

Ezra, Haggai, Esther and Nehemiah

LESSON EIGHTEEN

Nehemiah 6 and 7

Day 1	Nehemiah 6:1-9
Day 2	Nehemiah 6:10-19
Day 3	Nehemiah 7:1-3
Day 4	Nehemiah 7:4-38
Day 5	Nehemiah 7:39-73

LESSON EIGHTEEN

1 Look in His Word

Feel free to underline, circle or otherwise mark text if it will aid your study.

Nehemiah 6:1-9

¹ When word came to Sanballat, Tobiah, Geshem the Arab and the rest of our enemies that I had rebuilt the wall and not a gap was left in it-though up to that time I had not set the doors in the gates-

² Sanballat and Geshem sent me this message: “Come, let us meet together in one of the villages on the plain of Ono.” But they were scheming to harm me;

³ so I sent messengers to them with this reply: “I am carrying on a great project and cannot go down. Why should the work stop while I leave it and go down to you?”

⁴ Four times they sent me the same message, and each time I gave them the same answer.

⁵ Then, the fifth time, Sanballat sent his aide to me with the same message, and in his hand was an unsealed letter

⁶ in which was written: “It is reported among the nations-and Geshem says it is true-that you and the Jews are plotting to revolt, and therefore you are building the wall. Moreover, according to these reports you are about to become their king

⁷ and have even appointed prophets to make this proclamation about you in Jerusalem: ‘There is a king in Judah!’ Now this report will get back to the king; so come, let us confer together.”

⁸ I sent him this reply: “Nothing like what you are saying is happening; you are just making it up out of your head.”

⁹ They were all trying to frighten us, thinking, “Their hands will get too weak for the work, and it will not be completed.” But I prayed, “Now strengthen my hands.”

2 List the Facts

What does the passage say? Make a verse-by-verse list of the most obvious, outstanding facts. Be literal as you answer.

Example:

(6:1) Word came to our enemies that I had rebuilt the wall and not a gap was left in it.

LESSON EIGHTEEN

3 Learn from the Lessons

What does the passage mean? What lessons can be learned from these facts? Be spiritual as you answer.

Example:

(6:1) God does not want a careless or casual commitment when serving Him.

4 Listen to His Voice

What does this passage mean to you? Rewrite the lessons from step 3 in the form of a question. Be personal as you answer.

Example:

(6:1) What gaps are in my commitment?

LESSON EIGHTEEN

1 Look in His Word

2 List the Facts

Nehemiah 6:10-19

¹⁰ One day I went to the house of Shemaiah son of Delaiah, the son of Mehetabel, who was shut in at his home. He said, “Let us meet in the house of God, inside the temple, and let us close the temple doors, because men are coming to kill you-by night they are coming to kill you.”

¹¹ But I said, “Should a man like me run away? Or should one like me go into the temple to save his life? I will not go!”

¹² I realized that God had not sent him, but that he had prophesied against me because Tobiah and Sanballat had hired him.

¹³ He had been hired to intimidate me so that I would commit a sin by doing this, and then they would give me a bad name to discredit me.

¹⁴ Remember Tobiah and Sanballat, O my God, because of what they have done; remember also the prophetess Noadiah and the rest of the prophets who have been trying to intimidate me.

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

¹⁶ When all our enemies heard about this, all the surrounding nations were afraid and lost their self-confidence, because they realized that this work had been done with the help of our God.

¹⁷ Also, in those days the nobles of Judah were sending many letters to Tobiah, and replies from Tobiah kept coming to them.

¹⁸ For many in Judah were under oath to him, since he was son-in-law to Shecaniah son of Arah, and his son Jehohanan had married the daughter of Meshullam son of Berekiah.

¹⁹ Moreover, they kept reporting to me his good deeds and then telling him what I said. And Tobiah sent letters to intimidate me.

LESSON EIGHTEEN

3

Learn from the Lessons

4

Listen to His Voice

LESSON EIGHTEEN

1 Look in His Word

2 List the Facts

Nehemiah 7:1-3

¹ After the wall had been rebuilt and I had set the doors in place, the gatekeepers and the singers and the Levites were appointed.

² I put in charge of Jerusalem my brother Hanani, along with Hananiah the commander of the citadel, because he was a man of integrity and feared God more than most men do.

³ I said to them, “The gates of Jerusalem are not to be opened until the sun is hot. While the gatekeepers are still on duty, have them shut the doors and bar them. Also appoint residents of Jerusalem as guards, some at their posts and some near their own houses.”

LESSON EIGHTEEN

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Learn from the Lessons

4

Listen to His Voice

LESSON EIGHTEEN

1 Look in His Word

2 List the Facts

Nehemiah 7:4-38

⁴ Now the city was large and spacious, but there were few people in it, and the houses had not yet been rebuilt.

