰And Jeshua begat Joiakim, and Joiakim begat Eliashib, and Eliashib begat Joiada, ¹¹and Joiada begat Jonathan, and Jonathan begat Jaddua. ¹²And in the days of Joiakim, his brethren the priests and the heads of families were: to Seraiah, Meraiah; to Jeremiah, Hananiah; ¹³to Ezra, Meshullam; to Amariah, Jehohanan; ¹⁴to Melichu, Jonathan; to Shebaniah, Joseph; ¹⁵to Harim, Adna; to Meraioth, Helkai; ¹⁶to Iddo, Zechariah; to Ginnethon, Meshullam; ¹⁷to Abijah, Zichri; to Minjamin, Moadiah; to Piletai, one; ¹⁸to Bilgah, Shammua; to Shemaiah, Jonathan; ¹⁹to Joiarib, Mattenai to Jedaiah, Uzzi; ²⁰to Sallai, Kallai; to Amok, Eber; ²¹to Hilkiah, Hashabiah; to Jedaiah, Nethanael. ²²The Levites in the days of Eliashib, Joiada, and Jaddusa, and Joanan, and Idua, were recorded heads of families: also the priests, in the reign of Darius the Persian. ²³And the sons of Levi, heads of families, were written in the books of the chronicles, even until the days of Johanan the son of Eliashib. ²⁴And the heads of the Levites were Hashabiah, and Sherebiah, and Jeshua: and the sons of Kadmiel, and their brethren over against them, were to sing hymns of praise, according to the commandment of David, the man of God, course by course. ²⁵When I gathered the porters, ²⁶it was in the days of Joiakim the son of Jeshua, the son of Jozadak, and in the days of Nehemiah: and Ezra the priest was scribe.

²⁷And at the dedication of the wall of Jerusalem they sought the Levites in their places, to bring them to Jerusalem, to keep a feast of dedication and gladness with thanksgiving; and they sounded cymbals with songs, and psalteries, and harps. ²⁸And the sons of the singers were assembled both from the neighbourhood round about unto Jerusalem, and from the villages, ²⁹and from the country: for the singers had builded them villages by Jerusalem. ³⁰And the priests and the Levites purified themselves, and purified the people, and the porters, and the wall. ³¹And they brought up

the princes of Judah upon the wall, and appointed two great companies for thanksgiving, and they passed on the right hand of the wall of the dung gate. ³²And after them went Hoshaiah, and half the princes of Judah, ³³and Azariah, and Ezra, and Meshullam, ³⁴and Judah, and Benjamin, and Shemaiah, and Jeremiah. ³⁵And 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 Michaiah, the son of Zaccur, the son of Asaph: ³⁶and his brethren, Shemaiah, and Uzziel, Gilalai, Jamah, Maai, Nethanael, and Judah, Hanani, to praise with the hymns of David the man of God; ³⁷and Ezra the scribes was before them, at the gate, to praise before them; and they went up by the steps of the city of David, in the ascent of the wall, above the house of David, even unto the water gate (*no verse 38*) ³⁹of Ephraim, and unto the fish gate, and by the tower of Hananel, and unto the sheep gate. (*no verses 40-1*) ⁴²And the singers were heard, and were numbered. ⁴³And in that day they offered great sacrifices, and rejoiced: for God had made them exceeding joyful: and their wives and their children rejoiced: and the joy in Jerusalem was heard even afar off.

⁴⁴And in that day they appointed men over the treasuries, for the treasures, the firstfruits, and the tithes, and for the chiefs of the cities that waited. ⁴⁵And they kept the charges of their God, and the charges of the purification, and the singers and the porters, according to the commandments of David and his son Solomon. ⁴⁶For in the days of David Asaph was of old the first of the singers, and they sang hymns and praise unto God. ⁴⁷And all Israel in the days of Zerubbabel, and in the days of Nehemiah, gave the portions of the singers and the porters, a daily rate: and they consecrated them unto the Levites: and the Levites consecrated them unto the sons of Aaron.

