

NEHEMIAH

¹ The words of Nehemiah, the son of Hachaliah. And it was done in the month of Chisleu, *that is, November*, in the twentieth year, and I was in the castle of Susa;

² and Hanani, one of my brethren, came to me, he and men of Judah; and I asked them of the Jews, that were left, and were alive of the captivity, and of Jerusalem.

³ And they said to me, They that be left of the captivity, and that dwelled there still in the province, be in great torment, and shame; and the wall of Jerusalem is destroyed, and the gates of it be burnt with fire.

⁴ And when I had heard such words, I sat and wept, and mourned many days, and I fasted, and prayed before the face of God of heaven;

⁵ and I said, I beseech *thee*, Lord God of heaven, *that art* strong, great, and fearedful, that keepest covenant and mercy with them that love thee, and keep thy behests;

⁶ thine ear be made hearkening, and thine eyes opened, that thou hear the prayer of thy servant, by which *prayer* I pray before thee now, by night and day, for the sons of Israel, thy servants, and I acknowledge for the sins of the sons of Israel, by which they have sinned to thee; both I and the house of my father have sinned;

⁷ we were deceived by vanity, and we kept not thy commandments, and ceremonies, and dooms, which thou commandedest to Moses, thy servant.

⁸ Have mind of the word, which thou commandedest to thy servant Moses, and saidest, When ye have trespassed, I shall scatter you into peoples;

⁹ and if ye turn again to me, that ye keep my behests, and do those [*or them*], yea, though ye be led away to the furthest things of heaven, from thence I shall gather you together, and I shall bring you into the place, that I have chosen, that my name should dwell there.

¹⁰ And we be thy servants, and thy people, which thou hast again-bought in thy great strength, and in thy strong hand.

¹¹ Lord, I beseech thee, thine ear be attentive to the prayer of thy servant, and to the prayer of thy servants, that will dread thy name; and dress thy servant today, and give thou mercy to him before this man, *that is, Artaxerxes, king*. For I was the bottler of the king.

CHAPTER 2

¹ And it was done in the month of Nisan, *that is, April*, in the twentieth year of Artaxerxes, the king, and wine was before him, and I took up the wine, and I gave *it* to the king, and I was as languishing before his face.

² And the king said to me, Why is thy cheer sorry, *or heavy*, since I see not thee sick? This is

not without cause; but I know not what evil is in thine heart. And I dreaded full greatly;

³ and I said to the king, King, live thou without end; why should not my cheer mourn? for the city of the house of the sepulchres of my father[s] is deserted, *either forsaken*, and the gates thereof be burnt with fire.

⁴ And the king said to me, For what thing askest thou? And I prayed God of heaven,

⁵ and I said to the king, If it seemeth good to the king, and if it pleaseth thy servants *which be* before thy face, I beseech *thee*, that thou send me into Judah, to the city of the sepulchres of my fathers, and I shall rebuild it.

⁶ And the king said to me, and the queen sat beside him, Unto what time shall thy way be, and when shalt thou turn again? And it pleased to the king, and he sent me *forth*, and I set to the king a time *of coming again*;

⁷ and I said to the king, If it seemeth good to the king, give he epistles, *or letters*, to me to the dukes of the country beyond the flood, that they lead me over, till I come into Judah;

⁸ and a letter to Asaph, the keeper of the king's forest, that he give trees to me, that I may cover the gates of the tower of the house, and of the wall of the city, and the house, into which I shall enter. And the king gave *the letters* to me, by the good hand of my God with me.

⁹ And I came to the dukes of the country beyond the flood, and I gave to them the letters

of the king. Soothly the king had sent with me the princes of knights, and horsemen.

¹⁰ And Sanballat *the* Horonite, and Tobiah, the servant, *the* Ammonite, heard, and they were sorrowful by great torment, that a man was come, that sought prosperity of the sons of Israel.

¹¹ And I came into Jerusalem, and I was there three days.

¹² And I rose up by night, I and a few men with me, and I showed not to any man, what thing God had given in mine heart, that I would do in Jerusalem; and there was no work beast with me, but the beast that I sat on.

¹³ And I went out by the gate of the valley by night, and before the well of the dragon, and to the gate of dung; and I beheld the wall of Jerusalem destroyed, and the gates thereof wasted by fire.

¹⁴ And I passed forth to the gate of the well, and to the water conduit of the king, and there was no place for to pass, to the horse, that I sat upon;

¹⁵ and in the night I went up by the strand [*or stream*], and I beheld the wall, and I turned again, and came to the gate of the valley, and I went again *to my lodging*.

¹⁶ Forsooth the magistrates knew not, whither I had gone, either what I would do; but also I had not showed anything to the Jews, and [*the*] priests, and to the best men, and [*the*] magistrates, and to [*the*] other men that made the work, till that time.

17 And I said to them, Ye know the torment, in which we *Jews* be, for Jerusalem is deserted, and the gates thereof be wasted with fire; come ye, build we [*up*] the walls of Jerusalem, and be we no more *a* shame or in shame.

18 And I showed to them the hand of my God, that it was good with me, and the words of the king, which he spake to me; and I said, Rise we up, and build we; and the hands of them were comforted in good.

19 And Sanballat *the* Horonite, and Tobiah, the servant, *the* Ammonite, and Geshem *of* Arabs, heard *this*, and they scorned us, and despised; and said, What is this thing, that ye do? whether ye rebel against the king?

20 And I answered to them a word, and I said to them, God himself of heaven helpeth us, and we be his servants; rise we up, and build; forsooth part, and rightwiseness, and mind, in Jerusalem, is not to you.

CHAPTER 3

1 And Eliashib, the great priest, rose up, and his brethren, and priests, and they builded the gate of the flock; they made it steadfast; and they set up the gates thereof, and unto the tower of an hundred cubits they made it steadfast, unto the tower of Hananeel.

2 And beside him the men of Jericho builded; and beside them builded Zaccur, the son of Imri.

3 And the sons of Hassenaah builded the gates of fishes; they covered it, and setted the gates thereof, and locks, and bars.

⁴ And Meremoth, the son of Urijah, the son of Hakkoz, builded beside them. And Meshullam, the son of Berechiah, the son of Meshezabeel, builded beside him. And Zadok, the son of Baana, builded beside him.

⁵ And men of Tekoa builded beside him; but the principal men of them under-putted not their necks in the work of their Lord God.

⁶ And Jehoiada, the son of Paseah, and Meshullam, the son of Besodeiah, builded the old gate; they builded it, and setted up the gates thereof, and the locks, and bars.

⁷ And Melatiah *the* Gibeonite, and Jadon *the* Meronothite, men of Gibeon, and of Mizpah, builded beside them, for the duke that was in the country beyond the flood.

⁸ And Uzziel, the goldsmith, the son of Harhaiah, builded beside him; and Hananiah, the son of an ointment maker, builded beside him; and they let go Jerusalem till to the wall of the larger street.

⁹ And Rephaiah, the son of Hur, prince of a street of Jerusalem, builded beside them.

¹⁰ And Jedaiah, the son of Harumaph, builded beside them over against his own house; and Hattush, the son of Hashabniah, builded beside him.

¹¹ And Malchijah, the son of Harim, and Hashub, the son of Pahathmoab, builded the half part of the street, and the tower of ovens.