⁵ So my God put it into my heart to assemble the nobles, the officials and the common people for registration by families. I found the genealogical record of those who had been the first to return. This is what I found written there:

⁶ These are the people of the province who came up from the captivity of the exiles whom Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon had taken captive (they returned to Jerusalem and Judah, each to his own town,

⁷ in company with Zerubbabel, Jeshua, Nehemiah, Azariah, Raamiah, Nahamani, Mordecai, Bilshan, Mispereth, Bigvai, Nehum and Baanah): The list of the men of Israel:

⁸ the descendants of Parosh 2,172

⁹ of Shephatiah 372

¹⁰ of Arah 652

¹¹ of Pahath-Moab (through the line of Jeshua and Joab) 2,818

¹² of Elam 1,254

¹³ of Zattu 845

¹⁴ of Zaccai 760

¹⁵ of Binnui 648

¹⁶ of Bebai 628

¹⁷ of Azgad 2,322

¹⁸ of Adonikam 667

¹⁹ of Bigvai 2,067

²⁰ of Adin 655

²¹ of Ater (through Hezekiah) 98

²² of Hashum 328

²³ of Bezai 324

²⁴ of Hariph 112

²⁵ of Gibeon 95

²⁶ the men of Bethlehem and Netophah 188

²⁷ of Anathoth 128

²⁸ of Beth Azmaveth 42

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LESSON EIGHTEEN

3

Learn from the Lessons

4

Listen to His Voice

LESSON EIGHTEEN

1 Look in His Word

2 List the Facts

Nehemiah 7:4-38 (continued)

29 of Kiriath Jearim, Kephirah and Beeroth 743

30 of Ramah and Geba 621

31 of Micmash 122

32 of Bethel and Ai 123

33 of the other Nebo 52

34 of the other Elam 1,254

35 of Harim 320

36 of Jericho 345

37 of Lod, Hadid and Ono 721

38 of Senaah 3,930

LESSON EIGHTEEN

3 Learn from the Lessons

4 Listen to His Voice

5 Live in Response

How will you respond? Pinpoint what God is saying to you from this passage. Write down today's date and what you will do now about what He has said.

LESSON EIGHTEEN

1 Look in His Word

2 List the Facts

Nehemiah 7:39-73

³⁹ The priests: the descendants of Jedaiah
(through the family of Jeshua) 973

⁴⁰ of Immer 1,052

⁴¹ of Pashhur 1,247

⁴² of Harim 1,017

⁴³ The Levites: the descendants of Jeshua
(through Kadmiel through the line of
Hodaviah) 74

⁴⁴ The singers: the descendants of Asaph 148

⁴⁵ The gatekeepers: the descendants of
Shallum, Ater, Talmon, Akkub, Hatita and
Shobai 138

⁴⁶ The temple servants: the descendants of
Ziha, Hasupha, Tabbaoth,

⁴⁷ Keros, Sia, Padon,

⁴⁸ Lebana, Hagaba, Shalmal,

⁴⁹ Hanan, Giddel, Gahar,

⁵⁰ Reaiah, Rezin, Nekoda,

⁵¹ Gazzam, Uzza, Paseah,

⁵² Besai, Meunim, Nephussim,

⁵³ Bakbuk, Hakupha, Harhur,

⁵⁴ Bazluth, Mehida, Harsha,

⁵⁵ Barkos, Sisera, Temah,

⁵⁶ Neziah and Hatipha

⁵⁷ The descendants of the servants of Solomon:
the descendants of Sotai, Sophereth, Perida,

⁵⁸ Jaala, Darkon, Giddel,

⁵⁹ Shephatiah, Hattil, Pokereth-Hazzebaim and
Amon

⁶⁰ The temple servants and the descendants of
the servants of Solomon 392

⁶¹ The following came up from the towns of
Tel Melah, Tel Harsha, Kerub, Addon and Immer,
but they could not show that their families were
descended from Israel:

⁶² the descendants of Delaiah, Tobiah and
Nekoda 642

⁶³ And from among the priests: the descendants
of Hobaiah, Hakkoz and Barzillai (a man who
had married a daughter of Barzillai the Gileadite
and was called by that name).

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LESSON EIGHTEEN

3 Learn from the Lessons

4 Listen to His Voice

5 Live in Response

LESSON EIGHTEEN

1 Look in His Word

2 List the Facts

Nehemiah 7:39-73 (continued)

⁶⁴ These searched for their family records, but they could not find them and so were excluded from the priesthood as unclean.

⁶⁵ The governor, therefore, ordered them not to eat any of the most sacred food until there should be a priest ministering with the Urim and Thummim.

⁶⁶ The whole company numbered 42,360,

⁶⁷ besides their 7,337 menservants and maidservants; and they also had 245 men and women singers.

⁶⁸ There were 736 horses, 245 mules,

⁶⁹ 435 camels and 6,720 donkeys.

⁷⁰ Some of the heads of the families contributed to the work. The governor gave to the treasury 1,000 drachmas of gold, 50 bowls and 530 garments for priests.

⁷¹ Some of the heads of the families gave to the treasury for the work 20,000 drachmas of gold and 2,200 minas of silver.

⁷² The total given by the rest of the people was 20,000 drachmas of gold, 2,000 minas of silver and 67 garments for priests.

⁷³ The priests, the Levites, the gatekeepers, the singers and the temple servants, along with certain of the people and the rest of the Israelites, settled in their own towns.

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NOTES