CHAPTER 13

In that day they read in the book of Moses in the ears of the people; and therein was found written, that the Ammonites and the Moabites should not enter into the congregation of God for ever; ²because they met not the sons of Israel with bread and water, but hired Balaam against them, to curse them: howbeit our God turned the curse into a blessing. ³Now it came to pass, when they had heard the law, that they were separated, every mixed one in Israel. ⁴And before this time, Eliashib the priest dwelt in the treasury of the house of our God, allied unto Tobias: ⁵and he had made him a great treasury, and they were aforetime in the habit of bestowing the offerings, and the frankincense, and the vessels, and the tithe of the corn, and the wine, and the oil, the commanded portion of the Levites, and the singers, and the porters; and the firstfruits of the priests. ⁶But in all this time was I not in Jerusalem: for in the two and thirtieth year of Artaxerxes king of Babylon came I unto the king, and after a certain time made my request of the king: ⁷and I came to Jerusalem, and understood the mischief which Eliashib had

done in the case of Tobias, in making him a treasury in the court of the house of God. ⁸And it appeared very evil to me: so I cast forth all the household stuff of Tobias out of the treasury. ⁹Then I commanded, and they cleansed the treasuries: and thither restored I the vessels of the house of God, and the offerings, and the frankincense. ¹⁰And I perceived that the portion of the Levites had not been given them: and the Levites and the singers, that did the work, were fled every one to his field. ¹¹Then contended I with the commanders, and said, Wherefore is the house of God forsaken? and gathered them together, and set them in their place. ¹²Then brought all Judah a tithe of the wheat and the wine and the oil unto the treasuries, ¹³into the charge of 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; their office was to distribute unto their brethren. ¹⁴Remember me, O Lord, in this, and let not my kindness be forgotten, which I have wrought for the house of the Lord God. ¹⁵In those days saw I in Judah some treading wine presses on the sabbath, and carrying sheaves, and lading asses with both wine, and grapes, and figs, and all manner of burdens, and bringing them into Jerusalem on the sabbath: ¹⁶and I testified in the day of their sale. There dwelt also men of Tyre also therein, bringing fish, and selling on the sabbath all manner of ware unto the children of Judah, and in Jerusalem. ¹⁷Then I contended with the free children of Judah, and said unto them, What evil thing is this that ye do, and profane the sabbath day? ¹⁸Did not your fathers thus, and our God did bring all these evils upon them, and upon this city? and do ye bring yet more wrath upon Israel by profaning the sabbath? ¹⁹And it came to pass, when the gates were set up in Jerusalem, before the sabbath, that I spake, and they shut the gates; and I charged that they should not be opened till after the sabbath: and some of my servants set I at the gates, that none should bring in burdens on the sabbath day. ²⁰So all the merchants lodged, and carried on traffic without Jerusalem once or twice. ²¹Then I testified against them, and said unto them, Why lodge ye before the wall? if ye do so again, I will stretch out mine hand upon you. From that time forth came they not on the sabbath. ²²And I told the Levites that purified themselves, and came, and kept the gate, that they should sanctify the sabbath day. Remember me, O God, for these things, and spare me according to the abundance of Thy mercy. ²³In those days also saw I Jews that had married wives of Ashdod, of Ammon, and of Moab: ²⁴and their children spake half in the speech of Ashdod, and knew not how to speak in the Jewish language. ²⁵And 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, and ye shall not take of their daughters unto your sons. ²⁶Did not Solomon king of Israel sin thus? though among many nations there was no king like him, and he was beloved of God, and God made him king over all Israel: nevertheless him did strange women turn aside. ²⁷So will we not hearken unto you to do all this evil, to break covenant with our God, and to marry strange wives. ²⁸And Elishub the high priest, one of the sons of Jehoaida, being son in law to Sanballat the Horonite,

did I chase from me. ²⁹Remember them, O God, for they were against the right of inheritance of the priesthood, and the covenant of the priesthood, and of the Levites. ³⁰So I cleansed them from all strange connection, and established courses for the priests and the Levites, every man according to his work. ³¹And for the wood offering, at the time appointed, and for the firstfruits. Remember me, O our God, for good.