¹² Shallum, the son of Haloresh, prince of the half part of a street of Jerusalem, builded beside him, he and his sons.

¹³ And Hanun, and the dwellers of Zanoah, builded the gate of the valley; they builded it, and setted up the gates thereof, and the locks and bars thereof; and *they builded* a thousand cubits in the wall unto the gate of the dunghill.

¹⁴ And Malchiah, the son of Rechab, prince of a street of Bethhaccerem, builded the gate of the dunghill; he builded it, and setted it up, and covered the gates thereof, and locks, and bars.

¹⁵ And Shallun, the son of Colhozeh, prince of a town of Mizpah, builded the gate of the well; he builded it, and covered it, and he set up the gates thereof, and locks, and bars; and *he builded* the walls of the cistern of Siloah, unto the orchard of the king, and unto the degrees of the king, which come down from the city of David.

¹⁶ And Nehemiah, the son of Azbuk, prince of the half part of the street of Bethzur, builded after him, unto over against the sepulchre of David, and unto the cistern, that is builded with great work, and unto the house of strong men.

¹⁷ And deacons [*or Levites*] builded after him; and Rehum, the son of Bani, builded after them. And Hashabiah, the prince of half part of the street of Keilah, builded in his street after him.

¹⁸ The brethren of them, Bavai, the son of Henadad, prince of the half part of Keilah, builded after him.

¹⁹ And Ezer, the son of Jeshua, prince of Mizpah, builded beside him the second measure, against the going up of the strongest corner.

²⁰ And Baruch, the son of Zabbai, builded after him in the hill the second measure, from the corner unto the gate of the house of Eliashib, the great priest.

²¹ And Meremoth, the son of Urijah, son of Hakkoz, builded after him the second measure, from the gate [*of the house*] of Eliashib, as far as the house of Eliashib was stretched forth.

²² And [*the*] priests, men of the field places of Jordan, builded after him.

²³ And Benjamin and Hashub builded after him over against their house; and Azariah, the son of Maaseiah, son of Ananiah, builded after him over against his own house.

²⁴ And Binnui, the son of Henadad, builded after him the second measure, from the house of Azariah unto the bowing *of the wall*, and unto the corner.

²⁵ Palal, the son of Uzai, *builded* over against the bowing *of the wall*, and the tower that standeth forth, from the high house of the king, that is in the large place of the prison; Pedaiah, the son of Parosh, *builded* after him.

²⁶ And Nethinims dwelled in Ophel till against the gate of waters at the east, and the tower that appeared *over the others*.

²⁷ After him men of Tekoa builded the second measure even over against, from the great tower, and appearing unto the wall of the temple.

²⁸ And [*the*] priests builded above at the gate of horses, each man over against his house.

²⁹ And Zadok, the son of Immer, builded over against his house after them. And Shemaiah,

the son of Shech-aniah, the keeper of the east gate, builded after him.

³⁰ Hananiah, the son of Shelemiah, and Hanun, the sixth son of Zalaph, builded after him the second measure. Meshullam, the son of Berechiah, builded over against his chamber after him.

³¹ Malchiah, the son of a goldsmith, builded after him unto the house of Nethinims, and of men selling shields, over against the gate of judges, and unto the solar of the corner.

³² And craftsmen and merchants builded within the solar of the corner, and the gate of the king.

CHAPTER 4

¹ And it was done, when Sanballat had heard, that we builded the wall, he was full wroth, and he was stirred greatly, and he scorned the Jews.

² And he said before his brethren, and the multitude of Samaritans, What do the feeble Jews? Whether heathen men shall suffer them? Whether they shall [*ful*] fill, and make sacrifice in one day? Whether they may build stones of the heaps of the dust, which be burnt?

³ And also Tobiah *the* Ammonite, his neighbour, said, Build they; if a fox go up, he shall over-leap their stone wall.

⁴ And Nehemiah said *in prayer*, Our God, hear thou, for we be made despising; turn thou the shame upon their own heads, and give thou them into despising in the land of captivity;

⁵ cover thou not the wickedness of them, and their sins be not done away before thy face; for they scorned the builders.

⁶ Therefore we builded the wall, and joined together all till to the half part, and the heart of the people was excited to work.

⁷ And it was done when Sanballat, and Tobiah, and Arabians, and Ammonites, and men of Ashdod had heard, that the breaking of the wall of Jerusalem was stopped, and that the crazings had begun to be closed together, they were full wroth.

⁸ And *they* all were gathered together to come and fight against Jerusalem, and to cast treasons *against it*.

⁹ And we prayed the Lord our God, and we setted keepers on the wall day and night against them.

¹⁰ And Judah said, The strength of the bearer is made feeble, and the earth is full much, and we be not able to build the wall.

¹¹ And our enemies said, Know they not, and know they not, till we come into the middle of them, and slay them, and make the work to cease.

¹² Forsooth it was done, when [*the*] Jews came, that dwelled beside them, and said to us by ten times, from all places from which they came to us,

¹³ I ordained the people in order, with their swords, and spears, and bows, in a place behind the wall by compass.

¹⁴ I beheld, and rose, and said to the principal men, and magistrates, and to the other part of

the common people, Do not ye dread of their face; *but* have ye mind of the great Lord, and fearedful, and fight ye for your brothers, and your sons, and your daughters, for your wives, and houses.

¹⁵ And it was done, when our enemies had heard that it was told to us, God destroyed their counsel; and *then* all we turned again to the walls, each man to his work.

¹⁶ And it was done from that day, the half part of the young men made the work, and the half part was ready to battle; and *held* spears, and shields, and bows, and habergeons, and princes after them, in all the house of men of Judah,

¹⁷ building in the wall, and bearing burdens, and putting on; with their one hand they made the work, and with the other they held *their* sword.

¹⁸ For each of the builders was girded with a sword upon his reins; and they builded *the wall*, and they sounded with clarions beside me.

¹⁹ And I said to the principal men, and magistrates, and to the other part of the common people, The work is great and broad, and we be separated far in the wall, one from another;

²⁰ *therefore* in whatever place that ye hear [*the*] sound of the trump, run ye together thither to us; for our God shall fight for us.

²¹ And we ourselves shall make the work, and the half of us hold we spears, from the going up of the morrowtide till that [*the*] stars go out.

²² And in that time I said to the people, Each man with his servant dwell he in the midst of Jerusalem, and whiles be to us by night, and day to work.

²³ But I, and my brethren, and my keepers, and [*my*] servants, that were *going* after me, did not *put* off our clothes; each man was made naked only to washing.

CHAPTER 5

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

² And there were that said, Our sons and our daughters be full many; take we wheat for the price of them, and eat we, and live.

³ Also there were that said, Set we forth to *sale* our fields, and vineries [*or vines*], and our houses, and take we wheat to *eat* in *this* hunger.

⁴ And other men said, Take we money by borrowing, *for usury*, into the tributes of the king, and give our fields and vineries [*or vines*].

⁵ And now as the fleshes of our brethren be, so and our flesh be; and as be the sons of them, so and our sons be; lo! we have made subject our sons and our daughters into servage, and servantesses be of our daughters, and we have not whereof they may be again-bought; and other men have in possession our fields, and our vineries [*or vines*].

⁶ And I was full wroth, when I had heard the cry of them by these words.

