

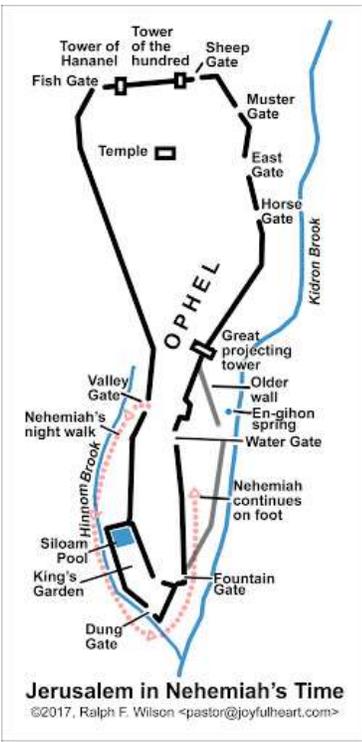


# Nehemiah 7-9

## The Wall is Built! What's Next?

Prairie Rose EMC, June 27, 2021  
Pastor Mike

**RENEW**  
**Reforming the Community**



*"So the wall was completed on the twenty-fifth of Elul, in fifty-two days."  
Nehemiah 6:15*

### Chapter 7

- Nehemiah gets the leadership and the guards set up so that the city works the way it should.
- He searches the records to figure out who belongs in the city and in the suburbs.

### Chapter 8

*So on the first day of the seventh month (Sept. 8 – 444BC) Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, which was made up of men and women and all who were able to understand. <sup>3</sup> He read it aloud from daybreak till noon as he faced the square before the Water Gate in the presence of the men, women and others who could understand. And all the people listened attentively to the Book of the Law.*

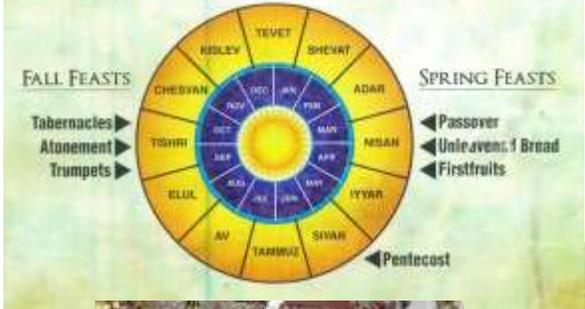
*<sup>4</sup> Ezra the scribe stood on a high wooden platform built for the occasion...*

*<sup>5</sup> Ezra opened the book. All the people could see him because he was standing above them; and as he opened it, the people all stood up. <sup>6</sup> Ezra praised the LORD, the great God; and all the people lifted their hands and responded, "Amen! Amen!" Then they bowed down and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground...*

*<sup>8</sup> They read from the Book of the Law of God, making it clear and giving the meaning so that the people could understand what was being read...*

*<sup>9</sup> Then Nehemiah the governor, Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who were instructing the people said to them all, "This day is sacred to the LORD your God. Do not mourn or weep." For all the people had been weeping as they listened to the words of the Law.*

*<sup>10</sup> Nehemiah said, "Go and enjoy choice food and sweet drinks, and send some to those who have nothing prepared. This day is sacred to our Lord. Do not grieve, for the joy of the LORD is your strength."*



13 On the second day of the month, the heads of all the families, along with the priests and the Levites, gathered around Ezra the scribe to give attention to the words of the Law. <sup>14</sup> They found written in the Law, which the LORD had commanded through Moses, that the Israelites were to live in booths during the feast of the seventh month <sup>15</sup> and that they should proclaim this word and spread it throughout their towns and in Jerusalem: “Go out into the hill country and bring back branches from olive and wild olive trees, and from myrtles, palms and shade trees, to make booths”—as it is written.

<sup>16</sup> So the people went out and brought back branches and built themselves booths on their own roofs, in their courtyards, in the courts of the house of God and in the square by the Water Gate and the one by the Gate of Ephraim. <sup>17</sup> The whole company that had returned from exile built booths and lived in them. From the days of Joshua son of Nun until that day, the Israelites had not celebrated it like this. And their joy was very great.

<sup>18</sup> Day after day, from the first day to the last, Ezra read from the Book of the Law of God. They celebrated the feast for seven days, and on the eighth day, in accordance with the regulation, there was an assembly.

### **Observations:**

**1. We must understand the Word of God (8:1-8)**

**2. We must rejoice in the Word (8:9-12)**

**3. We must be convicted by the Word of God**

*“It is as wrong to mourn when God has forgiven us.*

*As it is wrong to rejoice when sin has conquered us.” Warren Wiersbe*

**4. We must obey the Word (8:13-18)**

*“Holy Joy will be oil to the wheels of our obedience.” Matthew Henry*

<sup>1</sup> On the twenty-fourth day of the same month (Oct. 31<sup>st</sup>), the Israelites gathered together, fasting and wearing sackcloth and having dust on their heads. <sup>2</sup> Those of Israelite descent had separated themselves from all foreigners. They stood in their places and confessed their sins and the wickedness of their fathers. <sup>3</sup> They stood where they were and read from the Book of the Law of the LORD their God for a quarter of the day, and spent another quarter in confession and in worshiping the LORD their God.

### **Chapter 9**

- The Greatness of God (Neh. 9:1-6)
- The Goodness of God (Neh. 9:7-30)
- The Grace of God (Neh. 9:31-37)

### **Observations from beginning of Chapter 9:**

1. The people prayed with fervor
2. They separated themselves from ungodly influences
3. They heard God’s word and they acted on it.
4. They confessed their sin.