⁷ And mine heart thought within me, and I blamed the principal men, and magistrates; and

I said to them, Ask ye not usuries, *or increase*, each man of your brethren. And I gathered together a great company against them,

⁸ and I said to them, As ye know, we have by our power again-bought our brethren Jews, that were sold to heathen men; and ye now sell your brethren, and shall we again-buy them *of you*? And they held silence, and found not what they should answer.

⁹ And I said to them, It is not good thing, that ye do; why go ye not in the dread of our God, and reproof be not said to us of heathen men, our enemies?

¹⁰ Both I, and my brethren, and my servants, have lent to full many men money and wheat; in common, ask we not *for* this again; *but* forgive we alien money, *or usury*, which is due to us.

¹¹ And again yield ye to them today their fields, and their vineries [*or vines*], their olive places, and their houses; and rather, give ye for them the hundred part of money, and of wheat, of wine, and of oil, which ye were wont to take of them.

¹² And they said, We shall yield *their goods to them*, and we shall ask nothing of them; and we shall do so as thou speakest. And I called the priests, and I made them to swear, that they should do after this, that I had said.

¹³ And furthermore I shook my bosom, and I said, So God shake away each man from his house, and *from* his travails, that fulfilleth not this word; and be he shaken away, and be he

made void. And all the multitude said, Amen; and they praised God. And the people did, as it was said.

¹⁴ Forsooth from that day in which the king had commanded to me, that I should be duke in the land of Judah, from the twentieth year unto the two and thirtieth year of Artaxerxes king, *that is*, by twelve years, I and my brethren ate not the sustenances which were due to dukes.

¹⁵ But the first dukes, that were before me, grieved the people, and took of them in bread, and wine, and money, each day forty shekels; and also their ministers oppressed the people. But I did not so, for the dread of God;

¹⁶ but rather *I subjected myself, and* I builded in the work of the wall, and I bought no field, and all my servants were gathered together *with me* to the work.

¹⁷ Also [*the*] Jews and the magistrates of them, an hundred and fifty men, and they that came to me from heathen men, that be in our compass, were *eating* in my table.

¹⁸ Forsooth by each day one ox was made ready to me, six chosen wethers, besides volatiles, and within ten days diverse wines; and I gave many other things; furthermore and I asked not *for* the sustenances of my duchy; for the people was made full poor.

¹⁹ My God, have thou mind on me into good, by all things which I have done to this people.

CHAPTER 6

¹ Forsooth it was done, when San-ballat had heard, and Tobiah, and Geshem of Arabia, and

our other enemies, that I had builded the wall, and no more breaking was therein; and unto that time I had not set up the leaves of shutting of the gates;

² and Sanballat, and Tobiah, and Geshem of Arabia sent to me, and said, Come thou into a field, and smite we bond of peace in villages [*or little towns*]; certainly they thought to do evil to me.

³ Therefore I sent messengers to them, and I said, I make a great work, and I may not go down *therefore*, lest peradventure it be done recklessly or negligently, when I come, and go down to you.

⁴ Soothly they sent to me by this word by four times, and I answered to them by the former word.

⁵ And Sanballat sent to me the fifth time by the former word his child; and he had in his hand a letter,

⁶ written in this manner; It is heard among heathen men, and Gashmu said, that thou and the Jews think for to rebel, and therefore ye build *the wall*, and thou wilt raise thee king on them;

⁷ for which cause also thou hast set prophets, which preach of thee in Jerusalem, and say, A king is in Jerusalem; the king shall hear these words; therefore come thou now, that we take counsel together.

⁸ And I sent to them, and said, It is not done by these words which thou speakest; for of thine *own* heart thou makest these things.

⁹ All these men made us afeared, and thought that our hands should cease from *our* works, and that we should rest *from building*; for which cause I strengthened more mine hand *thereto*.

¹⁰ And I entered privily into the house of Shemaiah, the son of Delaiah, the son of Mehetabeel, which said *to me*, Treat we there with ourselves in the house of God, in the midst of the temple, and close we the gates of the house; for they shall come to slay thee, yea, by night they shall come to slay thee.

¹¹ And I said, Whether any man like to me, *that is, trusting so to God, as I do*, hath fled *for such a thing*, and who as I shall enter into the temple, and shall live, *or be saved there*? I will not enter *[in]thither*.

¹² And I understood that God had not sent him, but he spake as prophesying to me; and Tobiah and Sanballat had hired him for meed.

¹³ For he had taken price, that I should be afeared, and do *their will*, and that I should do sin; and they should have evil, which they should put to me with shame.

¹⁴ Lord, have mind of me, for Tobiah and Sanballat, by such works of them; but also of Noadiah, the prophetess, and of other prophets, that have made me afeared.

¹⁵ And the wall was ended in the five and twentieth day of the month of Elul, *that is, August*, in two and fifty days.

¹⁶ And it was done, when all our enemies had heard, that all *[the]* heathen men dreaded *us*, that were in our compass, and they felled down

within themselves, and they knew *then*, that this work was made of God.

17 But also in those days many letters of the principal men of Jews were sent to Tobiah, and came from Tobiah to them.

18 For many men were in Judah, that had his oath, *that is, were sworn to him*; for he had wedded the daughter of Shechaniah, the son of Arah; and Johanan, his son, had taken the daughter of Meshullam, the son of Berechiah.

19 But also they praised him before me, and told my words to him; and Tobiah sent letters, to make me afear'd.

CHAPTER 7

1 And after that the wall of Jeru-salem was builded, and I had set up the gates *thereof*, and had numbered the porters, and singers, and deacons [*or Levites*],

2 I commanded to Hanani, my brother, and to Hananiah, the prince of the house of Jerusalem; for he seemed a soothfast man, and dreading God more than other men *did*;

3 and I said to them, The gates of Jerusalem be not opened till to the heat of the sun; and, when I was yet present, the gates were closed, and locked. And I set keepers *thereof* of the dwellers of Jerusalem, all men by their whiles, *or times*, and each man over against his *own* house.

4 And the city was full broad and great, and little people in the midst thereof, and the houses were not *yet* builded.

⁵ And God gave in mine heart, and I gathered together the principal men, and magistrates, and the common people, for to number them; and I found a book of the number[ing] of them, that had gone up first *from the captivity*. And it was found written therein,

⁶ These *be* the sons of the province, which went up from the captivity of men passing over *from Babylon to Jerusalem*, which Nebuchadnezzar, the king of Babylon, had led over *into Babylon*; and they that were come with Zerubbabel turned again into Jerusalem and into Judah, each man to his city;

⁷ Joshua, *that is to say*, Jeshua, Nehemiah, Azariah, Raamiah, Naham-ani, Mordecai, Bilshan, Mispereth, Big-vai, Nehum, Baanah. And the number of the men of the people of Israel *is this*;

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

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

¹⁰ the sons of Arah, six hundred and two and fifty;

¹¹ the sons of Pahathmoab, of the sons of Jeshua and of Joab, two thousand eight hundred and eighteen;

¹² the sons of Elam, a thousand eight hundred and four and fifty;

¹³ the sons of Zattu, eight hundred and five and forty;

¹⁴ the sons of Zaccai, seven hundred and sixty;

15 the sons of Binnui, six hundred and eight and forty;

16 the sons of Bebai, six hundred and eight and twenty;

17 the sons of Azgad, two thousand three hundred and two and twenty;

18 the sons of Adonikam, six hundred and seven and sixty;

19 the sons of Bigvai, two thousand and seven and sixty;

20 the sons of Adin, six hundred and five and fifty;

21 the sons of Ater, the son of Hezekiah, eight and twenty;

22 the sons of Hashum, three hundred and eight and twenty;

23 the sons of Bezai, three hundred and four and twenty;

24 the sons of Hariph, an hundred and seven and twenty;

25 the sons of Gibeon, five and twenty;

26 the men of Bethlehem and of Netophah, an hundred fourscore and eight;

27 the men of Anathoth, an hundred and eight and twenty;

28 the men of Bethazmaveth, two and forty;

29 the men of Kiriathjearim, of Chephirah, and of Beeroth, seven hundred and three and forty;

30 the men of Ramah and of Gaba, six hundred and one and twenty;

31 the men of Michmas, two hundred and two and twenty;

- ³² the men of Bethel and of Ai, an hundred and three and twenty;
- ³³ the men of the other Nebo, two and fifty;
- ³⁴ the men of the other Elam, a thousand two hundred and four and fifty;
- ³⁵ the sons of Harim, three hundred and twenty;
- ³⁶ the sons of Jericho, three hundred and five and forty;
- ³⁷ the sons of Lod, Hadid, and Ono, seven hundred and one and twenty;
- ³⁸ the sons of Senaah, three thousand nine hundred and thirty;
- ³⁹ priests; the sons of Jedaiah, in the house of Joshua, nine hundred and four and seventy;
- ⁴⁰ the sons of Immer, a thousand and two and fifty;
- ⁴¹ the sons of Pashur, a thousand two hundred and seven and forty;
- ⁴² the sons of Harim, a thousand and eighteen;
- ⁴³ deacons [*or Levites*]; the sons of Joshua, and of Kadmiel, *of* the sons of Hodevah, four and seventy;
- ⁴⁴ singers; the sons of Asaph, an hundred and seven and forty;
- ⁴⁵ porters; the sons of Shallum, the sons of Ater, the sons of Talmon, the sons of Akkub, the sons of Hatita, the sons of Shobai, an hundred and eight and thirty;
- ⁴⁶ Nethinims; the sons of Ziha, the sons of Hashupha, the sons of Tab-baoth,
- 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 Shalmal,

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 Phaseah,

52 the sons of Besai, the sons of Meunim, sons of Nephishesim,

53 sons of Bakbuk, sons of Hakupha, sons of Harhur,

54 sons of Bazlith, sons of Mehida, sons of Harsha,

55 sons of Barkos, sons of Sisera, sons of Tamah,

56 sons of Neziah, sons of Hatipha;

57 sons of the servants of Solomon; sons of Sotai, sons of Sophereth, sons of Perida,

58 sons of Jaala, sons of Darkon, sons of Giddel,

59 sons of Shephatiah, sons of Hattil, sons of Pochereth, which were born of Zebaim, *and* the sons of Amon;

60 all Nethinims, and the sons of the servants of Solomon, *were* three hundred and two and twenty or seventy.

61 *And these that follow* be they that went up *of the country* of Telmelah, Telharsa, Cherub, Addon, and Immer; which might not show the house of their fathers, nor their seed, whether they were of Israel;

62 the sons of Delaiah, the sons of Tobiah, the sons of Nekoda, six hundred and two and forty;

⁶³ and of the priests; the sons of Habaiah, the sons of Hakkoz, the sons of Barzillai, that took a wife of the daughters of Barzillai of Gilead, and was called by the name of them;

⁶⁴ these sought the scripture of their genealogy, and they found *it* not, and they were *therefore* cast out of priest-hood.

⁶⁵ And *the* Tirshatha said to them, that they should not eat of the holy things of holy men, till that a wise priest rose up *among the people*.

⁶⁶ All the multitude as one man, two and forty thousand six hundred and sixty,

⁶⁷ besides the servants and handmaids of them, which were seven thousand three hundred and seven and thirty; and among [*them*] the singers and sing-eresses, six hundred and five and forty.

⁶⁸ The horses of them, six hundred and six and thirty; the mules of them, two hundred and five and forty;

⁶⁹ the camels of them, four hundred and five and thirty; the asses of them, six thousand eight hundred and thirty.

⁷⁰ Soothly some of the princes of the meines gave costs into the work of God; *the* Tirshatha gave into the treasure [*or treasury*], a thousand drachmas/drams of gold, fifty vials, *or basins*, five hundred and thirty coats of priests.

⁷¹ And of the princes of [*the*] meines, they gave into the treasure [*or treasury*] of the work, twenty thousand drachmas/ drams of gold, and two thousand and two hundred bezants of silver.

⁷² And that that the residue people gave, twenty thousand drachmas/drams of gold, and two thousand bezants of silver, and seven and sixty coats of priests.

⁷³ Soothly [*the*] priests, and deacons [*or Levites*], and porters, and singers, and the residue people, and Nethinims, and all Israel dwelled in their cities. And *when* the seventh month was come under Ezra and Nehemiah, soothly the sons of Israel were in their cities.

CHAPTER 8

¹ And all the people was gathered together as one man, to the street which is before the gate of waters. And they said to Ezra, the scribe or writer, that he should bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had commanded to Israel.

² Therefore Ezra, the priest, brought the law before the multitude of men and of women, and before all that might understand, in the first day of the seventh month.

³ And he read in it openly in the street that was before the gate of waters, from the morrowtide till to midday, in the sight of men and of women, and of wise men; and the ears of all the people were raised up to the book *to hear the law*.

⁴ And Ezra the writer stood on the degrees of wood, that he had made to speak *upon to the people*; and Mattithiah, and Shema, and Anaiah, and Urijah, and Hilkiah, and Maaseiah stood beside him, at his right half; and Pedaiah, Mishael, and Malchiah, Hashum, and

Hashbadana, and Zechariah, and Meshullam, stood at the left half.

⁵ And Ezra opened the book before all the people; for he appeared over all the people; and when he had opened the book, all the people stood *to hear*.

⁶ And Ezra blessed the Lord God with great voice; and all the people answered, Amen, Amen, raising up their hands. And they were bowed, and they worshipped God, lowly upon the earth.

⁷ And Jeshua, and Bani, and Shere-biah, Jamin, Akkub, Shabbethai, Hodi-jah, Maaseiah, Kelita, Azariah, Joza-bad, Hanan, Pelaiiah, deacons [*or Levites*], made silence in the people, for to hear the law. And the people stood in their degree *or place*.

⁸ And they read in the book of God's law distinctly, and openly, to understand it; and they understood, when it was read.

⁹ Forsooth Nehemiah said, he is *the* Tirshatha, and Ezra, the priest and writer, and the deacons [*or Levites*], expounding to all the people, This is a day hallowed to the Lord our God; do not ye mourn, and do not ye weep. For all the people wept, when it heard the words of the law.

¹⁰ And he said to them, Go ye, and eat ye fat things, and drink ye wine made sweet with honey, and send ye parts to them, that made not ready to themselves, for it is an holy day of the Lord; do not ye be sorry, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.

11 And the deacons [*or Levites*] made silence in all the people, and said, Be ye still, for this is an holy day, and make ye no sorrow.

12 Therefore all the people went for to eat, and drink, and to send parts, and to make great gladness; for they understood the words, which he had taught them.

13 And in the second day, the princes of meines, and all the peoples, priests, and deacons [*or Levites*], were gathered to Ezra, the writer, that he should expound to them the words of the law.

14 And they found written in the law, that the Lord commanded in the hand of Moses, that the sons of Israel dwell in tabernacles in the solemn days, in the seventh month;

15 and that they preach, and publish a voice in all their cities, and in Jerusalem; and say, Go ye out into the hills, and bring ye boughs of the olive tree, and boughs of the fairest tree, the boughs of a myrtle tree, and the branches of a palm tree, and the boughs of a tree full of wood, that tabernacles be made *of the boughs*, as it is written.

16 And all the people went out, and they brought *with them boughs*, and they made to themselves tabernacles, each man in his house roof, and in their streets, *either foreyards*, and in the large places of God's house, and in the street of the gate of waters, and in the street of the gate of Ephraim.

17 Therefore all the church, *or congregation*, of them, *that is, the gathering together*, that

came again from *[the]* captivity, made tabernacles, and they dwelled in *those* tabernacles. Certainly the sons of Israel had not done such things from the days of Joshua, the son of Nun, unto that day; and full great gladness was *there among them*.

¹⁸ And Ezra read in the book of God's law by all days *of the solemnity*, from the first day unto the last day; and they made the solemnity by seven days; and in the eighth day *they made* a gathering, *or collection*, of silver, by the custom.

CHAPTER 9

¹ Forsooth in the four and twentieth day of this month, the sons of Israel came together in fasting, and in sack-cloths, and earth *was* on them.

² And the seed of the sons of Israel was separated from each alien man. And they stood before the Lord, and acknowledged their sins, and the wickednesses of their fathers.

³ And they rose together to stand; and they read in the book of the law of the Lord their God four times in the day, and four times in the night; they acknowledged, and praised the Lord their God.

⁴ Forsooth they rised *[up]* on the degrees, of deacons *[or Levites]*, Jeshua, and Bani, Kadmiel, Bunni, Shebaniah, Sherebiah, Bani, and Chenani. And the deacons *[or Levites]* cried with great voice to their Lord God.

⁵ And the deacons *[or Levites]*, Jeshua, and Kadmiel, Bani, Hashabniah, Sherebiah, Hodijah, Shebaniah, and Pethahiah, said, Rise ye, and

bless ye the Lord your God, from without beginning and till into without end; and *Lord*, bless they the high name of thy glory in all blessing and praising.

⁶ Thou thyself, Lord, art alone, or art alone *God*; thou madest heaven, and the heaven of heavens, and all the host of those *heavens*; *thou madest* the earth and all things that be therein; *thou madest* the seas and all things that be in them; and thou quickenest all these things; and the host of heaven worshippeth thee.

⁷ Thou thyself *art* the Lord God, that choosedest Abram, and leddest him out of the fire of Chaldees, and thou settedest, *or calledest*, his name Abraham;

⁸ and foundest his heart faithful before thee, and thou hast smitten with him a bond of peace, that thou wouldest give to him the land of Canaanites, of Hittites, of Hivites, of Amorites, and of Perizzites, and of Jebusites, and of Girgashites, that thou wouldest give it to his seed; and thou hast fulfilled thy words, for thou art just.

⁹ And thou hast seen the torment of our fathers in Egypt, and thou heardest the cry of them upon the Red Sea.

¹⁰ And thou hast given signs and great wonders in Pharaoh, and in all his servants, and in all the people of that land; for thou knowest, that they did proudly against our fathers; and thou madest to thee a name, as also in this day.

¹¹ And thou partedest the sea before them, and they passed through the midst of the sea in

the dry place; and thou castedest down the pursuers of them into the depth, as a stone in strong waters.

¹² And in a pillar of cloud thou were the leader of them by day, and in a pillar of fire by night, that the way, by which they entered, should appear to them.

¹³ Also thou camest down at the hill of Sinai, and spakest with them from heaven, and thou gavest to them rightful dooms, and the law of truth, ceremonies, and good commandments.

¹⁴ And thou showedest to them an hallowed sabbath; and thou command-est to them commandments, and ceremonies, and law, in the hand of Moses, thy servant.

¹⁵ And thou gavest to them bread from heaven in their hunger; and thou leddest out of the stone water to them thirsting; and thou saidest to them, that they should enter, and have in possession the land, upon the which *land* thou raisedest up thine hand, that thou shouldst give *it* to them.

¹⁶ But they and our fathers did proudly, and made hard their nolls, and heard not thy commandments.

¹⁷ And they would not hear; and they had not mind of thy marvels, which thou haddest done to them; and they made hard their nolls; and they gave the head, that they were all-turned to their servage as by strife; but thou *art* God *who* is helpful, meek, and merciful, abiding long, *either patient*, and of much merciful doing, and forsookest not them;

¹⁸ and when they had made to them a molten calf, as by strife, and had said, This is thy God, *Israel*, that led thee out of Egypt, and they did great blasphemies *to thy name*.

¹⁹ But thou, *Lord*, in thy many mercies leftest, *or forsookest*, not them in desert; for a pillar of cloud went not away from them by the day, that it should lead them into the way *whither they were to go*; and the pillar of fire *went not away from them* by night, that it should show to them the way, by which they should enter.

²⁰ And thou gavest to them thy good Spirit, that taught them; and thou forbadeest not thine angel's meat, *or thy manna*, from their mouths, and thou gavest to them water in *their* thirst.

²¹ Forty years thou feddest them in desert, and nothing failed to them; their clothes waxed not eld, and their feet were not hurt, *or swollen*.

²² And thou gavest to them realms, and peoples; and thou partedest lots, *either heritages*, to them, and they had in possession the land of Sihon, and the land of the king of Heshbon, and the land of Og, king of Bashan.

²³ And thou multipliedest the sons of them, as the stars of heaven or of the firmament; and thou broughtest them to the land, of which thou saidest to their fathers, that they should enter, and hold it in possession.

²⁴ And the sons of Israel came, and had the land in possession; and before them thou madest low the dwellers of the land, Canaanites; and thou gavest them into the hands of the sons of Israel, and the kings of

them, and the peoples of the land, that they did to them, as it pleased them.

²⁵ And they took cities made strong, and fat earth; and they had in possession houses full of all goods, cisterns made of other men, vineries [*or vines*], and places of olives, and many apple trees. And they ate, and were fulfilled, and were made fat; and had plenty of riches in thy great goodness.

²⁶ And yet they stirred thee to wrath-fulness, and went away from thee, and casted away thy law behind their backs; and they killed thy prophets, that witnessed to them, that they should turn again to thee; and they did great blasphemies.

²⁷ And thou gavest them into the hands of their enemies; and they tormented them; and in the time of their tribulation they cried to thee; and thou heardest them from heaven, and by thy many merciful doings thou gavest them saviours, that saved them from the hand of their enemies.

²⁸ And when they had rested, they turned again to do evil in thy sight; and thou forsookest them in the hand of their enemies, and *their* enemies had them in possession; then they were turned again *to thee*, and cried to thee; and in thy mercy doing thou heardest them from heaven, and deliverdest them by many times.

²⁹ And thou witnessedest to them, that they should turn again to thy law; but they did proudly, and heard not thy behests, and sinned in thy dooms, which a man that shall do, shall

live in those [*or them*]; but they gave their shoulder and went away, and they made hard their nolls, *and would not obey to thy dooms.*

³⁰ And thou drewest along many years upon them, and thou witnessed-est to them in thy Spirit, by the hand, *or telling*, of thy prophets, *that they were law-breakers*; and they heard *them* not; and *therefore* thou gavest them into the hand of the peoples of lands.

³¹ But in thy mercies full many, thou madest not them *to be* into wasting, neither thou forsookest them; for thou art God of merciful doings, and meek.

³² Now therefore, our Lord God, great God, strong, and fearedful, keeping covenant and mercy, turn thou not away thy face *from us* in all the travail that hath found us, our kings, and our princes, and our fathers, and our priests, and our prophets, and all thy people, from the days of king Assur till to this day.

³³ And *Lord*, thou art just in all things, that came [*up*] on us, for thou didest truth to us; but we have done wickedly.

³⁴ And our kings, and our princes, and our priests, and our fathers, have not done thy law; and they perceived not thy behests and thy witnessings, which thou hast witnessed in thy behests.

³⁵ And they, in their good realms, and in thy much goodness which thou gavest to them, and in the full large land and fat, which thou haddest given in the sight of them, served not

thee, neither turned again from their worst studies.

³⁶ Lo! we ourselves be thralls today; and the land which thou gavest to our fathers, that they should eat the bread thereof, and the goods that be thereof, *is thrall*; and we ourselves be thralls, *either bondmen*, in that land.

³⁷ And the fruits thereof be multiplied to kings, which thou hast set [*or put*] upon us for our sins; and they be lords of our bodies, and of our beasts, by their will, and we be in great tribulation.

³⁸ Therefore on all these things we ourselves smite and write bond of peace, and our princes, our deacons [*or Levites*], and our priests aseal.

CHAPTER 10

¹ And the sealers were Nehemiah, *that is, the Tirshatha, or the governor*, the son of Hachaliah, and Zidkijah,

² Seraiah, Azariah, Jeremy [*or Jere-miah*],

³ Pashur, Amariah, Malchijah,

⁴ Hattush, Shebaniah, Malluch,

⁵ Harim, Meremoth, Obadiah,

⁶ Daniel, Ginnethon, Baruch,

⁷ Meshullam, Abijah, Mijamin,

⁸ Maaziah, Bilgai, and Shemaiah; these *were* priests.

⁹ And the deacons [*or Levites*] were Joshua, [*or Jeshua*], the son of Azaniah, Binnui, of the sons of Henadad, Kadmiel,

¹⁰ and his brethren, Shebaniah, Hodijah, Kelita, Pelaiah, Hanan,

- 11 Micha, Rehob, Hashabiah,
12 Zaccur, Sherebiah, Shebaniah,
13 Hodijah, Bani, Beninu.
14 And the chief men of the people *were*
Parosh, Pahathmoab, Elam, Zat-thu, Bani,
15 Bunni, Azgad, Bebai,
16 Adonijah, Bigvai, Adin,
17 Ater, Hezekiah, 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 Ahijah, Hanan, Anan,
27 Malluch, Harim, Baanah;
28 and others of the people, priests, deacons
[or Levites], porters, and singers, Nethinims,
and all men that separated themselves from the
peoples of lands to the law of God, the wives of
them, the sons of them, and the daughters of
them; all that might understand,
29 promising for their brethren, the principal
men of them, and they that came *thither* to
promise, and to swear, that they should go in
the law of the Lord, which he gave by the hand
of Moses, his servant, and that they should do
and keep all the behests of the Lord our God,
and his dooms, and his ceremonies;

³⁰ and that we should not give our daughters to the people of the land, and that we should not take their daughters to our sons.

³¹ Also the peoples of the land, that bring in things set to sale, and all things to use, by the day of sabbath, for to sell, we shall not take of them in the sabbath, and in a day hallowed; and we shall leave *the land without tith and sowing and gathering*, the seventh year, and the asking of all hand, *that is, release debts, and deliver Hebrew servants*.

³² And also we shall ordain upon us commandments, that by each year we give the third part of a shekel to the work of the Lord our God,

³³ to the loaves of setting forth, and to the everlasting sacrifice, and into burnt sacrifice everlasting, in sabbaths, in calends, *that is, beginnings of months*, in solemnities, in hallowed days, and for sin, that prayer be made for Israel, and into all the uses of the house of our God.

³⁴ Also we casted lots on the offering of wood, betwixt priests and deacons [*or Levites*] and the people, that those [*or they*] should be brought into the house of our God, by the meines of our fathers in *certain* times, from the times of a year *sufficient* unto a year, that that *wood* should burn upon the altar of the Lord our God, as it is written in the law of Moses;

³⁵ and that we bring the first engendered things of our land, and the first fruits of all fruit

of each tree, from year into year, into the house of the Lord,

³⁶ and the first begotten things of our sons, and of our beasts, as it is written in the law, and the first begotten things of our oxen, and of our sheep, that those [*or they*] be offered in the house of our God, to priests that minister in the house of our God;

³⁷ and we shall bring the first fruits of our meats, and of our moist [*or liquor*] sacrifices, and the fruits of each tree, and of vintage, and of oil, to [*the*] priests, at the chamber of the *house of the* Lord, and the tenth part of our land to deacons [*or Levites*]; those deacons shall take tithes of all the cities of our works.

³⁸ And a priest, the son of Aaron, shall be with the deacons [*or Levites*] in the tithes of deacons; and the deacons shall offer the tenth part of their tithe in the house of our God, at the chambers, in the house of treasure.

³⁹ For the sons of Israel and the sons of Levi shall bring the first fruits of wheat, of wine, and of oil *to that place*; and hallowed vessels shall be there, and priests, and singers, and porters, and ministers; and we shall not forsake the house of our God.

CHAPTER 11

¹ Forsooth the princes of the people dwelled in Jerusalem; but the residue people sent lot, for to take one part of ten, which should dwell in Jerusalem, in the holy city; and the *other* nine parts *dwelled* in *other* cities.

² And the people blessed all men, that proffered themselves by free will to dwell in Jerusalem.

³ And so these be the princes of the province, that dwelled in Jerusalem, and in the cities of Judah; and each man dwelled in his possession, in their cities of Israel, *that is*, priests, deacons [*or Levites*], Nethinims, and the sons of the servants of Solomon.

⁴ And men of the sons of Judah, and of the sons of Benjamin dwelled in Jerusalem; of the sons of Judah; Athaiah, the son of Uzziah, son of Zechariah, son of Amariah, son of Shephatiah, son of Mahalaleel, of the sons of Perez;

⁵ 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 Shilonites;

⁶ all the sons of Perez, that dwelled in Jerusalem, *were* four hundred eight and sixty, strong men.

⁷ And these be 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, ninety and eight and twenty;

⁹ and Joel, the son of Zichri, *was* the sovereign of them, and Judah, the son of Senuah, *was* the second man on the city.

¹⁰ And of priests; Jedaiah, the son of Joiarib, Jachin,

¹¹ Seraiah, the son of Hilkiah, the son of Meshullam, the son of Zadok, the son of Meraioth, the son of Ahitub, *these were* princes of the house of God,

¹² and their brethren, making the works of the temple, *were* eight hundred and two and twenty. 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 the brethren of them, the princes of fathers, *were* two hundred and two and forty. And Amashai, the son of Azareel, the son of Ahasai, the son of Meshillemoth, the son of Immer,

¹⁴ and their brethren, full mighty men, *were* an hundred and eight and twenty; and the sovereign of them *was* Zabdiel, the son of mighty men.

¹⁵ And of deacons [*or Levites*]; Shemaiah, the son of Hashub, the son of Azrikam, the son of Hashabiah, the son of Bunni;

¹⁶ and Shabbethai, and Jozabad *was ordained* of the princes of deacons [*or Levites*], upon all the works that were *done* withoutforth in God's house.

¹⁷ And Mattaniah, the son of Micha, the son of Zabdi, the son of Asaph, *was* prince *in God's house*, to praise and acknowledge *to him* in prayer; and Bakbukiah *was* the second of his brethren, and Abda, the son of Sham-mua, the son of Galal, the son of Jeduthun.

¹⁸ All the deacons [*or Levites*] in the holy city, *were* two hundred fourscore and four.

19 And the porters, Akkub, Talmon, and the brethren of them, that kept the doors *of the temple, were* an hundred and two and seventy.

20 And other men of Israel, priests, and deacons [*or Levites*], in all the cities of Judah, each man in his possession.

21 And [*the*] Nethinims, that dwelled in Ophel; and Ziha and Gishpa of [*the*] Nethinims.

22 And sovereign of deacons [*or Levites*] in Jerusalem was Uzzi, the son of Bani, the son of Hashabiah, the son of Mattaniah, the son of Micha. Of the sons of Asaph, singers in the service of God's house.

23 For the command of the king was on them, and an order *was* in singers by all days;

24 and Pethahiah, the son of Meshe-zabeel, of the sons of Zerah, the son of Judah, in the hand of the king, by each word of the people;

25 and in the houses by all the countries of them. Of the sons of Judah dwelled in Kiriatharba, and in the villages thereof, and in Dibon, and in the villages thereof, and in Jekabzeel, and in the towns thereof;

26 and in Jeshua, and in Moladah, and in Bethpheet,

27 and in Hazarshual, and in Beer-sheba, and in the villages thereof;

28 and in Ziklag, and in Mekonah, and in the villages thereof;

29 and in Enrimmon, and in Zareah, and in Jarmuth,

30 in Zanoah, in Adullam, and in the towns thereof; in Lachish, and in the country thereof;

in Azekah, and in the villages thereof; and they dwelled in Beersheba till to the valley of Hinnom.

³¹ And the sons of Benjamin *dwelled* in Geba, Michmash, and Aija, and Bethel, and in the villages thereof;

³² in Anathoth, Nob, Ananiah,

³³ Hazor, Ramah, Gittaim,

³⁴ Hadid, Zeboim, Neballat,

³⁵ Lod, and in Ono, the valley of craftsmen.

³⁶ And of the deacons [*or Levites*], the portions of Judah and of Benjamin.

CHAPTER 12

¹ Soothly these *were*[*the*] priests and [*the*] deacons [*or Levites*], that went up with Zerubbabel, the son of Shealtiel, and with Joshua; Seraiah, Jeremy [*or Jeremiah*], Ezra,

² Amariah, Malluch, Hattush,

³ Shechaniah, Rehum, Meremoth,

⁴ Iddo, Ginnetho, Miamin,

⁵ Abiah, Maadiah, Bilgah,

⁶ Shemaiah, and Joiarib, Jedaiah,

⁷ Sallu, Amok, Hilkiah, and Jedaiah; these *were* the princes of priests and their brethren, in the days of Jeshua.

⁸ Certainly deacons [*or Levites*]; Jeshua, Binnui, Kadmiel, Sherebiah, Judah, Mattaniah, *were* over the hymns, they and their brethren;

⁹ and Bakbukiah, and Unni, and the brethren of them, each man in his office.

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

11 and Joiada begat Jonathan, and Jonathan begat Jaddua.

12 And in the days of Joiakim *these were the* priests, and the princes of the *meines of priests*; Seraiah, Meraiah; Jeremy, 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* Abiah, Zichri; *of* Miniamin, (*); and *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, Nethaneel.

22 Deacons [*or Levites*] in the days of Eliashib, and of Joiada, and of Johanan, and of Jaddua, *were* written princes of *meines*, and priests, in the realm of Darius *king* of Persia.

23 The sons of Levi, princes of *meines*, were written in the book of the words of days, and unto the days of Johanan, the son of Eliashib.

24 And the princes of deacons [*or Levites*]*were* Hashabiah, Sherebiah, and Jeshua, the son of Kadmiel; and the brethren of them by their *whiles, or times*, that they should praise and

* **CHAPTER 12:17** A name is missing here in both the Hebrew and the Greek texts of the *Ta'na'kh*, which are the *Hebrew Scriptures* or the *Old Testament*.

acknowledge by the commandment of king David, the man of God, and they should keep evenly by order.

²⁵ Mattaniah, and Bakbukiah, and Obadiah, Meshullam, Talmon, Akkub, *were* keepers of the gates, and of the porches before the gates.

²⁶ These *men were serving* in the days of Joiakim, the son of Joshua, son of Jozadak, and in the days of Nehemiah, the duke, and of Ezra, the priest and writer.

²⁷ Forsooth in the hallowing of the wall of Jerusalem they sought deacons [*or Levites*] of all their places, to bring them into Jerusalem, and to make the hallowing in gladness, in the doing of thankings, and in song, and in cymbals, and in psalteries, and in harps.

²⁸ And the sons of singers were gathered together, both from the field places about Jerusalem, and from the towns of Netophathi,

²⁹ and from the house of Gilgal, and from the country of Geba, and of Azmaveth; for the singers had builded towns to themselves in the compass of Jerusalem.

³⁰ And [*the*] priests and deacons [*or Levites*] were cleansed, and *then* they cleansed the people, and the gates, and the wall.

³¹ And I made the princes of Judah to go up on the wall, and I ordained two great choirs, *or companies*, of men praising *the Lord*; and they went to the right side on the wall, to the gate of the dunghill.

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

³³ and Azariah, Ezra, and Meshullam,

³⁴ Judah, and Benjamin, and Shemai-ah, and Jeremy [*or Jeremiah*].

³⁵ And of the sons of priests *singing* in trumps; 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.

³⁶ And his brethren; Shemaiah, and Azarael, Milalai, Gilalai, Maai, Nethaneel, and Judah, and Hanani, in the instruments of song of David, the man of God; and Ezra, the writer, before them,

³⁷ in the gate of the well. And men went up against them, in the degrees of the city of David, in the ascending or going up of the wall, over the house of David, and unto the gate of the waters at the east *coast*.

³⁸ And the second choir of men telling out thankings went over against, *or on the other side*, and I *went* after them; and half part of the people *was* on the wall, and on the tower of ovens, and *they went* unto the broadest wall;

³⁹ and over the gate of Ephraim, and over the *eld* [*or old*] gate, and over the gate of fishes, and over the tower of Hananeel, and over the tower of Meah, and they came unto the gate of flock; and they stood still in the gate of keeping.

⁴⁰ And the two choirs of men praising stood in the house of God, and I and the half part of magistrates with me.

⁴¹ And the priests, Eliakim, Maaseiah, Miniamin, Michaiah, Elioenai, Zech-ariah, Hananiah, in trumps;

⁴² and Maaseiah, and Shemaiah, and Eleazar, and Uzzi, and Jehohanan, and Malchijah, and Elam, and Ezer; and the singers sang clearly, and Jezrahiah, their sovereign *also*.

⁴³ And they offered in that day great sacrifices, and were glad; for God had made them glad with great gladness. But also their wives and their lawful children were joyful, and the gladness of Jerusalem was heard [*a*] far.

⁴⁴ Also they numbered in that day the men *that were* over the keeping places of the treasure, to *receive* moist [*or liquor*] sacrifices, and the first fruits, and tithes, that in seemliness, or fairness, of doing of thankings *to the Lord*, princes of the city should bring in by them, *for the* priests and deacons [*or Levites*]; for Judah was glad in priests and deacons present.

⁴⁵ And they kept the keeping of their God, the keeping of cleansing; and singers, and porters, by the command-ment of David, and of Solomon, his son;

⁴⁶ for in the days of David and of Asaph, from the beginning, princes of singers were ordained, praising in song, and acknowledging to God.

⁴⁷ And all Israel, in the days of Zerubbabel, and in the days of Nehemiah, gave parts to singers and to porters, by all the days; and they hallowed *a part* for the deacons [*or Levites*], and the deacons hallowed *a part* for the sons of Aaron.

CHAPTER 13

¹ Forsooth in that day it was read in the book of Moses, in hearing of the people; and it was found written therein, that Ammonites and Moabites owe not to enter into the church of God till into without end;

² for they met not the sons of Israel with bread and water, and they hired against the sons of Israel Balaam, for to curse them; and our God turned the cursing into blessing.

³ And it was done, when the people had heard the law, they separated each alien from Israel.

⁴ And upon these things was Eliashib, the priest, that was sovereign in the chamber of the house of our God, and *was* the neighbour of Tobiah*.

⁵ Therefore he made to him a great chamber *in the house of God*; and there before him were men that kept the gifts *that were offered*, and incense, and *diverse* vessels, and the tithes of wheat, of wine, and of oil, and the parts of deacons [*or Levites*], and of singers, and of porters, and the first fruits of priests.

⁶ And in all these things I was not in Jerusalem; for in the two and thirtieth year of Artaxerxes, king of Babylon, I came to the king, and in the end of days I prayed the king.

⁷ And I came into Jerusalem, and I understood the evil that Eliashib had done to Tobiah, to make to him a chamber in the porches of God's house;

* **CHAPTER 13:4** That is, *friend, by the matrimony of his cousin, that had wedded the daughter of Sanballat.*

⁸ and to me it seemed full evil. And I casted forth the vessels of the house of Tobiah out of the chamber;

⁹ and I commanded, and they cleansed the chambers; and I brought again there the vessels of God's house, and the sacrifice *thereof*, and the incense.

¹⁰ And I knew that the parts of the deacons [*or Levites*] were not given *to them*, and that each man of the deacons and of the singers, and of them that ministered *in the temple*, had gone away into his country;

¹¹ and I did the cause against magistrates, and I said, Why have ye forsaken the house of God? And I gathered them together, *that is, deacons or Levites and the ministers, that had gone away*, and I made *them* to stand in their standings.

¹² And all Judah brought the tithe of wheat, of wine, and of oil, into the barns.

¹³ And we ordained on *the barns*, Shelemiah, the priest, and Zadok, the writer, and Pedaiah, *one of the deacons [or Levites]*, and besides them *we ordained* Hanan, the son of Zaccur, the son of Mattaniah; for they were proved faithful men, and the parts of their brethren were betaken to them.

¹⁴ My God, have mind of me for this thing, and do thou not away my merciful doings, which I have done in the house of my God, and in his ceremonies.

¹⁵ In those days I saw in Judah men treading pressers in the sabbath, men bringing *in* heaps, and charging *or loading* on asses wine, and

grapes, and figs, and all burdens, and bringing into Jerusalem in the day of sabbath; and I witnessed to them, that they should sell in the day in which it was leaveful to sell.

16 And men of Tyre dwelled in it, and brought in fishes, and all things set to sale, and they sold in the sabbaths to the sons of Judah, and of Jerusalem.

17 And I rebuked the principal men of Judah, and I said to them, What is this evil thing that ye do, and make unholy the day of the sabbath?

18 Whether our fathers did not these things, and our God brought on us all this evil, and on this city? and ye increase wrathfulness on Israel, in defouling the sabbath.

19 And it was done, when the gates of Jerusalem had rested in the day of sabbath, I said, Shut ye the gates; and they shutted the gates; and I com-manded, that they should not open the gates till after the sabbath. And of my children, *or servants*, I ordained numbers on the gates *to keep shut*, that no man should bring in a burden in the day of sabbath.

20 And merchants, and men selling all things set to sale, dwelled without Jerusalem once or twice.

21 And I areasoned *with* them, and I said to them, Why dwell ye *there* even against, *or on the other side of*, the wall? If ye do this *thing* the second time, I shall set hand on you. Therefore from that time forth they came not *thither* in the sabbath.

22 Also I said to the deacons [*or Levites*], that they should be cleansed, and that they should come to keep the gates, and to hallow the day of sabbath. And therefore for this thing, my God, have mind of me, and spare me by the muchness of thy merciful doings.

23 But also in those days I saw Jews wedding wives, women of Ashdod, and women of Ammonites, and women of Moabites.

24 And their children spake half part by the speech of Ashdod, and could not speak by the speech of Jews, and they spake by the language of *this* people, and of *that* people.

25 And I rebuked them, and cursed them; and I beat the men of them, and I made them bald, and I made them swear by the Lord, that they should not give their daughters to the sons of those *aliens*, and that they should not take of the daughters of those *aliens* to their sons, and to themselves;

26 and I said, Whether Solomon, the king of Israel, sinned not in such things? And certainly in many folks there was no king like him, and he was loved of his God, and God setted [*or set*] him king upon all Israel, and alien women brought him to sin.

27 Whether also we unobedient, should do all this great evil, that we trespass against our Lord God, and wed alien wives?

28 Forsooth Sanballat *the* Horonite had wedded a daughter of the sons of Joiada, son of Eliashib, the great priest, which *Sanballat* I drove away from me.

²⁹ My Lord God, have mind against them, that defoul priesthood, and the right of priests, and of deacons [*or Levites*].

³⁰ Therefore I cleansed them from all aliens, and I ordained the orders of priests and of deacons [*or Levites*], each man in his service,

³¹ and in offering, *that is, dressing, of trees, or of wood, to burn with offered sacrifices*, in times ordained, and in the first fruits. My God, have mind of me into good.

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Wycliffe's Bible with Modern Spelling, was made in response to requests from readers who wanted my Wycliffe's Old and New Testaments and Apocrypha in one volume. Printing limitations dictated the number of pages available to me and the letter size. In my previous books, Wycliffe's Bible, Wycliffe's Old Testament, Vols. 1 amp 2, Wycliffe's New Testament, and Wycliffe's Apocrypha, I have tens of thousands of rewritten verses, presented in parentheses "()", to provide help in comprehending the 14th century Middle English vocabulary and grammar. In this present volume, with space at a premium, those "helps" had to be eliminated, to make room for the text of the Apocrypha.

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